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**MISSION STATEMENT:**  
 "Dedicated to providing service to the community  
 while combining the two hobbies  
 of motorcycling and ham radio"

**PRESIDENT:**  
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W5JFR

**SECRETARY/TREASURER/EDITOR:**

BONNIE DAVIS KD6OFQ

**50/50 & DOOR PRIZES:**

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**MARC WEB PAGE:**

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RAY DAVIS (ASST) KD6FHN

**MARC LIST:**

LEWIS OSBORN K7LVO

DE WITT MORGAN (ASST) KM6UK

**MARCH 2005**

## From The President's Desk:

Welcome to March. I start this newsletter by remembering John Helms, WH6BJ. Reverend John, as he was known to me, will be missed by all. We will miss hearing of his exploits and accomplishments. God bless Reverend John. It is with these words that I acknowledge the loss of a special MARC member and the beloved husband of Libby Helms, WH6CVJ.

Here in Rialto, I hope that the March winds will blow away some of the rain. I, for one, do not like to ride in the rain. It makes it very difficult to see pot holes in the road. There are some around here so large that a person could lose a front wheel. Not to mention that it is harder for you to see where you are going, and the people in cages can't see any better either. California drivers just don't slow down on wet roads. And, there is always a new patch of sand at the next corner, waiting to take a cycle out from under an unsuspecting rider. Please, be careful when you ride in bad weather.

On 16 February, I mailed two more packages of goodies to the US Army in Baghdad, Iraq. I would like to thank everyone in MARC for their support of my gifts to the troops effort. I am sure that all the goodies, cards, magazines, and toys for them to pass along to the Iraqi children will be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

For those who like to ride, Ray, KD6FHN, has invited all to join him on SCMA organized and planned day rides around the So. Cal. area. Sounds like they are having a lot of fun. Feel free to join in if you have the yen to get out and ride. Keep up with the MARC List for the next planned ride.

The February MARC meeting was a bit unusual. For the first time in two years, we had a ladies meeting. Mijo, KF6BEB, was pounding my gavel and Bonnie, KD6OFQ, was doing what our Chairman usually does, except for the one stunt when she called the entire board and most of the staff to the front of the room and gave each a pacifier so they would stop their crying. I was relegated to selling 50-50

tickets, check the winners list to see who was lucky enough to take home some extra cash. It was a different meeting if I do say so. And, while on the subject of meetings, this month I will have to find someone to volunteer to help with the 50-50 drawing. Mijo has to go to class on Friday evening after she finishes work at Rialto High School and then return for more instruction all day Saturday.

There has been a lot of buzz lately about APRS. I have ordered a GPS sending unit and a TT3 tracker which I hope to put on my green machine. For now, I am in a state of confusion. What with all the chatter on the MARC List about SSID, APRS, ASCII, ASCII 3, DIGI, WIDE, WIDEn, SSTV, and PUC. I sure hope that Chuck, KG6NJP and his crew can help me sort this all out. I hope it will make more sense as I get things together and put this new (to me) technology together and then try to make it work. Oh yes, I shall not forget to thank the Bay Area MARC (Dave, K1RDS, Roger, W1RDR, and JP, NQ6T) and Houston group (specifically Jerry, WA0GLD) for their input on the subject. {Everyone has been very patient and understanding as I and others try to learn about APRS.} Any help I can get now will be a benefit later, but gentlemen, please remember that some of us are novices in this field and all the acronyms don't mean much when you don't have the background to associate them with the corresponding words. (Thanks to all.)

Have you looked at the MARC Web Page lately? Wayne, KB6UJW, and Ray, KD6FHN, have been busy creating a new look for our web page and updating the contents. If you have an article or profile on the page, please, have a look at it and make sure that all is up to date. If you need something changed, send a note to Ray or Wayne so the updates may be included in this revision.

As Net Control for MARC, I would like to announce that there has been a small change on the Wednesday night net. Due to a problem with the repeater that we were using, we have moved to an

alternate frequency, 446.900 - PL 110.9. This change to the Alert system's Santiago site will help some to hit the repeater and unfortunately make it harder for others to check in. I hope that when weather warms and snow melts, the BARN system owners/operators will be able to get up to the offending repeater site and repair the relay that caused us to change repeaters. Make sure that you have this new frequency plugged in to your radio and meet with me on Wednesday evening at 1930 hrs.

Mijo and I will be updating the names in the shaker can for our weekly \$5 drawing after the March meeting. Everyone will be back in the pot and eligible to win again. It is time to join in on our weekly chat.

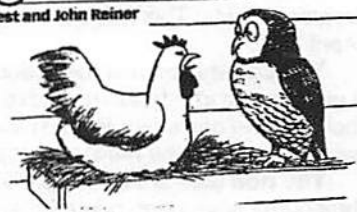
Now is the time to check your motorcycle or, in the case of a couple of our members, check your bicycle and make sure that all is in order for our upcoming events. Let's have a good turnout for the Gearin' Up for Abused Kids ride, on April 30 and the Socal. Tour de Cure on May 21. We will have sign-up sheets at the March MARC meeting for both events. I am looking forward to seeing how the APRS works on these two events and incorporating it into our MARC communications system.

**May all your highways in life be clear  
 and the skies ahead be filled with  
 sunshine.**

John F. Reynolds W5JFR  
 MARC President  
 Johnw5jfr@adelphia.net (909)820-0509

**LaughParade**

By Sunny Hoest and John Reiner



"The Easter Bunny may get all of the credit, but I do all of the work."

## THIS AND THAT

Well here it is March already. Time to start thinking about getting trips mapped out, bikes serviced, batteries checked, radios tuned to all the repeaters you will be passing by on your journeys. Soon spring will blossom out all over and it will be time to go.

Well here you are in Pudunk, Whatever, and it is a hot day, and you pull into this lovely motel for the night. You unload your equipment, shaving kit, clean clothes, pull your antennas, or fold them over and start getting ready to cover the bike. Wait, got to clean the windshield, and for me, I like to fuel up the night before when I get in, so I can get on the road in the morning without having to stop to fuel. Of course this does NOT apply to KD6FHN, as he carries a tanker with him..... :-> Anyway, you go into your room, shower, relax and cool off for a bit, and get ready to go to dinner.

Remember, it is HOT so you dress in shorts and a tank top, sandals, and out you go. *WHAT! What is this????* My beautiful chrome machine is parked in a very funny, and distressing manner. In your hurry to get in out of the heat, you forgot to put your bike in gear, and you didn't put down your "foot." (goes under the toe of the side stand) You do carry one don't you? I carried 2 of them, just in case I rode off and forgot one. A little hard to do, as I had a string attached to it, that I hooked over the clutch lever. I could just pull the string, stow it, and off I went. Now, in this heat, the side stand has sunk into the soft asphalt, and tipped over your \$25,000 investment. There it lays, lonely and forlorn. *Now what do you do?* you are all alone, and no one is around.

Do you know how to pick up your stranded bike? Actually I learned from a girl/lady cop. She was slight and I thought, "no way!!" "Yes way!!" she picked up that cop bike very easily. And you know what, it is easy..... "IF" you know how. Now is the time to practice and learn this technique, so you have it when/if you need it.

