



GWRRA - Michigan District Newsletter



April 2013

Volume 2



Kim & Sandy Barger
District Directors

Greetings,

We hope all who were able to attend Wingless Weekend 2013 had a great time. We are looking for a new venue for 2014. When Kim & I married we had a motorcycle but it was a basket case in a box. Kim had previously had motorcycles for many years. After a couple of years, Kim purchased a bike and said “if you want to ride lets go otherwise, I will be home in awhile” of course, I wanted to go. A few years later we had a baby and then two months later had custody of Kim’s 10 year old son Thomas, so Kim was unable to ride everyone. While we were on our way to the cabin there was a Honda 200cc for sale for \$300, we bought it and put it in the pickup. When my Mom seen the bike she asked if it was Kim’s? She about lost it when Kim told her it was my bike. So, I had to learn to ride, if the family was all

going to ride. I took a rider safety course at Delta College and got my license in 1993. Ever since, I have had my own bike and enjoyed riding, who would have thought? We purchased our first Gold Wing after riding in the Smokey Mountains on Kim’s Shadow Ace, I was only good for about 100 miles then I needed to get off the bike, I was ruined.! I told Kim if we are going to continue to ride we need a comfortable ride. When we got back home Kim went to Bay Cycle and purchased a new 1998 SE Gold Wing. I now enjoy riding.

GWRRA from the Woman Perspective.

When we first joined the GWRRA in 1999 and attended a couple of Chapter meetings we did not feel welcome or like a part of the group. Kim liked the Wing World magazine and the online board so we kept our membership active. Several years later, one summer morning in 2006 we were eating breakfast at Bob Evans in Midland and seen a gentlemen with a GWRRA vest and started to talk to him about the organization. He contacted the local Chapter V Director – Jon Badour who called and invited us to camp with them at the Michigan Rally. We love to camp so that sounded like a great time. We had a great time at the rally and the members were very friendly. We started going to the Chapter meetings and attending more events before long the Chapter was part of our family. This just goes to show how you can attract new or inactive members by wearing your GWRRA attire or vests. Now we enjoy all of the friends and people we have met over the years and are glad to be a part of this organization. Kim and I both work full time and most of our vacation time is spent attending many of the GWRRA events;

which is fine because we always have a great time.

We are starting to plan for 2013 Michigan Convention/Rally which will be in Midland again this year. Our theme is “Cops and Robbers”. Register early and save. There will be a great prize for one early bird registrant; we have a set of dolls and a clock, the winner will be drawn at the rally. There will be new entertainment this year; you will not want to miss this show.

Keep on Smiling – it will be riding season soon

Sandy

COPS & ROBBERS



AUGUST 1 - 4, 2013

Register Early



Ben & Mary Gawrylowicz
Enhancement
District Coordinators

Membership Enhancement

Hi all,

Well, this month the ladies are supposed to write an article for the District Newsletter!

Hmm, let me tell you what I think of motorcycling . . . and GWRRA!

It started many, many years ago . . . am I giving away my age? Nah!?! We had considered buying 4-wheelers, but with the kids getting older we figured they probably wouldn't ride that much anyway. (Up to this point we had been avid snowmobilers, but we had to go further and further to ride – we could no longer ride in our own county)! So, that took a lot of the fun out of snowmobiling.

Then, one day Ben says he had seen a Gold Wing and wondered if I might take a ride on it with him to see if maybe this would be something we could both enjoy. At first, I thought, maybe, maybe not, we'll see! And then thinking – well, at least we can ride right from home! That was back in 1986 and I must say, I really enjoy riding with Ben on our motorcycle. In fact, I don't know what we would do without it, nor do I want to find out!

We have traveled to so many different places and seen so many beautiful things and met so many wonderful people while on our bike and I know we wouldn't have done half that much in a car! (The ride through Glacier National Park is still my favorite)! What beauty!!!

That brings us to GWRRA . . . which has not only opened up a whole new outlook on motorcycling knowledge and safety, but on friends (our 2nd family) for sure! What a wonderful group of people from every walk of life. What a great time we are having and have been having for well over 20 years now with our GWRRA FAMILY!

We enjoy working with all of you -- It's really not work . . . it's teamwork and so much fun! Are we busy? Yes, we are. Is it hard work? Absolutely not. (Don't tell Ben I said that)!!! And we're doing it for all of our FAMILY! We truly enjoy it and plan on enjoying it for many more years to come!

So, all you FAMILY, come on out and join us! We have lots of fun waiting for you!

From the backseat . . .

Mary (and Ben), GWRRA MI District Team MEC
benmary1968@yahoo.com



Ron & Micki Linn
MICHIGAN
DISTRICT
TREASURER

District Treasurers

Hello,

Micki and I would like to let everyone know spring is coming and riding seasons will soon be upon us once more. In the meantime there are a few things each of our Chapters need to be reminded of. One of which is our ticket sales. When turning in your sold tickets, please do so in groups of 100. This will make it easier to keep track of, both your end and as well as mine.

Remember these ticket sales need a legible name and phone number. If the name and phone number is not legible, it makes it very difficult to determine who won the prizes. Also be sure to put on the bottom of the ticket stub the Chapter or person who sold the ticket. This person or Chapter will be recognized also when the ticket is drawn. By selling these tickets we are helping our chosen charity, the Rainbow Connection. The Rainbow Connection is a very worthwhile organization because it does help children, all over Michigan who are granted a wish to help make their last days special as they all are. A percentage also goes back to each Chapter for their operating expenses. This is why we have the ticket sales to begin with. We need each Chapter to get out and sell their tickets and if possible, get more to help our District to meet their needs for the Rainbow Connection and each Chapter.

