

## EASTERN KANSAS TOUR RIDERS CHAPTER B



### JUNE 2017 MINUTES

#### **Officers:**

**Director:** Everyone

**Secretary:** Patti Kelsey

**Treasurer:** John English

**Dinner Ride Coordinator:** Bev Speckman

**Historian:** Dave Aiken

**Ride Captain and Webmaster:** Bill Poe

**Photographer:** Bill Poe

**THANK YOU NOTE:** We received a thank you note from the Kansas Historical Society for our donation. "Thank you for the wonderful gift you made in support of the Kansas Historical Society. We are happy to have you as part of the family. Take Care. Konni Flynn"

**MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET:** John English is working on a trip to Branson to go see the Million Dollar Quartet (show about Elvis, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash and Carl Perkins ) showing at the Welk Theater in Branson. More details next month.

**THUNDER ON THE SMOKIES:** There were 11 or 12 people on the ride. Although it was a bit damp and chilly but it was wonderful. There were more vendors than expected.

**RIDE AROUND IOWA:** There were 20 bikes and 26 people attending. The weather was wonderful (came close once to rain but beat it to shelter first).

**FT. LEAVENWORTH:** Bogie and MaryRose are coordinating a tour June 14. There is a group leaving DeSoto at 8am and others are meeting at the Carrousel lot by Leavenworth at 9am. Don't forget you need a photo I.D. (Missouri drivers license can't be used but you can use a passport). John Richey is one of the best historical tour guides around. We are looking at about 25 people going. Lunch is around 1145 and cost around \$10 each. They sent an email with more details.

**WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE:** Bogie and Mary Rose are also planning on a tour of Whiteman Air Base July 12. You need to contact them and give them your name, birthdate and SS# by June 19 (DO NOT send your SS# on the internet). At this point there are 14 signed up but hoping to get 20 going.

**FINANCIAL TIP OF MONTH:** Dave's financial tip of the month came from "Morning Star" Don't be upset if you were putting money into a 401K and not a Roth in the past. After research it has been determined if you are in the same tax bracket when the money was put aside, and when it comes out it is basically a wash so one wasn't necessarily better than the other.

**DINNER RIDES:** Bev is still looking for leaders for the rides. Ron Peterson is leading to BB's bar and grill this week (in Springhill). We need a leader next week. Craig is leading to Red Robin (95th St.) June 28. There will not be a July 5 ride.

**JULY 4:**Susie and Kerwin are hosting a BBQ at their house (sending invitations soon) with a brisket pot luck. It will be at 4 with a ride to the T-bones stadium to watch fireworks at night

**ECLIPSE:** There is a solar eclipse Monday August 21. St. Joseph has been determined to be the best place in the US to see it. Kerwin has glasses (needed to protect your eyes) if anyone needs them. If you'd like to join a group let us know at next month's meeting.

**50/50:** Patti won \$21.50

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** We are always looking for speakers. John English is speaking next month. This month we had Trent Pittman from Johnson County Emergency Management Services. He became interested in severe weather when he was a child and his grandmother's house was hit by the Andover Tornado. She was not hurt but this set up a lifelong interest in the chaos from severe weather. Before coming to Johnson County he worked with FEMA for 6 years. There are 105 counties in Kansas, each county has 6 team members on the emergency management team. They are Director, communications, preparedness, operations planning and government preparedness. There are 2 people on 24 hours a day. The facility is rated to withstand an F4 tornado (so the employees can be safe while watching out for the public). It includes an internal generator. A severe weather watch begins 2 - 3 days before are even aware of it. They incorporate social media to help reach 400,000 people very quickly. They use trained storm spotters (you can take a class the last Monday in January yearly - go to the weather service website for more details) who are assigned a spot to watch from as well as storm chasers (ones who actually "chase" after bad weather). They recommend weather radios that are programmable for the type of weather you want to be notified of (can find them at Price Chopper for about \$29). You can also get a "widget" on your phone that doesn't take up space like an "app" does. The last time we had an alarm going off was July 6, 2015 when there were 2 tornados in the area with golf ball size hail. When they set off the sirens they go off county by county or can do them all at once. The sound usually goes off for 3 minute intervals not meaning the threat is gone but gets more attention when it has pauses. The "alarms" are activated for 4 reasons: 1- tornado warning by the weather communication sites, 2- trained spotter or emergency communication services 3 - trained law enforcement calls one in 4 - at the duty officer's discretion. The last big tornado in Johnson county was 1957, called the "Ruskin Heights" tornado around 119 and Nall (at that time it was posture land). It killed many people. The Joplin tornado caused \$4billion in damage. Facts you may not have known about all types of weather conditions:

- Hail is based on the largest piece of hail. In the Adrian tornado it was 5 inches. The largest on record is 8 inches.
- Flooding kills more people than any other weather issue
- US sees >1100 tornadoes a year, Kansas averages 80/ year and Missouri 39/year
- Although it appears there are more tornados now, it is actually just due to more people reporting them
- Tornados must touch down to be a tornado (otherwise it can be a super cell, funnel cloud or lots of wind, rain and hail but not a tornado)

- The direction a tornado is coming from and the structure of your house determines the best place to be in the house (but the basement is always good)
- Most important thing is to be aware of your surroundings (not only outdoors but when you go to a building you haven't been to)
- Tornado rated: EF 0 - 1 (wind 65 - 110mph) 83%, EF 2 - 3 (111 -165 MPH wind) 16%, EF 4 - 5 (166 - over 200 MPH wind) 1%

Trent gave us all posters on clouds so we know what to look for to not only enjoy looking at fun clouds but so we can ride safely anywhere in the country.

Respectfully submitted: Patti Kelsey (madame secretary)