If it is a GoldWing, it doesn't go all the way over onto its side. It is caught by the bars. Lets assume a left side drop, (most often) squat, put your buns against the seat and grab the LEFT handlebar, and the left passenger grab handle. PULL the left handlebar all the way to the stop if you can, now, just use your leg muscles and stand up, balancing it with the handlebars and grab handle. Now you have the bike upright, balance it there and get the side stand down if it isn't already down. set it gently on the side stand, and congratulate yourself that you have learned and mastered this technique. Next time, put the foot down, **BE SURE** it is in gear, before you let go of the bike and walk away.

Other types of bikes, guess what, the same technique works for them too. You may just have to lift a little further to get the job done.

Ride safe, ride aware,

Love ya,  
De Witt Morgan, KM6UK  
trk29@cox.net

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### Gearin Up for Abused Kids

This will be the 11th annual bike ride benefiting abused and neglected kids. This ride will be a one day event this year held on April 30th.

The committee had their second full committee meeting which I was unable to attend. They have decided to continue with the ride being a one day event this just like last year, there's been a lot of work being done by the sub-groups looking at the routes.

The ride date is set for April 30th (last Saturday in April), brochures have been printed & are being sent out. The ride will start & end at Vanguard University (Newport-Mesa Church) at Fair

Drive & Newport in Costa Mesa.

There will be a 25, 55 & 100 mile route and this year they are going to have a kids fun ride for the kids under 12 years of age around the Vanguard campus. The 25, 55 & 100 mile riders follow the same route to Irvine Meadowood Park for rest stop. From there the 25 mile riders return back to start point, with 55 & 100 mile riders going on to the second rest stop in El Toro (Saddleback Church) via Santiago Canyon. From there, the 55 mile riders loop back to start point, the 100 mile riders continue on to Dana Point, then loop back to start point with rest stops at Laguna Niguel Park & Mariners Church (Newport Coast).

We will take a look at the signup list to see how many bike riders signup for each of the routes and then plan to adjust the M.A.R.C. members accordingly to cover the riders most needing our help with the safety on the courses.

This ride had a small and fun group of bike ride last couple years and sound like it will be a blast again this year. They think that the ride will have about 200 rides total.

We have had a several members install APRS on their motors and this year. We will have net control at the start / finish area with a computer set up to monitor the progress of the riders using APRS. Make sure you stop by and check out the computer and see APRS in action.

If you can help with this event make plans to signup and come help.

Thank you all,  
John Edwards KC6Z0Z

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Howard KG6SHL has an Astron 12 amp power supply that he is asking \$50 for., please call Howard at (714) 962-8708 at a reasonable time of the day. Howard is retired and is also on the ALERT/BARN Systems if you want to contact him there. His email address is <hkanae@earthlink.net>.

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## SOCAL TOUR DE CURE

February 28th meeting went well.

Got the porta-potties lined up from the same people who did them last year. They are dependable.

The 30K & 100K routes do have some changes. Lots of ideas in the works - but what we need is volunteers, more volunteers. So if you know of anyone who likes to volunteer have them call the ADA office (714) 662-7940 or I will have some of the forms for volunteers with me at our MARC meetings... Any suggestions to make the Tour better - give me your ideas and will put them before the committee.

Still working on the breakfast and lunch sponsors, The Lion's Club has not got back with Kelly regarding breakfast. Gold's gym has come on board with the ADA and the SoCal Tour de Cure

Our meetings will be on Mondays from here on in...I did mention we would be using APRS and had to explain and they were excited about that. Will be having the information/volunteer sign-in close to MARC, which will be a good thing...

It is very hard to get donations this year- so many are tapped out. So we do what we can and what we can't just say "Thank You".

Bonnie Davis KD6OFQ Goody Bags & Communications

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"Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important." (Janet Lane -Women's World 2/8/05)

"Hope is a rainbow, shining through every cloud and storm."  
(Erin Parzen- Women's World 2/08/05)

What runs but doesn't walk?????

## The Good News First:

1. There is now 11 hours 28 minutes of daylight as of March 1st. At least here in Southern CA. That is a good sign, the days are getting longer and the big time riding season is swiftly approaching.
2. The rain has stopped, at least for now and has not rained in about a week. Orange CO CA is now at about 30 inches and our normal rainfall is 14.65 inches. So we are plenty wet around here.
3. New Years Resolution # 1 in America is weight loss, and in this house, all is well. As of Sunday Feb 27th, after 8 weeks of dieting I am down to 177.5 lbs. A loss of exactly 20 lbs. I am very happy with that, but I want to get down to 165, so I still have 12.5 lbs. to lose before May 1st, when I am scheduled to be at the WOTI BBQ in San Antonio TX. That is always a good time to come off a diet, otherwise there wouldn't be any sense in going.
4. A group of us, a small group as it was, went for a MARC group ride on Sunday Feb 13th, the day after our MARC Meeting. Charles KF6TXI & his significant other half, (I don't need no %!^ call sign) Stephanie, John N6JCB, Bonnie KD6OFQ & myself did the SCMA Sweetheart Ride. It was about 70 miles out to the start point in Simi Valley CA and the ride itself was about another 150 miles. So it was a total of about 300 miles for the day before we got back home. The ride was pretty special in that it took us through some of the areas that had been hard hit by the recent rains and you got a glimpse of the damage that had been done to some homes and roadways. The ride also took us to the famous Rock Store where I had not been in years. Thanks to the SCMA for putting on a heck of a ride. They served food at the start and again at the finish.

On Sunday March 13th I will again be doing a SCMA Ride. Let me make it perfectly clear, we (Bonnie and I) are going on this ride, just to be on a nice quiet ride, I am not the leader, nor will I lead on the ride all the way, all the time. If you participate, plan on taking a turn leading. The ride is called the Saint Patrick's Day Ride and starts in Newhall CA. I will have details at the Saturday March 12th MARC Meeting. Now you MARC Members who had been asking to go for some rides other than our MARC Charity Events, where are you?

5. Speaking of the SCMA, on Saturday night February 19th, the SCMA USA 4 Corners Banquet was held at the Marriott Hotel at the Ontario International Airport in Ontario CA. The event was attended by about 150 USA 4 Corners finishers and guests. I was awarded a beautiful black motorcycle jacket with a 3.5 X 2.5 inch patch of the USA on it. Above the patch in big red letters it read, "12 TIME FINISHER" and below the patch it read, "RAY DAVIS". Hey, I am pretty proud of that. I also got a plaque for doing the USA 4 Corners Ride 12 times, which I can hang in the hallway here at the house along with all the SCMA 3 Flags Classic plaques.
5. I have sent 38 pages of updates and information concerning our MARC Web Site to Wayne KB6UJW, our MARC Web Master. It took 15 days, about 90 hours of work just to get the 50 or more updates put together to send to Wayne. Wayne has his hands full with all this information and he says it may take him as long as 3 months to get it all done. He mentioned something like 250 hours of work for himself. Give Wayne the credit he deserves for our great MARC Web Site. If you haven't looked at the MARC Web Site in awhile, please go do so, Wayne is putting together a whole new design for our MARC Web Pages. It's beautiful.
6. Caspers (white 2004 GW) Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) is now completely installed and working. So any time the key is turned on, Casper automatically starts reporting our position. You can go to ["http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=KD6FHN-10"](http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=KD6FHN-10) and with this one click see where I am at, how fast I am going, (this is not a good thing) and tell if I am moving or stationary. Chuck KG6NJP and I installed the new Kenwood TM-D700A and hooked up to the Garmin Street Pilot III Deluxe and it is working perfectly.