If anyone has any questions, please let us know, or just say hello, we love to meet new people and renew friendships with our GWRRA membership.

Bye for now,
Ron and Micki Linn
gwrmitreas@msn.com

**BE A EARLYBIRD AND
REGISTER FOR THE DISTRICT RALLY
NOW ! ! ! !**



Doug & Rowena McAfee
Asst. District Directors
Northern Section
Special Projects

Assistant District Directors Northern Section

Greetings,

This issue of our District's Newsletter is geared from the woman's point of view, from the back seat. I cannot express the satisfaction I get from riding in the backseat. I get to view things along the highway that I wouldn't normally see in a car traveling the same route.

A couple of years ago, Doug and I took a 5 week trip down through Ohio, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. This was a trip of a life time for us and would like to return back on the same route just one more time. I got to see so much, the different wild flowers that grew along the roadside, a silo that had a tree growing in the center and the tree acted as a roof for the silo, and many more oddities of the roadside. Our first landing was in West Union, Ohio, where we visited some good friends of ours, then off to Nashville where Doug's sister lives. We got a first hand tour of Nashville, visiting the Grand Ole' Opera building and seeing various Country Western Music stores and museums.

After a couple of days we were back on the road again heading for Loretta Lynn's campgrounds in Hurricane Mills, Tennessee. What a beautiful place to visit. On the campground property she has an old grissmill. Her museum, the house she grew up in plus her plantation like home in which she lives. The campgrounds were great and the hospitality was outstanding.

Next on the road was Mammoth Caves. We had planned on taking a boat trip through the caves, but was not able to do so at that time. We did however, see some beautiful country, I just love the mountains and all its beauty. We went further south into Arkansas to visit our son and his family for a week or so then it was back on the road.

Our next stop was Conway, Arkansas. Upon arrival was set up camp on the Arkansas River where there was going to be the "Toad Suck Rally" the following day. You may ask what in the world was the Toad Suck Rally? Well, it is a GWRRA Rally put on by Chapter L "The Love Chapter" in Arkansas. It is a one day rally where there were GWRRA members coming from Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Michigan. If you ever get a chance to attend, please do so, it was the most fun we had had in a long time. Doug participated in the riding lawn mower race where the steering was reversed. At one point in time he was heading for the Arkansas River. What a hoot! He also participated in the turtle races. Everyone picked out a painted turtle, placed a NASCAR number on its shell and at the pre-set time dropped the turtle into a ring and the object was for the turtle to crawl from the inner ring to the outer ring. Doug's driver was Mark Martin and it was the year he retired. Well Doug's turtle did retire, he just pulled in his

Claws and head and went to sleep, and never budged one iota. We laughed all day long and was welcomed into the chapter like old lost friends.

After the rally we were back on the road again, this time heading for Missouri. My mother was born in Lamar, Missouri and I wanted to go back and visit the town where I had so many fond memories growing up and with my grandparents. We just spent a short time in Lamar and headed for Lake of the Ozarks. This little town had really changed from the time I was growing up and has become more like a small Branson. That evening we went to the Main Street Opera where we were entertained for almost 3 hours. The show was great and well worth seeing.

The next day we headed back home but along the way our alternator went out and had to pull in Jefferson City, Missouri for repairs. Let me tell you, Rescue Plus was great to us. We made the call, because we were on a little country road going nowhere. They sent out a wrecker and the wrecker guy took extra care in loading and securing our trike on the truck bed. When we called, we told Rescue Plus we had two people and a bike camper on the back of our trike. What they sent was a short bed truck and two men. After all was said and done, here we were riding in the truck, all four of us with just enough room for two, the trike and trailer were just on the bed but very well secure I might add, heading for Jefferson City, about 30 miles on down the road. Upon arrival at the Honda dealership they took over, they had to overnight our alternator and took us to a hotel for lodging. They stayed with us to be sure we got a room and the next day came and got us and we were back on the road by 11AM, heading for home.

This only goes to show you, it isn't just what is along side the roadway that you see, but it is the people with whom you meet along the way that makes a trip memorable.

So remember while traveling on your bike, take the time to see all the little wildflowers, the silo's who have tree tops for a roof, and especially the people with whom you meet that is unforgettable. This is what memories are made of.

Ride Safe and Enjoy the Ride

Rowena & Doug McAfee
Asst. District Directors
Northern Section
Newsletter Editor



Assistant District Directors Central Section

A Night I'll Never Forget

Terri & Farmer Rodgers
Asst. District Directors
Central Section
Goodies

The day started as any other. A friend told me that she thought I should meet a friend of hers. I really didn't think much about it, but thought "Why not?"

That night Farmer called and we talked for over 3 ½ hours on the phone. He sounded really nice and we agreed to a Friday date. As we hung up, he casually mentioned "Oh, by the way, do you have a motorcycle helmet?" Of course, I didn't and had never even ridden a bike.

He was running late (a fact I later learned was often the case!). All I could see was his nose through the full-face helmet. He helped me put on a borrowed helmet. The next thing I knew, we were going down the road with me thinking "Should a single Mom of three really be doing this? I don't even know what he looks like!"

That night was a Friday dinner ride of Chapter N's. Not only was it a first date, it was a blind date with 30 other people! Everyone went out of their way to include me, and that felt great. After dinner, most of us stopped for ice cream. Farmer asked if I was tired of riding, and I told him I didn't think that would ever happen.

