

*Now the Article:*

Try the following, while either sitting down or standing (if you can), lift your right leg off the ground just enough to be able to rotate your foot at the ankle in a clockwise circular motion. Before you read much more, go ahead and just do that part, I'll wait.....

Now, while you are doing that, take your right hand and raise it out in front of you and draw a large number SIX. If you are fairly normal, as soon as you start the bottom of the six, your right foot will change direction, it was going clockwise and it should now be going counter clockwise. Try it as often as you like; it is very difficult to stop from happening.

Yeah, well, interesting but so what, you ask. You did ask, didn't you, otherwise I wouldn't have an article to write. If you consider the multi-tasking you need to do while driving your motorcycle you will begin to appreciate the need to fully concentrate on all that you are doing, or, you might now do what you need to and clockwise, might become your counter clockwise.

Right Hand operating the gas, front brake, counter-steering and holding direction, the Left Hand operating the clutch, counter-steering, turn signals, CB, and Radio controls, and holding direction. Right Foot, holding up the bike at stops, foot steering and braking. Left Foot, transmission operation, foot steering and making sure the kick stand went down all the way. Whew, that is a lot of stuff to be thinking about at one time.

Under normal riding conditions, all of these things seem to happen effortlessly and more so when you have conditioned yourself to do all of the above. Now let's add traffic control to the equation, and get our eyes, ears and senses into action. Watching, observing, and predicting what every other driver on the road is going to do and how is that going to impact us. Again under normal conditions these are handled fairly easily. So, one of the most harped upon principles we hear is that we should go to a parking lot and practice emergency maneuvers and make them habit. Why is this so important? From the extreme multi-tasking that you need to do to control your motorcycle in an emergency, making it HABIT to perform the many functions necessary, will mean the less you need to think about the individual items making that emergency maneuver and the more you will react to making those maneuvers. The result will be a single motion and the success of avoiding the harm that presented itself.

Practice, practice, and more practice which is what it takes, and in the end, you should be able to chew gum and walk at the same time. Try it, I'll wait.....