We also did an installation on Andy W6AJB's new 2005 GW with all the bells and whistles so he is also APRS mobile. It took us



10 hours to do that installation. Tomorrow (Wed. March 2nd) Chuck and I will start on Dave KG6VNR's 1800 GW, put on an APRS device plus the Kenwood TM-D700A that he won at the 2004 MARC Christmas Party. It pays to come to the MARC Christmas Party.

- So far as I can tell the MARC HQ Chapter now has 11 (as near as I can count) APRS Motorcycle Mobiles and 6 more working on them. So by the March MARC Meeting we should see a lot APRS mounted motorcycles. Congratulations to all those getting involved with APRS and thank you very much. We should have a bunch of them ready for our first ever experiment using APRS on a charity event for the April 30th Ride For Abused Kids. This is all very good news.
7. Dimitri (owner of the Lakeview Cafe) has generously offered to furnish the drinks for our MARC March monthly meeting. That means coffee, tea, soda pop and I will have to clarify if it means juices or not, so don't plan on that just yet.
  8. The MARC Christmas Party date for this year has been set for Saturday night Dec 10th at 6:30pm. Please MARC your calendars for that date "NOW".
  9. Last but not least, we have a brand new in the box, never been opened Kenwood TM-D700A for the MARC May Anniversary Meeting Super Raffle Drawing on Saturday May 14th. Starting at the MARCH MARC meeting we will start selling tickets for it.

## Now the sad news:

1. On Saturday Feb 12th during the Feb. MARC Meeting I received a call via my cell phone that our beloved friend and fellow MARC Member Rev. John Helms WH6BJ had passed away. John had been fighting an illness for many years and had always come back strong from each episode. John was at the SCMA 3 Flags drawing the week before and was in good spirits. The following Monday I had talked to him about a 3 Flags ticket. The day after that I received word that he was back in the hospital. John was one of our earliest MARC Members. He had been a MARC Member for at least 10 years. It has been 3 weeks now and it is still hard to believe that we will no longer be able to laugh and joke around with John. I, like anyone one else that knew John, will miss him dearly.

2. I talked to Alan WB6T today and he has been moved from the Mission Hospital to the Kindred Hospital, at 200 Hospital Circle, Room # 208, Westminster, CA 92683. The hospital phone number is (714-893-4541) extension # 5208 will get you to him. Alan states that he has not shown much improvement but while I was talking to him the nurses had come into the room to try to get him to sit up on the edge of the bed. Alan also reports that he is still on Dialyses 3 times a week for 4 hours. He says that there is no improvement in the feelings to his feet or legs and that his kidneys are not yet functioning. Please keep Alan and our other ill MARC Members in your prayers.

May the skies be clear, warm & sunny and the wind be forever at your back. Safe rides one & all.

Ray Davis KD6FHN <[raykd6fhn@earthlink.net](mailto:raykd6fhn@earthlink.net)>  
MARC Chairman Of The Board  
Hm (949-551-1036) Cell (949-300-8669)  
<["http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=KD6FHN-10"](http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?call=KD6FHN-10)>

Do you know that hummingbirds flap their wings between 80 beats per second during forward flight to 200 beats per second during courtship.

The number of hummingbird heartbeats per minute range from 480 to 1260 beats per minute. A human would have to consume & burn twice his or her weight in food everyday in order to equal the metabolism of a hummingbird.

## **APRS Minimalist Solution**

**Having** had an interest in GPS and APRS for some years now (going back to my days in the early 90's working as a GIS –Geographic Information Systems – analyst with CB Commercial) – I was following with interest all the discussion on the MARC list regarding APRS. I sort of envied those who were willing and able to spend a fair chunk of change in building a very complete and robust on-bike APRS system. These systems can both report their position as well as give them the ability to navigate and even plot others peoples locations (not to mention text messaging etc.)

**However**, my goal was only to be able to broadcast my position, primarily for MARC events. Given the cost and my goals I couldn't see myself using any of these solutions, and, for the cost difference, maps still work for me. (And don't leave me on a muddy road, in the rain, at night wondering what went wrong....sorry Ray and John, just had to get that in...:-))) So I began looking for a more economical solution.

**What** I ended up with cost me less than \$80 (including mounting) given that I already had some of the pieces.

**When** I started this project I already had an extra HT and Mobile radio I could use for this task. I also had an eTrex handheld GPS unit that would suffice for the task. If these need to be purchased the total cost would still be fairly low and would provide pieces with a lot of flexibility.

### **A quick APRS review**

For those who haven't picked up on how APRS works or what the required pieces are (and it took me long enough), a short primer. Essentially you need 3 pieces – a GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) receiver (and antenna – but most are built-in) to receive and decode Satellite positioning information; a radio to take the GPS information and broadcast it out along with assorted other information – specifically in this case a Call Sign; and a TNC (Terminal Node Controller) to allow the first two units to talk to each other.

### **The GPS Piece**

I already had an eTrex (made by Garmin) which is essentially designed for handheld operation in the field (being battery operated) and comes in many different models. My particular model will install road maps so I can use it to track my location on streets, but will also work in the back country as well – providing Lat/Lon, point to point navigation, altitude and return to origin navigation – and more. These models can be had for around \$100-\$150. Along with the eTrex unit a cable is also required. I already had a couple – one that connects to the computer for downloading maps etc. and another that would connect to my Clie PDA (Palm Pilot equivalent) which would allow me to use my PDA with maps and track my location. It turns out the former worked perfectly for my use in connecting to the TNC (discussed below.)

### **The Radio Piece**

I have a Yaesu VX5 HT that I can use for APRS (being replaced by my newer VX7) so it was easy for me to dedicate a radio to this task. I also have an extra mobile radio, but that would require connection to an external power source. The advantage, so far, is that both the VX5 and the eTrex run on internal, replaceable (rechargeable) batteries. So, the whole installation, so far, is completely portable and independent of outside power. One other piece I already had was an external antenna lead to the trunk rack. I had set this up some time before to give the HT a little more oomph!

### **...and in Between ...**

The only piece left was the TNC. This is the device that takes the GPS information being put out by the eTrex and puts it into a format the radio understands. There were a number of options for this, but the consensus from all those that helped me was the Tiny Trak III (TT3.) The TT3 comes in either kit form or fully assembled. Being a "kit" type person I chose the former (which was also about \$25 cheaper.) With the TT3 I also ordered a cable that was specifically designed for connection between the TT3 and my VX5. This cable offered the additional feature of having a power cable (Anderson power pole or 12v auto plug) so I would be able to power the TT3 as well. It turns out (thanks to Jerry Irwin) that a 9v batt will power the TT3 nicely. So the TT3



**Total cost** for everything I didn't already have - \$55 (plus Tax) Now it was just a matter of putting it all together, doing a download to the TT3 and mounting it all on the bike.