It was one of those rare, beautiful full moon nights with the temperature in the mid-70's. We rode until about 3:00 a.m. because the gas stations were closed and I had to get home.

Super-tramp was playing in our helmets. There was a song called "Take The Long Way Home" that means a lot to us because of that night and how we feel about riding. Two years later that song was played at the end of our wedding!

Now we've been married fifteen happy years, with ten grandchildren. Since then we have been Chapter Directors, Senior Chapter Directors, Rider's Education, Sunshine Lady, etc. and on State staff for four years. Who would have thought a simple ride on a motorcycle could have turned out that way?

Terri Rodgers a.k.a. Mrs. Farmer
ADD West Section
Goodies



Gayle & Dennis Jisa
Asst. District Directors

Assistant District Directors East Central Section

EAST CENTRAL SECTION

Here is what is coming up in our section this year:

Chapter Q2 - has their anniversary party on Sat April 13th. The theme is "BACK TO SCHOOL DAZE".

Be sure to let them know you are coming as it is a catered dinner. Tickets are \$15 ea and doors open

East Central Section—Vendors at 5 p.m. Location is: American Legion, Morrison-Mead Post, 248 W Main ST, Mayville Mi. Contact Alex McLeod or Jeff & Leeann Rajewski for reservations.

Chapter A— has their **Blessing of the Bikers on Sun April 28, noon -2 p.m** with the blessing at 1 p.m. Located at American Legion Post #4, 401 N Groesbeck Hwy, Mt Clemens. There will be 50/50, door prizes and FREE hot dogs. Contact Rick & Donna Whittier or Allen & Sylvia Pocock for more information.

Other events coming up in our section are:

Ch L—Picnic in the Park May 19th (more details to come so watch the website and google calendar)

Ch E— Fun Run/Anniversary Party on June 2. This is a new location so watch for details.

EAST CENTRAL SECTION CAMP OUT - Aug 22-24 at Lake Huron Campground in Port Sanilac Mi. There is camping for small and large vehicles as well as cabins to rent. Check out the flyer on the Mi web site as there is a lot of information there. You can also contact Jon Badour at (989) 205-1775 or Ron Linn at (810) 223-4403. Note: There was information saying the campground may be closed but it has been confirmed that they will be open this year.

Ch V- Oct 5 Anniversary Party more information to follow in the next issue of this newsletter

Ch F2- Oct 12th Anniversary Party “ “

Ch A -Nov 2 Anniversary Party “ “

Also keep NOV 9th open as that is the date of the Fall Officers Meeting in Lansing.

Gayle & Dennis Jisa
Assistant District Directors
East Central Section
Vendors
wingcoy@chartermi.net

From A Woman's Point of View—Submitted by Gail Jisa

Riding on the back seat of a Honda Gold Wing has lots of advantages! It is a great way to see, feel and smell the outdoors. When you are inside a closed up four wheeled vehicle you miss the fresh air, smell of the flowers and the skunks who left behind a tell tail sign they had been there before you. You also miss the variance of temperatures as you can feel a 2 degree temperature change whether it be higher or lower. You learn to watch the horizon for signs of approaching storms. Your driver has to keep their eyes on traffic and possible hazards, as so do you, but you have more freedom to help find and avoid possible confrontations. You also have the advantage of doing more sight seeing and grabbing an OCCASIONAL siesta. It is very important that you keep your eyes open as 4 eyes watching for a deer to come out of a field or other vehicles not seeing you and pulling out of a drive or intersection can save your lives!. Until I took an ERC/ARC class there were lots of things I did not know how to do or that I even could help in promoting our safe ride. PLEASE take a class so that you can ride as safe as possible. Talk to Bruce or Melissa Thayer or go on the district web site under Divisions and find the form for classes set up for this year.

Before we joined GWRRA Dennis had ridden motorcycles for many years. When we were raising our family of four children we were without a bike for a while. Once Dennis got another bike he went out for many rides with other friends but I was what I called “a motorcycle widow” as someone had to stay with the four children. It is not easy to find someone to watch FOUR!!

When we moved from Ohio to Michigan, in 1984 it was a huge adjustment. We had lived by family all of our lives so being in a “foreign land” was something we had to tackle and overcome. Dennis had a co worker who told him all about GWRRA. Dennis went to a couple of gatherings alone at first. I was extremely shy and avoided groups of people I did not know. A couple of gatherings later I decided to go and check it out.

We joined GWRRA in Feb 1986 and by spring of 1987 I was the Chapter Treasurer, a position I held for 18 years. GWRRA helped me overcome most of my shyness to where I moved on in the positions within the chapter level and then onto district level. GWRRA has grown with us over the last 26 years. It has changed in its outlook on women being officers and women riders. When we first joined very few women were officers. When I became the Chapter Director for Chapter E I was the first female to hold that position within the chapter. I am so glad to see women step up and get involved within the chapter and district levels as officers. Do not hesitate to step up and volunteer for any position as today's GWRRA is NOT just for MEN!! There are more and more women stepping up to officer positions and you can, too!

MAY IS MOTORIST AWARENESS MONTH

There is almost 550,000 licensed motorcycle riders in Michigan urging you to share the road during May, which is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, and in the months to come. Remember that cycles have equal rights to the roadway.



