

Road Hazards

Lee McClellan— Safety Officer



Dallas Johnson is well aware of road hazards after a ride last month to Boston Ga. Dallas and Paul Lucas were returning home when Dallas started hearing a tapping noise and feeling a vibration.

He pulled over and found a

metal with nails in his front tire and, being a rebel that he is, tried to make it home but ran out of luck a few miles from home. He had to get a ride home to get his personal tow truck to finish the trip.

Which goes to show, no matter how good or experienced a rider you are, things happen!

Most of the road hazards that will puncture the tires are screws, nails, bolts and other metal objects but I have seen things like bones, rocks and plastic penetrate tires.

These objects could puncture a tire and not leak for miles or multiple trips which is why we should do a good pre-trip check.

Unlike in Dallas's object, when we run over the objects with the front tire, it kicks up the object so it sticks in the rear tire. This is very obvious on semi-trucks with tandem axles.

The second axle will have several times the number of objects in them, but the truck tires are a lot thicker as well as the trucks have more tires per axle.

Last year, Fred Fryer ran over an unseen object that caused a violent blow to his beautiful ride.

It was like being jolted awake from a nightmare and not finding any evidence to cause this anomaly. (?) Fred continued his ride, not realizing the life blood of his baby was oozing out.

This object cracked the engine case, the primary and bent both lower frame cross members without doing damage to either tires. That caused \$12,000 in damage! Thank goodness for good insurance.



So, no matter how good a rider or how much we pay attention, Murphy's Law can get you.

From the words of our famous Director, "Head and Eyes".

Lee

Ride Safe