### **Putting it all together**

With much help from several of our members – notably Jerry, JP, Chuck and Ted – I put it all together in about half a day (after assembling the TT3 the night before – be sure you have a low power iron with a fine tip.)

**I have** HT mounts on both sides of my GW handlebars so it worked out beautifully (and simply – and cheaply). The radio clips onto the left mount. The GPS mounts on the right mount (with a modified Garmin mount - add \$20) and the cable runs around the handlebars with the TT3 velcro'd anywhere out of the way. For the 9v batt – I rigged a 9v batt mount (Radio Shack - \$1.25) to the TT3 case and added a 9v pigtail with Anderson Power Poles so my TT3 would have power. The whole affair only takes a couple of minutes to install or remove – and, additionally, can be moved anywhere else I want to be tracked from (car, backpack, shorts.....:-)

### **Summary**

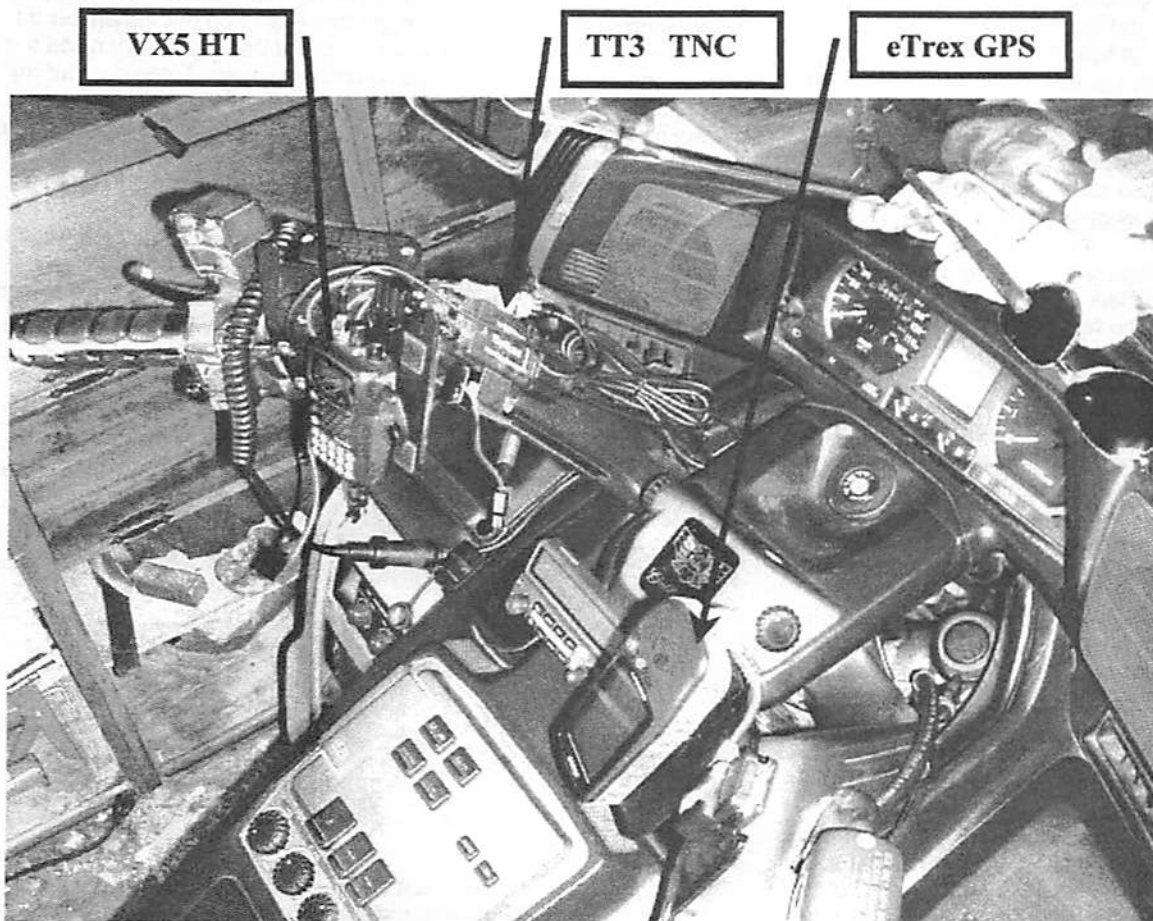
**So** – While it would be nice to have all the dedicated pieces, that just wasn't what I needed or wanted. The result was fun to put together, cheap, very portable and satisfies my need to just broadcast my position at MARC events.

**Again**, my sincere thanks to everyone who helped me – especially Jerry Irwin who worked with me on several elements, particularly the power requirements and setting up the software for the TT3.

**Hopefully** I'll be out there beaconing at the next MARC event. And also happy to help wherever I can for anyone else looking for a "Minimalist" solution.

**Thanks – John Beckwith, N6JCB**

[jbeckwit@lmu.edu](mailto:jbeckwit@lmu.edu)



## DARE I RISK THE COLD-OH YES!

Hooded sweatshirt, check

Remove the liner from the cycle jacket and put that coat on over the snowmobile suit. Time to go!

**Howdy!** February is drawing to a close! Sunshine when out, really cleans the water and ice of the roads around here. Especially the north/south lanes. So I needed to head for the Amateur Radio Consignment Center in St. Paul and why not take the bike? Only 10 miles down there.. The sun is bright in the blue background skies.

**Perfect!** Don't even look at the thermometer or check the weather stuff on the media just go! After all I won't be the first person out or last today!

**BMW** sputtered and then stopped. Hmmm. I had been working on the battery for the past week. Thinking to myself if it was better to take that white truck. One more try... Hey the bike started! Eased out of the garage. The daughter doesn't park back in the garage like she should so I am paddling around her car and the door. Figured I had better make sure this bike will start again so I hit the kill switch and then hit the starter again. Purred and the battery sounded great! OK here goes.

**Waiting** at the traffic light I try to look ahead, ignoring the cars and trucks around me. Sure is great though to open the beemer up and move around these SUVs! C-C-COLD out! Feel those freezing fingers creeping up my coat around my chest. Even my Mitts didn't seem to help with my fingers feeling the bite. I had ridden the day before, turned on the handle bar warmers. Power of suggestion works great! I felt that warmth until taking the mitts off and feeling a cold handgrip.

**"More soldering."** I muttered pulling the wires off from the throttle side. Still I thought, "At least I am saving some fuel and the bike is always a better ride than some pickup!" smiling I rode south on Snelling toward St. Paul. Found the Consignment Center open and talked to the clerk about my mobile tuner.

"No you can keep it here or take it, Up to you!" He smiled. Lots of guys in there looking at all the used radios and stuff. "I don't need it. Just wanted to make sure the price was low enough for it to sell." I replied. Not seeing anything I really needed, except a lower section, heh I said goodbye and went out to the bike.

**Surveying** the trucks and cars, "a miniature antenna farm!" I smiled. The BMW was purring while I pulled on the cold helmet and this time I put on the summer gloves and the Mitts. Ride home went good. However the fuel light came on. Not wanting the bike to sit with an empty tank I stopped and filled it. EEEROPPE. Well some sort of noise came from the starter. Then all was quiet! So I pushed the bike away from the gas pumps and stared at it.