Assistant District Directors Southeast Section

The View from my Seat

Bob & Nancy Natter
Asst. District Directors
Southeast Section

The view from my seat really isn't that much different than the view from your seat! That's because I ride my own GL1800! What an experience! I started riding my own bike in 2004, when Bob took me out to the garage to show me this

motorcycle that he happened to purchase at a snowmobile auction! I took the riders course in the spring and passed with flying colors. I rode that 600 Shadow for 1 year and decided that I needed something bigger. So we purchased an 1100 Shadow that I rode for quite some time. We went to Wing Ding in Knoxville, TN where I was able to test ride a GL1800! I knew at that moment that I would eventually have one. And now I do! I am riding a 2005 custom painted orange & white Gold Wing!

I have participated in the ARC on the Wing a couple of times. I actually find it easier to handle than the 1100 Shadow was! I really enjoy being in control of my own ride! A couple of years ago we purchased a Time Out camper. I have never camped in my life before, but was willing to give it a shot. What an enjoyable experience! Staying on site at the rallies is such a great experience. The camaraderie is just unbelievable. When we purchased the camper, Bob said that he would tow it and I could tow the cargo trailer. That wasn't going to work for me! The cargo trailer would clash with my bike! I couldn't have that! So, after Bob put brakes on the camper, (my requirement!) I now tow the camper and he is towing the cargo trailer. Last summer we made it to all the rallies in the Region. If you've ever thought about getting a camper, I highly recommend it! I find it very comfortable for sleeping and just enjoy being outdoors. And yes, we have not only camped in good weather, but we've encountered some rain. It's really not that bad!

If any of the woman in the organization are contemplating riding your own bike, stop and talk to me about it! I would love to share some of my experiences with you.

Nancy Natter
Assistant District Director, South East Section
Rnatter@comcast.net



Bruce & Mellisa Thayer
District Educators

RIDER EDUCATION

Time to Increase Your Knowledge

When Melissa and I joined GWRRA in 1996, our chapter did not promote the Rider Education or the Levels Program. After some time we came to hear about seminars that were available to all members for free. The first one we went to was the Co-Rider Seminar presented at a District Rally . It just sounded like something we knew nothing about at the time, so we went.

It turned out to be very helpful for both of us. That led to Melissa learning to ride and getting her first motorcycle, but that's another story. Some time later we attended a Team Riding seminar. This prepared us to ride more confidently with our chapter knowing what was expected of us and that we were doing it the right way. It was very good for us. When we had the opportunity to take the Road Captain seminar, again at a District Rally in Midland, it gave us the knowledge and tools needed to ride lead or tailgun positions on a chapter ride. It turned out we teamed up pretty well with Bruce in lead and Melissa riding tailgun.

By then the year was 2000. We heard there was another Rider Ed seminar available – Trailering – but we didn't have a trailer so we had no interest in it. When we became Seminar Presenters in 2005, there were still only those 4 seminars.

These four seminars – Co-Rider, Team Riding, Trailering & Road Captain – are very useful to many members. In addition to being very informative to rider and co-rider alike, the Co-Rider Seminar satisfies the Rider Ed Levels Program's training requirement for members who ride in the back seat and want to move up to, and maintain, Levels II, III, and IV. The Team Riding Seminar explains that every position in a group ride is important and has responsibilities. Road Captain seminar teaches one how to manage the safety and security of the team you are guiding down the road. And if you pull a trailer with your motorcycle, you might want to know how it will impact the handling of your bike in various situations, among other things. But shouldn't there be more to learn about motorcycling? Well, there is.

The next seminars added to the roster were Motorcycling for Mature Riders and Seasoned Rider Seminar. These both point out the changes older riders experience and should be aware of due to aging, and how they can effect their riding abilities. Sounds like good stuff for the more *experienced* Wingers among us, eh? The Motorcycle Crash Scene Response Seminar spells out the actions to take when you happen to be on the scene of a cycling accident. Excellent stuff indeed!

Fast forward to 2011. Without any fanfare, or simple communication even, we became aware that there were several more seminars available. We were asked to present one of the new seminars at our District Rally. When we checked out the seminar site, we were quite surprised to see there were at least a half-dozen more seminars available! And now there are even more.

If the last time you attended a Rider Education seminar was before 2010, you should know that we have a lot more knowledge about safe and practical motorcycling to share with you. Topics like “Dealing with Different Elements”, “Night Riding”, trip planning (“Going, Going, Gone”), and “High Siding” (no, silly, how to *avoid* a high side!). Would you like to know how to

introduce a new or inexperienced rider to your regular chapter ride? There's a seminar for that. How do you progress in the Levels Program? "Level Up" has what you want. "Riding in the Heat" is serious enough to deserve a seminar of it's own. Add to that a couple of Motorist Awareness seminars ("Share the Road" and "Think Motorcycles"), and you can learn a whole lot about motorcycling.

"Night Riding", trip planning ("Going, Going, Gone"), and "High Siding" (no, silly, how to *avoid* a high side!). Would you like to know how to introduce a new or inexperienced rider to your regular chapter ride? There's a seminar for that. How do you progress in the Levels Program? "Level Up" has what you want. "Riding in the Heat" is serious enough to deserve a seminar of it's own. Add to that a couple of Motorist Awareness seminars ("Share the Road" and "Think Motorcycles"), and you can learn a whole lot about motorcycling.

The bottom line here is that there are now many more seminars available to make riding safer and more enjoyable for everyone. The old standbys are still just as valuable and are worth sitting through again. How much did you forget since the last time you took it? Request one or two of the new seminars for presentation at your chapter Gathering and look for them at future rallies.

