

CANYON CARVING WITH CURVES ON CHROME

The Ann Arbor based chapter of
Women On Wheels®

www.curvesonchrome.com

Director's Update:

Looks like we've finally turned a corner! The weather seems to be warming up, and I'm seeing more bikes on the road every day! That includes CCC members! In April we had our first Group Riding Lesson. It was a great turn-out, with 8 bikes in the group. Several members asked for another lesson, so keep an eye out on our calendar for upcoming lessons. Although Anne reminds me that every time you ride you learn something, therefore, every ride's a lesson! (Or was her comment directed toward me specifically?)

April also brought us the Michigan Member Meet – the CCC members met some very nice women from the Drifters – our fellow WOW members located on the West side of our State. A few of us joked that we should blend the chapters and become the 'Chrome Drifters'. We also had a bike show at the meet – and I'm happy to announce that Shirley Hopp and her V-Rod Val took First Place in the over 1000cc class and Best in Show! Way to represent Old School!

CCC devoted a lot of time over the winter recruiting new members and I'm happy to report that as of April 30th we have 32 members! We also have several women 'on the fence'. I think we should have a meeting specifically geared toward them...we could call it 'On the CCC Fence'. I know how you all enjoy the meetings.

Let's continue to be ambassadors for WOW and especially for CCC. Have your business cards ready to hand out to fellow female riders! We're seeing more and more everyday!

New Members:

CCC is really excited to welcome:

Char – 92 Honda Shadow 1100

Deb – 1100 V-Star

Tracey Danuloff - V-Star Custom

Andrew Danuloff - Harley Davidson Softail Custom

Jaz Jaslow – Honda VLX

Tim Guy – Honda VTX

Joy Harris – Harley Davidson

May Events:

- May 2nd Female Ride Day Make sure you ride!
- May 3rd Women's Ride – Napoleon. First group is meeting in Ypsi, and we're picking up more members along the way. Join us! Questions? Contact our Road Captain asolari@aol.com
- May 12th Chapter Meeting at Aubree's in Ypsi Township. This is our regular chapter meeting and it's important you attend! Please come and ride if you can, we're taking our First group picture of 2008. Picture at 6:15ish. Meeting immediately after.
- May 17th Bike Show in South Lyon we're meeting around A2 and riding together to the South Lyon Kroger's. (Let's hope they only have one.) We'll show off our bikes for about an hour then head out for a relaxing tour of the area.
- May 19th Ice Cream in Tecumseh! Let's ride to this quaint town and enjoy a delicious cone. Look for a yahoo reminder and let us know if you're planning on going.
- All these exciting rides are on our web site www.curvesonchrome.com

Upcoming Events:

- May 24th – 26th Second Annual Memorial Day Ride This years' ride will be to Saugatuck. A great town that loves motorcyclists! Check with Anne for hotel information and ride coordination.

Motorcycle Lingo:

Straight Pipes - An exhaust system with no baffles inside thus the exhaust travels straight through unrestricted. (Very loud and technically illegal in most areas.)

Stick it - What a cop would do to check for Straight Pipes. He would stick his nightstick in the end of the exhaust pipe and if it didn't stop and went all the way in, ya got a coupon for straight pipes (a fix it ticket).

Announcement: Motorcycle Maintenance Class Individualized Just For Us!

As many of you already know, two of my very good friends Jack Johnson and Lew Morgan are MSF and Riders Edge instructors. In addition to teaching MC education classes, they also teach the motorcycle maintenance class offered at Washtenaw Community College. So after "Not Much Twisting of Their Arms", Jack and Lew agreed to give Curves on Chrome a motorcycle maintenance class that's tailored to meet our needs. Yes, you read it correctly. Jack and Lew are going to individualize this MC maintenance class to fit "Our Needs". This class will be about 5 hours long. It will be held at my home and I will provide the lunch.

So, in order to make this fantastic opportunity happen I need you all to do three things. First, save the date: October 4, 2008. Second, respond to this e-mail and let me know what you want covered in this class. Perhaps it's how to change the oil, or maybe how to adjust the valves, or what to look for when checking the tires. Send me ALL your ideas. I'll sift through them, then meet with Jack and Lew and present your wants & needs. Third, let me know if you plan on attending on this date.

As for cost, the more ladies that sign up for this event...THE CHEAPER IT WILL BE! Now don't quote me, but I do believe it will be no more than \$45- \$50 each and maybe even less if we get the numbers up. Even at this price it's \$10 - \$15 cheaper than taking it at Washtenaw Community College. So, let's not put the cart before the horse. Let me hear from you all first, your ideas and if you plan on attending. Once I get a firm count as to how many ladies will be attending, I'll do the calculations and let you know exactly how much.

What a deal, two expert motorcycle instructors, an individualized maintenance program just for you, and a free lunch. What more could you want.

Gear Review:

by Julie Stafford

When it comes to riding a motorcycle, you can never be too safe. One of the most important elements of riding a motorcycle is being sure that other drivers see you. There are many ways to make your presence on the road more obvious, and one of them is to have modulated (pulsing) headlights and brake lights. I recently installed a Kisan Headlight Modulator (too easy, just plug and play) and last year our support member Brian installed the Kuryakyn Triple Whammy Run - Turn Brake Light Kit (a lot harder since my bike was acting persnickety that day, thanks Brian!) I've already noticed people pulling out in front of me less often and have heard from people that I ride with regularly that my taillights are much more visible. The triple whammy flashes the taillights when the brakes are hit – catching the attention of anyone behind you. The kit includes replacement lenses or bulbs to update turn signals to red. And I really like the look this gives the turns signals over the standard ugly amber lenses! If you're curious about how they look or work, I'm happy to show off these gadgets. Like I always say, 'Don't hesitate, modulate'.