**"Now what LORD?"** Again muttering. Finally went into the Citgo station to see a familiar face of the clerk.

"What happened with your bike?" The fellow is from the Mid East and speaks with some broken English.

"Battery." I replied. "Can I get a jump off your car?"

He pulls his keys from his pocket, "I can't leave the counter, you know!" I nodded. What trust! Went out to the beemer and pushed it across the lot to his car. Finally found the cables in the trunk and hooked the battery to the frame of the beemer and the RED to the battery post. Bike fired and just set there running. "Thanks for the jump!" I exclaimed giving back his key. He smiled and nodded. People were coming and going all morning. I waved to him again and hopped on the bike easing it back into the streets for home.

Smiling and wondering why the battery didn't puke on me at the ham consignment center or why it started at all. However Trusting in Jesus at all times has me wondering if I am suppose to bump into people and spread some cheer and joy even if the problems of the day look bad!

**Arrived** back by the garage and set there in the sun. Not feeling the cold at all due to attention on a problem. Stopped the bike and started it up about 3 times and then finally it did its grunt and nothing. Retrieved the battery jumper box and had the cycle running again. Checking the voltage with the volt ohmmeter. 13.9 charging

and 12.34 just setting. However the spike of juice needed to start or try to start the bike dropped the voltage to 11.7. Yep time for a new battery.

**"You mean you broke down and I wasn't there?"** Karen's turn to smile. I finally checked the temperature. 13 degrees. Hmmm. -1 below windchill. Err that is if your just sitting outside on the deck. Scooting along the back roads I averaged 45 miles per hour... Yup I guess it was kind of COLD! However not when I needed to get the bike started!

**Now** to find a cheap battery! Digi-key has the same battery that Westco sells for almost half the price...

73!

Tim Lindstrom, AB0TS <ab0tstim@juno.com>

Columbia heights, MN

Hey Bonnie, Hello.

**Well** right now we are having a snow storm, and tomorrow is March first, so it looks like it might be in for more than 6 weeks of winter here.

**Another** group I belong to has been having a discussion of what a Geezer actually is. When or where does a person become a Geezer? Some have pretty much figured that if you ride a full dress motorcycle, you must be a Geezer. (therefore the descriptive phrase "Geezer Glide") Others feel it is all in your attitude. I dunno. I do ride the "full bagger", but I still like to go "pretty fast", so that puts me some where on the edge. Now as another person said "the edge, is something that the only ones who know where it is, have already gone over it". I reckon that pretty much sums it up!

**When** I bought the current motor, I pretty much promised to "not hop it up", and to "not customize it". Momma said I spent too much time and money doing that to my bikes in the past. So far I have stuck to our agreement, but I sure would like to get an extra 20 MPH (or more) out of it. HMM when we were kids, we managed to "inject" some ether into the tank of our "whizzer" that made it go really fast (to us). I wonder if that trick might work with a full grown Harley?

**The** group I usually go to Honduras with, is due back today or tomorrow. I sure missed that trip this year. I do not remember if I told you, but I was losing so much blood that my Doctor nixed the idea of me going, until he could find the cause. Turns out that my blood was so thin it was just leaking through a couple of places, such as my Prostate gland etc.. So they backed off the "rat poison" a touch, and told me I was OK to go. Unfortunately, that all happened AFTER, the group had left! So I did not get to go this year. BOO HOO!

**So** now in a week or so, Marsha, and I, plan to go on a weeks vacation in Puerto Vallarta, MX. I don't know how it will go, as her girlfriend is going with us, and she may not want to do anything but sit around. Man I hope not, I like to see everything there is when I go to a place like that.

**OK** Short column I admit, but if you print it in size 20 print, it looks like a lot, and us Near Geezers can read it easier!!

73 Paul K9PEP <wa9ffl@yahoo.com>

Rockford, IL



"I try to eat a varied diet. One day I'll have dark chocolate and the next I'll have milk chocolate."

FROM YOUR '50/50' LADY  
MIJO REYNOLDS KF6BEB  
<mijokf6beb@adelphia.net>

**NET DRAWING:**

2/2/05-Shawn KG6TDG \$5 + 5 tickets N/A, 2/9- Diane N6MHQ \$5 + 10 tickets N/A, 2/16- \$5 Dave W6DRC N/A, 2/23- Beijan KG6NBE \$5 + 5 tickets N/A.... NO WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY

**50/50:**

Golly gee Cupid paid 3 lucky people \$50 each, Kay Johnson, Jeff KB6SUP and John KC6ZOZ.

**Door Prizes:**

\$40 Gift Certificate donated by Huntington Honda won by Alvin KD6UZZ  
Comet 2M-440 Antenna donated by NCG Comet won by Judith KF4MCF

**Donations from "MARC":**

In-2-Spa Butters winner Mel KD6MPB  
Extendable Flashlite Magnet won by Dean KD6HEL  
Premium Chamois winner Rich N6TAX  
Talking pedometer with FM radio winner Mel KD6MPB  
Clip-on Flashlite won by Billy N6EDY  
Vise-grips won by Mijo KF6BEB on gray ticket  
Extreme Tape/Reflective tape winner Mel KD6MPB

Youngest couple winners Charles KF6TXI & Stephanie  
Oldest couple Billy N6EDY & Audrey

Other door prize donators: Mel KD6MPB & Kay Johnson, Rich N6TAX and Sue KC6UMH Blackburn, Audrey Swaengen & Billy N6EDY, Hiroko KG6LFZ & Wayne KB6UJW, Peter N6LMO, Charles KF6TXI & Stephanie, Alvin KD6UZZ, Carolyn Macy KE6JWD & Ray & Bonnie Davis. We deeply appreciate the door prizes brought in by our members-I used to list them & the winners but it got too much and besides most would pick up their prizes and walk away. So you understand I do need to know the winners of Huntington Honda, NCG Corp & "MARC". Thank you one and all.

Gray ticket distributor was John KC6ZOZ  
Gray Ticket winner was Mijo KF6BEB  
Three gray tickets drawn this month.  
Thanks to the ticket dissectors Ray, Kay & all.  
Kay Johnson was the lucky person to draw all tickets for the door prizes. Thanks Kay

**SECRETARY/Treasurer/NewsLetter Editor/Info Bureau:**  
Bonnie KD8OFQ 949-551-1036 Fax 949-551-3042  
Cell # 949-300-4441  
<bonidavis@iuno.com> <bonidavis@earthlink.net>

**NEW MEMBERS:**

One new member in February- Let's welcome  
Ed Hamilton Dutcher KE7CSA  
Issaquah, WA  
Hope you enjoy being a member of "MARC"- you can get all kinds of ideas, tech assistance whatever meets your fancy on the "MARC" List

**MEETING:**

February meeting brought Mijo KF6BEB to the front with the big gavel whilst her hubby John W5JFR sold 50/50 tickets..  
Now Mijo (being a teacher) did a wonderful job keeping members attention. Always with the gavel at large!!!  
No there was no skit but watch out next year as there may be one(:))ss  
We had one visitor Tanja Peterson, Andy W6AJB's lady friend, hope we didn't scare her off.