Ride Smart, Be Safe!
Bruce & Melissa Thayer
MI District Educators

Rider Education Levels Program Change

The requirements for progression in the Rider Education Levels Program have been steady for a number of years. However, it was announced earlier this year that there is a new requirement for all members wishing to *advance* in the Rider Education Levels Program above Level II. In addition to all the other requirements for each level, attendance at a Motorist Awareness seminar delivered by a Rider Education Certified Seminar Presenter (now called a University Trainer) is required to move up from Level II to Level III, from Level III to Level IV, and for a current Level IV to receive any of the Master recognition patches – Senior Master, Grand Master, and Life Grand Master.

This new one-time requirement went into effect on January 1st, 2013. The new N.7 form reflects this additional requirement. The N.7 form has a space for the date of the seminar attended along with a check box. This does not affect those currently at Level IV, or those Level III Co-/Riders who do *not* choose to advance or receive the Master recognition patches. Of course, all are encouraged to know what the Motorist Awareness program is about, so feel free to attend a seminar when you have the opportunity.

There are currently three Motorist Awareness seminars available for University Trainers to present. They are "Why Motorist Awareness?", "Think Motorcycles", and "Share the Road". These seminars are like any other Rider Education seminar in that you can request a seminar to be presented at your chapter by submitting a Seminar Request Form, available on the Rider Education page of the Michigan District website.

If you have attended a Motorist Awareness seminar in the past which was presented by a Certified Seminar Presenter, and there is a seminar roster to verify the date of the seminar, that meets the requirement. If you presented the seminar to a community group, but you are not a Seminar Presenter, that does not meet the requirement. If you have further questions about this change, please contact your Michigan District Educators –

Bruce & Melissa Thayer.
1800mi.ridered@gmail.com



Ken & Patti Kintner
Web Master
COY Coordinator

WEBMASTER & COY COORDINATORS

Webmaster:

As we all prepare for the 2013 riding season we encourage you to get your events on the District Google Calendar. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3! First get that "Computer Techie" in your chapter and direct them to accounts; google.com and set up a user account in your chapter's name. This is an email account that can be used for official chapter emails - but you may or may not choose to use the email feature. Login and click calendar at the top.

You can then put your chapter events on your chapter Google calendar! After you have done this - you need to contact me so I can add permission for YOUR Gmail account to use the District Google Calendar. You can then share any or all of your events with other chapters by copying them to the District Google Calendar. Just double click an event, then using the pull down labeled (More Actions). The pull down is at the top (just right of the save button) select copy to gwrramiteam@gmail.com. That's it – your event will now show up on the District Calendar! Keep in mind if you cancel or change an event at a later time – you will still have to make the change on the District calendar. If you have any trouble or questions give me a call and I'll help you thru the process. The more chapters we get on the calendar the more options we all have to participate with each other! We hope to see you at an event or rally sometime soon! And if you are in the area we always welcome you to our home chapter (Chapter W in Adrian – 2012 Chapter of the Year!)

Ride Safe! Ken Kintner
District Webmaster
ken@vplenary.com

COY Coordinator:

Does your chapter have a Couple of the Year? If not, WHY NOT? Every chapter has members who are great people. You must have a couple who will go above and beyond to help out the members of YOUR chapter. Why not honor & thank them by naming them as your Chapter Couple of the Year? In the past few years the COY program has been lacking in something very important. PARTICIPATION! We want to remind all members that the Couple of the Year Program is one of the things that make GWRRA great. At the rally we had 10 couples walk in and get introduced at closing ceremony, 10 couples that we would have LOVED to have us at Wingless Weekend! With those 10 couples we may have had maybe 4 to 6 members of their respective chapters in attendance to support them. We hear stories of when they filled the Hotel and some had to get rooms at another location. Wouldn't it be great to get that kind of excitement

back? It all starts at the chapter level and YOUR chapter couple! Honor them! Support them! And when they go to District and represent YOUR chapter, be there to support them again! We would like to see a couple of the year from EVERY chapter in Michigan represented in Midland where we plan to get them all together for an hour or two to get to know each other and share their GWRRA stories with each other. The members of the chapter need to show support for their COY at the rally by being there with them! With the Chapter Members support the Chapter Couple will be more likely to continue in the District Selection Process. Can you imagine the District Couple of the Year Selection with ALL Chapters represented AND each couple supported by half its members in attendance? What if your entire chapter was there to support YOUR COUPLE! What a great time we WILL all have! So start today! If you don't have a chapter COY, HONOR Someone! Then support them all the way! Many of our members have been past couples. Please share your experiences with your chapter couple today.

Also there is a Couple of the Year Day Camp being held at the home of Niles & Debbie Robinson. They invite you to join in the FUN and learn what Couple of the Year is all about! They have a great afternoon/evening planned. This is open to all 2013 Couples & Sponsors – June 8th 2013 at their home in Whitestown, Indiana (See the flyer to RSVP)

Patti Kintner, Couple of the Year Coordinator
ken@vplenaawee.com

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS

Have you noticed how many of your friends, neighbors and relatives are riding motorcycles these days? There are 550,000 registered motorcycles operating in Michigan today. There is a safety problem in that motorcycles are smaller, and harder to see. Drivers tend to underestimate the cycles speed. When an accident occurs, cycle riders rarely escape injury. Too often they are killed. It doesn't have to be that way if motorists will remember that motorcycles have equal rights on the road. May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in Michigan. Let's share the road.