Gear Head Gossip: T-CLOCS Inspection

by Joan Stein

Below is a **T-CLOCS** chart that you can use when performing your pre-ride inspections.

T-CLOCS	Check	Look For
T-Tires & Wheels:		
Tires	Condition	Tread depth, wear, weathering, bulges, objects
	Air Pressure	Check when cold and adjust to load (per MOM)
Wheels	Spokes	Bent, broken, missing, tension, check at top of wheel, "ring" = OK, "thud" = loose spoke
	Rims	Out of round/true = 5mm. Spin wheel, index against stationary pointer
	Bearings	Grab top & bottom of tire and flex. No freeplay between hub and axle, no growl when spinning
C-Controls:		
Levers & Pedal	Condition	Broken, bent, cracked, mounts tight
	Pivots	Lubricated
Cables	Condition Routing	Fraying, kinks, lubrication: ends & interior No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, supports in place
Hoses	Condition Routing	Cuts, cracks, leaks, bulges, chafing, deterioration No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, supports in place
Throttle	Operation	Moves freely, snaps closed, no revving when handlebars are turned
L-Lights:		
Battery	Condition	Terminals; clean & tight, electrolyte level, held down securely
	Vent Tube	Not kinked, routed properly, not plugged
Lenses	Condition	Cracked, broken, securely mounted, excessive condensation
Reflectors	Condition	Cracked, broken, securely mounted
Wiring	Condition	Fraying, chafing, insulation
	Routing	Pinched, no interference or pulling at steering head or suspension, wire looms & ties in place, connectors tight, clean
Headlamp	Condition	Cracks, reflector, mounting & adjustment system,
	Aim	Height and right/left
	Operation	Hi beam/low beam operation
Tail & Break Lamps	Condition	Cracks, clean and tight
	Operation	Activates upon break/rear break application
Turn Signals	Operation	Flashes correctly

T-CLOCS	Check	Look For
O-Oil:		
Levels	Engine Oil	Check warm on center stand or upright, dipstick, sight glass (per MOM)
	Hydraulic Fluid	Brakes, clutch, reservoir or sight glass
	Coolant	Reservoir or recovery tank check when cool
	Fuel	Tank or gauge
Leaks	Engine Oil	Gaskets, housings, seals
	Hydraulic Fluid	Hoses, master cylinders, calipers
	Coolant	Radiator, hoses, tanks, fittings, pipes
	Fuel	Lines, fuel valve, carbs
C-Chassis:		
Frame	Condition	Cracks at gussets, accessory mounts, lifting paint
	Steering-Head Bearings	No tight spots through full travel, raise front wheel, check for play by pulling/pushing forks
	Swingarm Bushings/Bearings	Raise rear wheel, check for play by pushing/pulling swingarm
Suspension	Front Forks	Smooth Travel, equal air pressure/damping
	Rear Shock(s)	Smooth travel, equal air pressure/damping linkage moves freely & is lubricated
Chain or Belt	Tension	Check at tightest point (per MOM)
	Lubrication	Side plates when hot – DO NOT lube belts
	Sprockets	Teeth not hooked, securely mounted
Fasteners	Threaded	Tight, missing bolts, nuts
	Clips	Broken, missing
	Cotter Pins	Broken, missing
S-Stands:		
Center Stand	Condition	Cracks, bent
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position
Side Stand	Condition	Cracks, bent (safety cut-out switch or pad)
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position

Motorcycology:

The headlights on motorcycles usually have 2 elements: one for high beam and one for low beam. If the bike's lighting system is working properly, only one element will burn out at a time. So if your high beam burns out, you should still have a working low beam, and vice versa. What you need to remember is that the element remaining will also burn out; and soon after the first. So to keep you from being left in the dark, pack a spare of headlight bulb and taillamp bulb.

References: The Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Guide to Motorcycling Excellence: Skills, Knowledge, and Strategies for Riding Right by MSF; The complete Idiot's Guide to Motorcycles by Darwin Holmstrom and Charles Everitt

Note: While much of the above information was quoted from the books used, not all of the information supplied in the books was included in this article. (per MOM – Motorcycle Owners Manual)

CCC Photos of the month:



Mary, Anne, Shirley, Dondi, and Pat refraining from buying goodies.



**Michigan Member Meet Bike Show
Lansing, MI Apr. 20th, 2008
Old School takes Best in Show!**



Checking out the bikes after dinner



**Michigan Member Meet Apr. 20th, 2008
(back row) Kris, Mary, Anne, Joy, (seated) Julie, Shirley, Lori**

How much did you pay for those leathers?

Chapter Officers:

- Mary Grisdale – Co-Chapter Director
- Julie Stafford – Co-Chapter Director, Web Master, Newsletter Editor, Ride Sweep
- Kris Adler – Treasurer
- Anne Solari – National Trustee, Road Captain, Web Master
- Jeannie Eggertsen – Newsletter Editor

If you'd like to volunteer for a position, please let one of the officers know.