**NEWSLETTERS:**

Thank you all for your donations to the March newsletter. It is great to have a tech article each month this is wonderful.. APRS has overwhelmed me. But no problem I can handle it just like everything else I do.  
Now let me tell you all - I will take articles on your vacations, short trips, events and from all "MARC" members far and wide.

**SUNSHINE CORNER...:**

We need to keep Alan Gallagher WB6T in our prayers along with lots of love- he will be in the hospital longer than he has anticipated.

To the many members who have sickness, loss of a loved one, or family who are ill and need lots of love, we are here for you in prayer.....Dollie KD6ERC Connie Brown KD6UZE, Eleanor Guthrie, Burt & Geri Brink family, Mel Johnson KD6MPB.

John Helms went to be with GOD - oh so many more I do not know about-WE DO CARE & LOVE YOU ALL and will miss each one so very much.

Our love and prayers go out to the Military and their families ... They are doing so much good while on their missions. We are very proud of each one in the military and their families.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**

**E-MAIL CHECK IN LADY.....**

Hello MARC members!

To all of y'all in California, I'm sure glad the rain has subsided. Bet you thought you lived in Houston for a while there. I reckon this will alleviate a draught this year?

The first quarterly check in will be in your email boxes next week. You know, so many of you respond faithfully, yet others never respond at all. It would warm my heart to have a response back from everyone! (Yes, UUD....this means you). I sincerely love hearing from everyone. It's just a simply click, you know. Let me thank everyone that pops a little "hi" in their response. It sure makes me feel like I'm still a part of "home".

As Spring nears, I want to wish you a great riding season. Hopefully, some of you will be here in Texas for the MS-150 in April. I'll undoubtedly be working it again since it is a cause near and dear to my heart. If anyone is just considering coming out, you will be in for one of the most wonderful experiences ever. The scenery is gorgeous, the folks are very nice, and it would be a good chance to broaden your horizons! I hope I can spend a tad more time with those that come here. Last year, I was at a base post at 4:30 AM. I ran out of steam much earlier than usual!

I always thought that poppies were the only wildflower. You've got to see Spring in Texas to appreciate the multitude of flowers. There is every color in the spectrum. I'm planning on being in LaGrange for the festivities this year.

Ride safely, take care, stay well and happy and I hope to see y'all soon.  
Don't forget to click on that "reply" button or the link.

Sue KF6HZJ <counterqueenie@sbcglobal.net> Houston, TX  
Your MARC quarterly e-mail check-in Lady

**YES YES there will be a sign-up sheet for the Abused Kids Ride and the SoCal Tour de Cure at our March meeting.**

**THINK ABOUT IT- well didn't get any ideas so I bought a Kenwood D 700A for the May 13th Anniversary meeting. Tickets sales will begin at the March meeting.....**

## MOTORCYCLE BRACKETS

The following brackets are the ones we keep here at the house for our MARC members. These are not sold by MARC..

### PTT Button Bracket

Fits under the left handlebar module and positions the button so it is right where your left thumb is naturally under the left hand grip. Fits 1500 and 1800 Gold Wings and some other Honda models. Has been adapted to some other brands and models. Black anodized or plain aluminum available. Has standard 1/2" hole for PTT button. Price \$10.00

### PTT Button, Waterproof

Has large rounded surface for your thumb, so your thumb does not get tired or sore with heavy use. Black in color. Fits in 1/2" hole on PTT Button Bracket. Price \$13.00

### Antenna Bracket For 1/2" Tubular Trunk Racks

Natural aluminum color only Fits coax with SO-239 fitting only for antennas with PL-259 fittings, can not be modified to use with NMO fittings. Price \$20.00

### Antenna Bracket For Kuryakyn or American Flat Rackets For The 1800 Gold Wings.

Natural aluminum color only. The brackets are flat stock, bent so that the antenna is perfectly vertical, with 2, 8-32 threaded holes, so you have to drill 2 matching holes in the rear of your flat rack. Round head stainless steel screws hide the holes. Price \$10.00

### Handlebar Brackets For HT's, Cell Phones, GPS's or Just About Anything Else

We just have them for the Left side handlebars (No more for the right side). They fit the 1500 and 1800 Gold Wings and some other Honda's too. They are Black anodized and come with all mounting hardware.

Price \$25.00

### Stainless Steel Trunk Rack Plates

These 2 1/2" X 3 1/2" X .62" (1/16") SS plates are used by most of the MARC Members to keep from cracking the trunk lids. We have seen many cracked and busted trunk lids before we started putting these plates under the rear legs of the trunk racks. We have never seen a cracked lid when using these SS Plates. They fit under both the tubular and flat racks on the 1500 and 1800 Gold Wings.

Price \$10 for non polished, sorry no polished plates left.

(Ray & I bought these as MARC could not afford to pay for 50-100 of these at a time so Checks go to Ray Davis (not MARC))

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~~~~~LOOK FOR SOME CHANGES IN THE NEWSLETTER NEXT MONTH~~~~~  
I AM GOING TO BE RE-ARRANGING THE ADS AND SOME OF THE OTHER  
ITEMS THAT I DON'T CHANGE ALL THAT MUCH EACH MONTH.





## "GOODIES FOR OUR TROOPS OVERSEAS"

THE VFW AND THE AMERICAN LEGION HAVE RECEIVED "TRAVEL BAGS" DONATED FROM THE MANUFACTURER WHICH WE HOPE TO FILL WITH COMFORT ITEMS FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN THE COMBAT AREAS. WE WILL THEN 'SEAL' THE BOXES AND FORWARD THEM TO UNITS MOBILIZED FROM THE ORANGE COUNTY AREA.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! PLEASE WRITE LETTERS, AND DONATE SMALL ITEMS SUCH AS NEW (OR USED) POCKET BOOKS, NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, DVD'S, VIDEO TAPES, DRY BATTERIES, PHONE CARDS, DECKS OF CARDS, SMALL GAMES, TOWELS, WASH CLOTHS, HYGIENE GEAR SUCH AS RAZORS, SHAVING CREAM, TOOTH BRUSHES, TOOTH PASTE, SOAP, POWDER, ETC.

JUST ABOUT ANYTHING IN THE HEALTH AND COMFORT DEPARTMENT THAT WILL FIT INTO THE BAGS WILL BE PROPER. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND HOWEVER, THAT ANY MATERIAL CONTAINING RELIGIOUS MATTER CONTRARY TO ISLAMIC FAITH, OR DEPICTING NUDE OR SEMINUDE PERSONS, PORNOGRAPHIC OR SEXUAL ITEMS, HORROR COMICS, MEAT PRODUCTS, TOBACCO, COFFEE, MEDICINES, ALCOHOL, FRUITS, LIVING PLANTS, OR ANY ITEMS IN PRESSURIZED CONTAINERS ..... ARE PROHIBITED.

ADDITIONALLY ? THEY NEED SMALL STUFFED ANIMALS, TOYS, GAMES, ETC ? THINGS THEY CAN CARRY IN THEIR POCKETS ? TO BE ABLE TO GIVE TO THE IRAQI CHILDREN WHEN THEY ARE OUT ON PATROLS. WE ARE AWARE THAT THIS TENDS TO FOSTER "GOODWILL".