Couple of Year Day Camp



9320 E 300 N

Whitestown, IN 46075

317-508-1048

2013 Couples and Sponsors June 8, 2013 at 1pm till we run out of fun!! We will be having a cookout in the evening and your welcome to bring a side dish. If possible bring lawn chairs.

RSVP by 5/26/13 Please

If you want we have room for campers, stay the night, please let us know what size camper you have so we can plan. Come, Fri. night if u want to.

Make a weekend out of it. Limited Power.

Come join the fun and learn what Couple of the Year Program is all about!!



Bill & Linda Diffin
2013—Michigan

Couple of the Year

When you're appointed Couple Of The Year that means your chapter director and probably some other people in the chapter want to honor you; that they think you and your spouse are pretty special people. Couple Of The Year was an honor I thought my husband & I would never achieve; we have a dry sense of humor that is not always appreciated. So in March 2012 I was flabbergasted when we were appointed COY for chapter F2.

We were given pins for our vests that can be worn forever after, medallions to wear for a year, and a framed certificate (ours hangs on the wall in our dining room). How can I tell you what this means to me? We have achieved a status not everybody reaches! These people we gather with once a month, ride our bikes with to dinner rides, breakfast rides, retiree's rides, and burrito runs want to honor us over anyone else in the chapter who has not already been COY. That just makes me so proud, makes me grin from ear-to-ear, makes me want to laugh out loud. Each time we visit another chapter gathering or any G.W.R.R.A. event we are introduced as Chapter F2s Couple Of The Year; sometimes we are applauded. When we attended the 2012 Michigan Rally all the COYs in the state marched in together at the beginning of the meeting, the District Couple Of The Year introduced themselves 1st, then each couple introduced themselves. People yelled and clapped; it is such a distinction! But when Bill & I introduced ourselves, we said something besides who we were; we said we were from F2, the Chapter Of The Year! What does that mean?

Our chapter, F2 has been designated the Chapter Of The Year for 2011. We had (in the spring, summer, and fall) at least 9 rides a month and a chapter gathering; we kept sign-in sheets; the chapter participation in seminars, riding courses, CPR classes, and other chapter gatherings counted in our selection; we had to have a percentage of our chapter members enrolled in the levels program. There was much more we had to do; it was an involved process, it took lots of bookkeeping and organizing. We were not the only chapter; we were competing with other chapters. To be selected was a huge honor.

So when Bill & I stood with the other COY couples at the state rally we were the only couple who could say they were from The Chapter Of The Year; stacking honor upon honor!! Making us double proud! This year another couple will be COY for F2, but not COY for the Chapter Of The Year. We are the first couple to be so honored for F2; there may come a time when F2 will again be Chapter Of The Year and another couple will have the honor we have had. The Couple Of The Year program brings with it fun, praise, recognition, and an opportunity to participate in G.W.R.R.A.. The Chapter Of The Year honors all members of the chapter and the COY even more. It has been a fun, exhilarating, challenging time during which we did our best to live up to the honor.

As I've stated before G.W.R.R.A. is a family and we have been so lucky to be so honored and to be a part of it..

Submitted by
Bill & Linda Diffin
2013 District COY's

Getting the Region Plaque

It was still deep dark on Sunday, Feb. 24 when Dan and Valerie Baldwin -Martin picked us up at our house in their big white truck. The four of us went to Don & Connie's house and we all piled into Don's van. Then we went to Flag City Diner where we met Dave Hornak. We had a really good breakfast (first time I've ever had a gyro omelet & it was delicious) and hit the road at 7A.M. I do not remember much about anything after breakfast and before the state line, except that most of us kept telling Don where to go!

Dave was pretty quiet sitting in the back in the corner. After we found I-80 the conversation turned to war stories..... Viet Nam war stories; traveling with a marine, a sailor, two army soldiers, and three army wives can get very interesting (I should have had a tape recorder with me).

When we arrived in Warrensville Heights, Ohio (a suburb of Cleveland) it was a little early for the meeting so we went to Burger King and had smoothies, sat around and talked some more. Chapter Ohio H2, "North Shore Wings" meets the 4th Sunday of the month at 1:30 P.M. in the beautiful new Warrensville Heights library. As we parked and waited for it to open, more and more people arrived, we thought "This must be a really big chapter" then we saw some people we recognized--from Chapter J, Jackson, Michigan. It turns out besides the 2 chapters from Michigan there were 3 chapters from Ohio plus Chapter H2. We almost filled their pretty new meeting room in the library. Chapter J decided since we had come farther and there was no way they were getting the plaque, they would go home at intermission--some of them had to be up real early Monday morning.

Chapter H2 directors: Ed "Mo-Chrome" & B.J. Raiford were very nice to us, teasing us: telling us "We're sorry you came so far for the Region D Traveling Plaque, we lost it about a month ago --somebody came and took it." Then Ed called all 7 of us to the front, hugged all the women and shook hands with all the guys; then he said to Don "Tell you what, I'll arm wrestle you for the plaque. Alright you can arm wrestle my "little boy" for it". Turns out, his "Little boy" was about 3 times the size of Don and sitting in the 4th row, fortunately Don had said "No" each time arm wrestling was mentioned. Then they brought out this plaque with the corner broke off it that said "Rejun D Travlin Plak" and had a poem written on it all in "Hillbilly". Finally, they brought out the real one but Ed told us:" My other son is a state trooper, he'll be waiting at I-75 and the state line; you ain't getting back to Michigan with that plaque!"

