

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**August 2007**

**What a great August meeting. We covered a lot of ground and settled a couple of things so that we could go forward.**

**Riding season is so close now I can almost taste the bugs! As a bonus we have a ride scheduled-- a trip to Natchez on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Talk about anticipation! I am working on getting everything that needs doing or checking on my bikes and equipment taken care of to be sure I am ready when it's time to go. I am also consulting maps and lists of rallies to try to decide where and when to go. The preparation is almost as good as the doing and has a huge influence on the success of the ride.**

**This year I am also giving a lot of thought to safety gear and strategy. I recently attended a meeting of the Louisiana Motorcyclist Safety and Awareness Committee and it was a very sobering experience. No pun intended. I am sure Jannie Markey, who is a member of the Committee, will give a report at our next meeting but it is not making Louisiana's motorcyclists look very good. The scary thing that is sticking in my mind is the presentation by Dr. Todd Thoma, M.D. Dr. Thoma is the head of the Emergency Room at Baton Rouge's Charity Hospital. The film clips he showed of actual traffic accidents showed that you can never be sure when you leave the house--whether walking, riding a bike or driving a car--what shape you will be in when you return, if you return. He said he was there to scare us and he did. The only thing we can do is be defensive, defensive, and defensive!**

**Enjoy your preparations for Fall, and I hope to see you at our next meeting on September 5.**

**Til I see you some more.**

**Your President,  
Roy**