WE HAVE PLENTY OF THESE BAGS ? SO BRING IN YOUR DONATIONS AND FILL THEM UP. LET THE TROOPS KNOW THAT THE FOLKS BACK HOME ARE THINKING ABOUT THEM - AND THAT WE APPRECIATE WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

I will be collecting the donations at the Mar and Apr meetings and delivering them to the Legion Lodge for further shipment.

**BILLY N6EDY** <billyn6edy@aol.com>

This a poem using only one syllable words without repeating any words.....

I love carbs, but they don't like me;  
Look at my thighs, so all can see--  
A curse that comes from too much pie,  
Snack cakes, sweet tea, ham on rye.

Go to gym four times a week,  
Dance class twice, stay with beat,  
Bend knees, side step, back once more,  
Hang tough, fall down, hit floor.

Jump rope, bike hard, swim ten laps,  
Push up, pull back, walk real fast.  
Lean, mean shape and abs of steel,  
Less food in, needs good strong will.

Now, for you, this tale is done;  
Look out, bake shop, here we comell  
(Pam Capps, Celebration, FL.)

"MARC" CALENDAR 2004  
Mar. 12- Breakfast Meeting

April 9- Breakfast Meeting  
April 30 - Abused Kids Ride  
May 14- 13th Anniversary  
May 21- SoCal Tour de Cure  
June 11-Breakfast Meeting  
June 12- Bad Ride  
July NO Meeting  
Aug 13- Breakfast Meeting  
Sept 10- Breakfast Meeting  
Oct 1- Breakfast Meeting  
Oct 8/9- MS 150  
Nov 13- Love Ride  
Dec 10- Christmas Party

### MARC" NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:::

|       |      |     |           |
|-------|------|-----|-----------|
| March | 30th | FOR | April     |
| April | 29th | FOR | May       |
| June  | 1st  | FOR | June/July |
| Aug   | 3rd  | FOR | Aug       |
| Aug   | 29th | FOR | Sept      |
| Sept  | 21st | FOR | Oct       |
| Nov   | 2nd  | FOR | Nov       |
| Nov   | 30th | FOR | Dec       |

Get ready for spring!

April 16 - Now that the warm weather is here to stay, many riders in the northern reaches of the country are faced with getting their bikes back in shape for the riding season.

If you didn't do much more than park your bike on the side of the garage when the first cold winds blew last fall, you've got a little work ahead of you. Suffice it to say that prepping a bike for winter is usually a lot easier than getting an unprepped bike ready for spring. That's because several things have been going on over the past four months that could make your life difficult now.

Foremost is the fuel system. Gasoline is a mixture of volatile chemicals, and when it sits untreated for several months, parts of the mixture can evaporate, leaving behind a brown gunk called varnish. Varnish can clog the small jets inside a carburetor, leading to sluggish performance, hard starting or even no starting. You'll at least want to drop the float bowls on the carbs, dump out the gas that remains, and clean out any residue with carb cleaner. In addition, you may need to unscrew the jets and clean them, too.

Preventing this next year is as easy as squirting a bit of fuel stabilizer into your last tankful before winter. Then run the engine for a few minutes to get treated fuel into the carbs.

If your gas tank was low when you parked the bike last year, it's possible that condensation has formed in it. Draining all the remaining fuel and replacing it with fresh gas is your best bet.

Your battery may well be dead or nearly so. Pull it, add distilled water to any cells that need it, and put it on a trickle charger. You can use a hydrometer to tell when it's ready to use.

You'll also want to be sure that your tires contain the recommended air pressure, that your brakes work smoothly and have adequate fluid, that your chain is oiled and your air filter is clean.

Yes, it's a lot to do. But it's stuff you'd more than likely have to do sometime soon anyway. Consider it getting a jump on your bike maintenance for the year.

Related story: See next page

### Got three minutes?

Here's a quick check to insure your next ride is truly a great ride.

By Bill Andrews

Jan. 28 -- "What a day for a ride," you think to yourself.

What you should be thinking, though, is "Is my ride ready for the day?"

It's a valid question, no matter how often or infrequent you ride. Either on-the-road usage and vibration or in-the-garage inactivity can take their toll on your bike, potentially degrading safety, control, performance and comfort.

That's why the Motorcycle Safety Foundation recommends a short pre-ride check of your favorite two-wheeler before every ride. To help you remember what to check, the MSF came up with the acronym T-CLOCK, which stands for Tires, Controls, Lights, Oil, Chassis and Kickstand.

These are simple, easy-to-access items that anyone who rides should be able to identify and check. And despite the length of the MSF's list, you can probably check everything in about three minutes. Depending on what you find, that could be the best three minutes you spend all day.

Here's a quick overview of the list, along with a printer-friendly version you can print out and keep in your garage. The T-CLOCK List

#### Tires and wheels

Since these are where you and the road meet, they're probably the most important things to look over. A problem can affect handling—sometimes severely.

Tire links:

Avon  
[www.avontyres.com/](http://www.avontyres.com/)  
Bridgestone  
[www.bridgestone-usa.com/](http://www.bridgestone-usa.com/)  
Cheng Shin  
[chengshintires.com/index2.html](http://chengshintires.com/index2.html)  
Continental  
[www.conti-online.com](http://www.conti-online.com)  
Dunlop  
[www.dunlopmotorcycle.com/](http://www.dunlopmotorcycle.com/)  
IRC Tire  
[www.ircthailand.com/products/rubber.html](http://www.ircthailand.com/products/rubber.html)  
Kenda [www.kendatires.com/motorcycle\\_tires.htm](http://www.kendatires.com/motorcycle_tires.htm)  
Maxxis  
[www.maxxis.com/](http://www.maxxis.com/)  
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Michelin  
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Pirelli  
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Are your rims free of dings? Are your spokes tight and straight? Check pressures in both tires. Since most manufacturers specify pressures for cold tires, this is the only accurate way to check them, as they heat up quickly on the road, raising the pressure. Consult your owner's manual or call your tire manufacturer's hotline for the proper pressures for your particular bike.

If you own multiple bikes, it may be difficult to remember all those different tire specs. And since this is one of those critical things you should check often, you may want to make a small card—like our list—with each tire's recommended pressure, then hang it on

your garage wall, or anywhere that's handy.

While you're down there checking the tires, make sure you've got plenty of tread. You should have more than 1/16 of an inch, about the distance between Lincoln's head and the top of a penny. Remove foreign objects that may have lodged in the treads, and make sure there aren't any cuts in the tire. A scuff is nothing to be worried about, but if it's a deep scratch, you might want to have it checked.

#### Controls and cables

A snapped throttle or clutch cable can leave you on the side of the road, so check 'em. Operate anything connected to a cable and make sure that levers and cables feel smooth and don't bind. Apply the front brake and push the bike forward. The brake should feel firm, and the front wheel should not move. Check the rear brake in the same fashion.

#### Lights

Seeing and being seen are two great ways to avoid unwanted incidents on the road, so making sure your lights work is key.

Start by turning on your ignition. Are the headlight's high beam and low beam working? Does the taillight come on? Does the brake light come on when you depress the brake pedal and lever? Check left and right turn signals, front and rear. Remember that the cause of a malfunction here could be a relay or bulb. Lastly, don't forget to check your horn.

