



# HSTA - Utah

Honda Sport Touring Association - Utah Chapter - Newsletter

April 2000

## WINTER USUALLY LEAVES US WITH RUSTY RIDING SKILLS

If you are like most of us, winter has probably taken the edge off of your riding skills. Give some thought to taking a MSF Experienced Rider Course to freshen up your riding a bit or at least take a couple of hours out to do a little work on your braking and turning. Find a clean level parking lot with no traffic that's large enough to get your speeds up to 30 or 40 miles per hour and make a normal stop. Research shows that it's best to apply both brakes when stopping. Concentrate on using a good smooth firm application of your front brake since it provides seventy percent or more of your braking power. Use a pop can or something to mark a point to start applying your brakes. A couple of extra cans to mark your stopping points will help you see your progress. Begin with moderate brake application and gradually work toward hard emergency braking. Work at this until you are comfortable doing it. It's not good to be faced with a dangerous situation that requires hard braking if you are not confident and comfortable about applying your brakes near the point of impending skid. Don't forget to pickup your markers before heading out to find a few curves.

Planning a curve instead of just riding it is a good habit to get into. Slowing to an entrance speed that will allow you to gradually accelerate through the curve is important for good stability. Using only your traffic lane, look for your curve entrance, apex and exit points within your lane and try to be as precise as you can about hitting them. Remember, entering a curve wide and using a late apex will often prevent your line from leading you too close to the edge of the road or too close to the oncoming traffic lane. On blind curves, don't begin your throttle roll on until you can see the apex. Concentrate on turning your head and POINTING YOUR NOSE around the curve to your exit point and beyond.

Lets all have a great and safe riding season.

Jim Barnes

(Repeated from two years ago and still worth reading!)

## WE ARE BACK AND READY TO MAKE A GO OF HSTA-UTAH

You are receiving this newsletter because you are on our mailing list. To remain on our mailing list you must become a member of HSTA if you are not already a member.

Last year the Utah chapter of HSTA was almost completely inactive. Jim Barnes was very busy at Salt Lake Motosports and with the Italian Motorcycle Club. Ken Bertran spent three months riding overseas. There just wasn't much time left for HSTA.

That is not going to happen again this year! HSTA will have a meeting/breakfast/ride every forth Saturday or Sunday of each month through October. Until the membership decides otherwise, we will meet at Ruth's diner, up Immigration Canyon, in Salt Lake City. Our first meeting on April 22 will be at 9:30AM. Subsequent meetings will be at 9:00AM. If you have a better place to meet, bring your suggestion to the April meeting. If you have a preferred ride, bring your suggesting to the April meeting. If you feel that HSTA should be doing something it isn't, BRING YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO THE APRIL MEETING!

HSTA membership forms and drawing tickets for the RC-51 to be given away at STAR will be available at the meeting.

**STAR 2000 is near here!!!** HSTA 's STAR is coming back to Avon, Colorado, for an unprecedented third time. Avon has proved to be such a popular spot that STAR returns to Avon again this year. This is a great opportunity for Utah HSTA members to attend a STAR, HSTA's premier event of the year. It is just 400 miles, and some great riding, to Avon from Salt Lake. If you have never attended a STAR, this is the time to do it. I have attended many STARS including two prior times at Avon and believe this is what HSTA is all about. Jim Barnes will be going (your editor cannot go as I will be riding in Europe's Alps about that time). Contact Jim if you wish to ride with other HSTAers aoina to STAR.

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## Ride Calendar

April 22

**First “Official” monthly ride of 2000.** Meet at the Ruth's Diner (up Immigration Canyon) in Salt Lake City at 9:30AM. This is our first monthly breakfast meeting. Breakfast will be followed by a casual ride to be determined over breakfast by the group.

May 27

**Our second “Official” monthly ride of 2000.** Meet for Breakfast at Ruth's at 9:00am. The ride will start at about 10:30 or whenever everyone finishes eating. The route and destination will be determined at Breakfast. The ride will not exceed 150 miles or 3 hours and will end within 50 miles of Salt Lake City. If you don't want to join us for breakfast, just show up around 10:30 and look for the group in the parking lot of Ruth's or around back in the patio dining area.



### HSTA - Utah Officers

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