Outside after we all piled back into the van one of the chapter Directors from Ohio came to Don's window & said "Looks like you have a flat tire on your van, better let me hold the plaque while you change it." The chapters from Ohio were A3, I2, and B. They were all very friendly; and they all wanted that plaque but Connie was holding it and she held on Tight!!

After we left Chapter H2 we went through Oakwood Villa, Ohio and stopped at a little store-front restaurant called "T Loves". I had the best French fries I've had in a very long time (I can not remember what sandwich I had but those fries were great!). The staff was very friendly and glad to see us; the owner-cook came out and thanked us for coming to his restaurant.

On the way home we laughed and talked about "Mo-Chrome" & B.J. Raiford and all those other Ohio chapters that wanted the plaque so bad. Dave even talked a little bit. We returned to "Flag City" at 7:30 P.M. went in and had ice cream and soup. Round trip we had traveled 470 miles to bring the plaque to F2 and we enjoyed ourselves.

Submitted by

Bill & Linda Diffin -2013 District COY's



Greetings from Chapter W—ADRIAN, MI

This year at Wingless Weekend, Chapter W was honored with the title of Chapter of the Year! What a wonderful surprise!.

What does it take to be Chapter of the Year?

It starts with leadership. Unless you have ever been the driving force for a Chapter, you have no idea of what it takes. Countless hours behind the scenes preparing for meetings, communicating with members and meeting with the State Staff are required. To do this job, one must LOVE GWRRA and what it represents. Chapter W has been blessed over the years with many dedicated leaders.

Current Chapter Directors, Ken and Patti Kintner are great leadership examples. They are selfless in their dedication to the members by producing newsletters, emailing, calling and letting everyone know what is happening. They encourage participation of the older members and openly embrace new members or potential members into the Chapter W family.

Our Chapter is dedicated to Safety as evidenced by all the members who participate in the Levels programs. Rider Education is provided at every meeting and newsletter. Our Road Captains plan rides that are comfortable for all skill levels. The riders are encouraged to drive on the lane area of their preference, front or back of the group and at the speed they can safely handle. When the group is large, it is divided into smaller units to prevent traffic hazards. No radio? Hand signals are used or the bike is placed where the driver can be best aware of turns coming up, etc. Watching Chapter W on the road it appears as one unit rather than a “bunch of bikes”.

The Toy Run has been Chapter W’s major fund raising event. For 29 years members have popped tents, cooked food, set up a great ride and greeted as many as 300 eager motorcycle riders of all makes and models. Having an event this big sounds like a daunting feat but the members rally together to get everything done like clock work. The Chapter has never had to cancel due to lack of members to get the job done. (This year we will gather on September 8th)

Being open to change is what puts our members in the Chapter of the Year category. The Chapter members could see we had outgrown the former meeting venue and to attract new members the meeting time needed adjusted. Instead of resisting change, we packed up and moved to the UAW hall at 1360 W. Beecher St. in Adrian.

The Chapter listened to members who want to join in the fun but practice their religion too. After 28 years of meeting on Sunday mornings, our new meeting time is at 1:00 p.m. There are a million more reasons that Chapter W is Chapter of the Year. The bottom line is the members like each other, treat each other with respect, listen rather than dictate and have the love of riding their motorcycles. What could be better than that?

Submitted by Susie Stoddard



A big Hello from **MI CHAPTER A**

We like to think we are one of the most active chapters in Michigan. Because the winter weather has put our riding on hold, we've found many other ways to keep busy until we can get the Wing uncovered and ready to go. I'd like to share with you some of the things that we have been doing.

We started January 1st with a non-riding Polar Bear dinner ride to a favorite pizzeria complete with hats and noisemakers. On the Nineteenth, four of us sharpened our skills by attending OCP in Auburn Hills. By the way, I highly recommend all GWRRA members attend the next time it is offered so that you learn the up-to-date bones of the organization. The chapter members spent two partial days at Gibraltar Center in Mt. Clemens January 26 & 27 promoting support for the Rainbow Connection charity. It was a very successful weekend, and I enjoyed talking to the hundreds of people about the fun we have riding with our friends. This very same evening, our members gathered at our home for a pot luck dinner and an evening of cards and dominos. Talk about burning the candles at both ends.

Our February Gathering was a Member Appreciation Pizza Party to thank our members for all that they do for the chapter. Our members very diligently spent another successful two days at the Gibraltar Center plugging the cause. The six of us who closed met for an enjoyable dinner at one of the local restaurants that support us with a gift card donation for our anniversary party.

I would like to remind every one that we meet every Sunday at 9:00 AM for breakfast at Denny's Restaurant on Hall Road, in front of Lakeside Mall. This is where we leave for our rides beginning May 5th. Come out and ride with us and share in great fun with great people.

Sylvia & Allen Pocock
Chapter A
Assistant Chapter Directors



**Look for some surprises at the
Michigan District Rally August 1-4, 2013
and register early**



Michigan Chapter-G, Grand Rapids

The Midnight Riders

Wingless Weekend? Both Jane and I were not sure what to expect when we ventured out last Friday for our first encounter with the "Wingless Weekend" held at the Lexington in Lansing, March 1-3. We set out early afternoon on Friday and the weather was partly cloudy and even some sunshine.

