



JCCC offers motorcycle training

Cheryl and Dennis Rogers, Motorcycle Safety Foundation certified instructors, advise taking the *Motorcycle Training* class before the purchase of a motorcycle.

After an interminable winter, people are ready to feel the wind, sun and rain on their faces. They are catching the bug to ride a motorcycle.

As thrilling as buying a bike, twisting the throttle and hitting the road are, safety and a legal license come first. JCCC began offering its new *Motorcycle Training* classes this year; the first three sessions filled immediately.

The course, which provides 20 hours of instruction, including eight classroom hours and 12 hours of range instruction, is designed for the beginning motorcyclist who wants to operate his or her motorcycle safely and efficiently. A Kansas Division of Vehicles certificate of completion will be issued after successfully completing the course.

The three-day classes are scheduled from 6-10 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Riding and maneuvers, including 17 exercises, are scheduled all day Saturday and Sunday in the JCCC parking lot. The lead teachers are Cheryl and Dennis Rogers, Motorcycle Safety Foundation certified instructors, who teach a maximum of 12 students per class.

“We teach proper techniques for breaking, turning and swerving,” Cheryl Rogers said. “Later we have had students thank us, saying those techniques saved their lives.”

Dennis Rogers is a retired Kansas State Trooper, and Cheryl is an IT worker for the State of Kansas. Together they take one big (3,000-mile) trip each summer, having visited 40 of the 48 continental U.S. states, and ride weekends.

The Rogers advocate motorcycle transportation as a way to reduce costs and enjoy the outdoors.

“Only a motorcyclist knows the thrill and exhilaration a dog has when it sticks its head out the car window,” Cheryl Rogers said.

Bikes and helmets are provided for the class. Stan and Elaine Rogers (no relations to Cheryl and Dennis Rogers) who formerly owned Midwest Motorcycle Training Center, donated nine Honda Rebel 250 CC bikes to JCCC after their training program closed.

Dennis Rogers advises taking the motorcycle training program before buying a motorcycle so, one, people know they like riding a motorcycle and are successful at it, and, two, they learn to ask the right questions when buying a bike – Will you have a passenger? What size works for you? Will you be riding on the street or dirt?

Taking the class reduces insurance rates and increases safety. About 92 percent of accident-involved motorcyclists were self-taught or learned from family and friends, according to Cheryl Rogers.

For more information, contact Phil Wegman, program director, skills enhancement, JCCC, at 913-469-4446, or pwegman@jccc.edu. To register, call 913-469-2323. Cost is \$199. As of this writing, open spring classes for the spring semester remain for April 23-25, April 30-May 2, May 7-8 and May 14-16. A one-day *Experienced Rider* course was also offered April 3 with more planned. **Im**