#### Oil and fuel

Running out of gas is a bummer, but since many motorcycles don't have gas gauges, it's a very real possibility. Check the gas level in the tank, and be sure your fuel petcock isn't on "reserve," which could leave you with a nasty surprise if you roll to a stop thinking you've still got gas in reserve. And don't forget to reset the tripmeter every time you fill up.

Running out of gas can be inconvenient, but running out of oil can turn your bike into an inert display of public art. Even some new bikes can use enough oil to be down a quart between oil changes, so check it before every ride.

#### Chassis

Though an improperly adjusted suspension may not seem critical, imagine your surprise as your bike behaves differently in the middle of a curve because you forgot to reset it after picking up your friend last night.

Sit on the bike and rock it, making sure that everything moves smoothly and relatively slowly. If the front or rear end behaves like a pogo stick, a trip to your trusty mechanic should be in your immediate future.

If you have an adjustable suspension, remember to read your owner's manual and adjust it properly for the load you'll be carrying and the type of riding you'll be doing.

#### Kickstand and centerstand

The kickstand is a handy little item—it's what keeps your motorcycle off the ground. Make sure it's not cracked or bent. Check the spring or springs. Are they in place, and do they have enough tension to keep the kickstand safely up?

Don't forget to look at the engine cut-out switch or pad, if so equipped.

If everything's in place and operating properly you're done, and you're good to go. Enjoy the day.

**BNC-24** • Dual-band 2M/70cm HT Antenna  
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Super flexible featherweight whip

**SMA-24** • Dual-band 2M/70cm HT Antenna  
Gain: 2.15/3.5dBi • Length: 17" • Conn: SMA  
Super flexible featherweight whip

**MH-209 (BNC Conn)** • 2M/70cm Dual-band HT Antenna  
**MH-209SMA (SMA Conn)**  
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Aluminum Finish!

**NEW**

**NEW**

**NEW**

**NEW A1-70** • Dual-band 2M/70cm  
Gain & Wave: 2M 1/4 wave • 70cm 5.0dBi 9/8 wave • Length: 21" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**NEW A1-75** • Dual-band 2M/70cm w/fold-over  
Gain & Wave: 2M 1/2 wave center load 3.2dBi • 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 5.7dBi • Length: 30" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**NEW A1-85** • Dual-band 2M/70cm w/fold-over  
Gain & Wave: 2M 1/2 wave center load 3.3dBi • 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 5.8dBi • Length: 38" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**COMET 10-10 NMO** • Dual-band 146/446MHz cellular look-a-like  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 0dBi 1/4 wave, 446MHz 2.15dBi 1/2 wave • Length: 12" • Conn: B-10 PL-259/B-10 NMO NMO • Max Pwr: 50W

**SBB-2/SBB-2 NMO** • Dual-band 146/446MHz  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 2.15dBi 1/4 wave, 446MHz 3.8dBi 5/8 wave center load • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 18" • Conn: PL-259 or NMO Style • Max Pwr: 60W

**NEW EX-101 MAX 10-10 NMO** • Dual-band 146/446MHz  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 2.6dBi 1/2 wave, 446MHz 4.9dBi 5/8 wave x 2 • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 29" • Conn: PL-259 or NMO Style • Max Pwr: 100W

**SBB-5/SBB-5 NMO** • Dual-band 146/446MHz w/fold-over  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 2.5dBi 1/2 wave • 446MHz 5.5dBi 5/8 wave x 2 • Length: 39" • Conn: SBB-5 PL-259/SBB-5 NMO NMO • Max Pwr: 120W

**COMET SBB-7/SBB-7 NMO** • Dual-band 146/446MHz w/fold-over  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 4.5dBi 6/8 wave • 446MHz 7.2dBi 5/8 wave x 3 • Length: 58" • Conn: SBB-7 PL-259/SBB-7 NMO NMO • Max Pwr: 70W

**COMET NEW C757/C757 NMO Challenger Series** • Dual-band 146/446MHz w/fold-over  
Gain & Wave: 146MHz 2.15dBi 1/2 wave, 446MHz 5.5dBi 5/8 wave x 2 • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 38" • Conn: PL-259 or NMO Style • Max Pwr: 80W

**COMET NEW CP-5M/5NMO/3B-24**  
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(SO-239, NMO, 3/8-24/PL-259) Heavy-duty,  
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Gain & Wave: 146MHz 3.5dBi 1/2 wave center load, 446MHz 6.0dBi 5/8 wave x 2 center load • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 40" • Conn: PL-259 or NMO Style • Max Pwr: 80W



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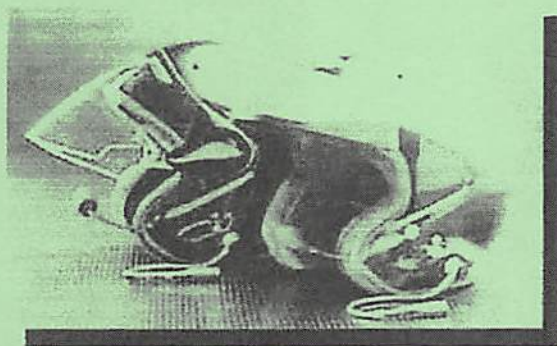




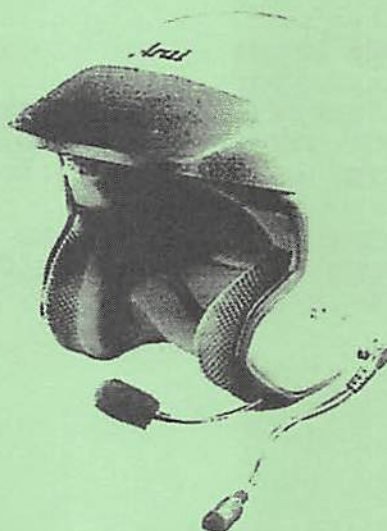
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12- "MARC" BREAKFAST MEETING 8am AT LAKE VIEW CAFE (714-572-8521)  
17- ST. PATRICK'S DAY (WEARIN' O THE GREEN)  
20- FIRST DAY OF SPRING  
27- HAPPY EASTER (WATCH YOUR BUNNIES)
- APR** 1- "ALL FOOL'S DAY"  
3- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS  
6,13,20,27- "MARC" NET 7:30PM PDST OM THE ALERT SYSTEM 446.900 PL 110.9  
9- "MARC" BREAKFAST MEETING 8am AT LAKE VIEW CAFE (714-572-8521)  
22,23,24- BAKER TO VEGAS  
30-ABUSED KIDS RIDE

### SPECIAL INFO:::::

- "MARC" HOME PAGE: <http://marc-hq.org>  
"MARC" LIST: [marc@nxport.com](mailto:marc@nxport.com)  
"BA-MARC" LOCAL SITE: <http://ba-marc.org>  
"EAST COAST MARC" SITE: <http://www.eastcoastmarc.org>  
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((OUR CALL FREQUENCY 144.370- MARC SIMPLEX, CONDOR SYSTEM, THE BARN SYSTEM THE ALERT SYSTEM, N6USO REPEATER 145.440- PL 136.5.. MOST ARE MONITORED APPROXIMATELY 16-18 HOURS A DAY))



**MARCH "HAPPY EASTER" 2005**

### NEXT MEETINGS:

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