After checking in at the hotel we came down to the lobby area and noticed the Gilligan Island's Theme all around us, grass hut and even a TV playing some classic Gilligan's Island programs. We picked up our welcome packet which included some tickets and the weekend schedule. We met some of our Chapter members, Erza and Marilyn, Harry and Marcia, Steve and Mary, Jan and Len and decided to have dinner later on at the hotel. Jane and I checked out the Friday schedule and headed to the vendor displays. I really liked the denim vests that were there, but we had already purchased ours earlier in Grand Rapids. They sure would have been easier to sew the patches on, oh well you learn something new every day.

With the theme of Gilligan's Island there was a trivia game with clues on a sheet and the answers scattered around the hotel for you to find. We felt adventurous and Jane and I departed to find the answers to our clues. We found all of them, but there was a typo on one so everyone was asking other members what they had for that question, either zero or one?

We met for dinner around 6:00pm and being Lent most of us ordered the pasta and shrimp dishes, very good and enough to fill us up. After dinner they had the Minute to Win it Games, which is where the 4 tickets that were in our packet came in. Each game was one ticket, just by playing you got 20 points, if you won the game it was 50 points. Jane and I used up our 4 free tickets and purchased another 8 for \$2.00. We did pretty good, Jane was better on some of the games and I at others. We did have a lot of fun and turned in our points for different tickets for prizes. However, neither of us won anything.

At 9:30 they announced the Couple of the Year and we waited for 10:00 to arrive to draw for the 50/50's. Jane and I didn't win at that either, but Harry's ticket came up as a \$60.00 winner. Way to go Harry, I'm sure Marcia got a cut of his winnings.

Saturday morning arrived and Jane and I heading over to McDonald's for breakfast and coffee. There was a Euchre Tournament being held from 9:30-11:00 but not knowing how to play and Jane a little rusty, decided to play our favorite dice game of Farkle. We set up at a table next to where the Euchre Tournament was going on and a lot of members stopped by and watched and asked questions. We were joined by Len and Jan in the Farkle game, but being the "Pro" that I am, Bob won again. I had to say that as Jane usually wins more then I do.

After our Farkle game, Jane and I headed off to the Beaver Breeding. Enough said about that adventure. At 1:00 we attended the Rider Ed Seminar which covered Co-Riders along with Len and Jan. A lot of very useful information to know about the role of the Co-Rider, or as I call them - the Back Seat Driver, just kidding.

A lot of seminars, things to see and I must admit - what a great bunch of fellow GRWRRRA members we had the chance to meet, talk with, share stories, information and even exchanged our cards with.

Before dinner we joined our fellow Chapter Members in the Bostic's room for some refreshment

and fellowship before donning our Gilligan's attire for the dinner program. The food was the great! Our center piece was cute, but didn't place in the top three. Oh well there's always next year. Some of the Chapters went all out with their costumes, but the "Headhunters" really took the cake!

The DJ played music from the 60's, 70's and 80's, all songs we remember. A lot of fun, and even some of us danced, maybe not a lot but we did get on the floor for some exercise. None of us won the 50/50's and after a long day, decided to turn in. We all agreed to meet for breakfast on Sunday morning before heading back to Grand Rapids. The buffet was more than ample and we left feeling full, happy and remembering the good times of our first "Wingless Weekend".

In closing Chapter G has been and will continue to be part of our new family of friends, where we can share adventures, fun, learn and see the country on our beloved Goldwings.

Respectfully Submitted
Bob & Jane Ungrey

Greetings from Chapter G and the Great City of Grand Rapids. You'd think that the winter months that we'd be sitting in our homes trying to keep warm, but not our Chapter. January we had three die-hard riders who ventured out on their Gold Wings to the lakeshore area of Muskegon, it's true I even saw pictures.

On January 20th a number of our members met at the Masonic Lodge in Sparta and took part in a Medic/First Aid training which is required in the Riders Level program, sure did learn a lot and was glad to have attended this session.

The month of February we held our annual Chili Cook Off on the 9th, but sorry Ezra even your bragging rights just didn't hold up to Mary's award winning chili recipes. At our monthly gathering on March 10th, we were able to have our own Certified Rider Education Trainer, Lynn Snyder, present the "Motorists Awareness" seminar which is also required to advance in the Rider Ed program, thanks for the great presentation Lynn, it was very informative not only as a rider but when your behind the wheel of your car, truck or SUV.

After much planning Chapter G held their Anniversary Party on March 23rd at the Boat & Canoe Club. Great food, fellowship and our own version of the popular game show of the "Lets Make A Deal", that's right we even had to pick a "door" to see what we won. We were joined by members of Chapter S2 out of the Detroit area, G2 and N, our Assistant District Directors, Farmer and Teri Rodgers and the 2012 District Couple of the year, Rick & Ester Keeling. Thank you all for attending our Anniversary Party.

Ezra and Marilynn introduced our 2012 Couple of the Year Steve & Mary Cooper and my wife Jane and I were selected as the 2013 Couple of the year, a complete surprise. Thank you Chapter G, and our extended family, we will do our best to make all of you proud of us. We have our monthly gatherings on the second Sunday of the month at the Cheshire Grill, 2162 Plainfield NW, Grand Rapids where we are Friends For Fun Safety and Knowledge, sound familiar? Hope to see any other Chapters at any of our Gatherings or future events.

Respectfully Submitted
Bob Ungrey
Chapter MI- G Newsletter Editor

CHAPTER J

Jackson, Michigan



Chapter J's Cascades Wings State Plaque Undercover Recovery Team (SPURT) had a great time chasing down the state plaque. We had a few dry runs but we finally captured it at Chapter Q's Christmas Party. Those guys put on a great party and I'd like to send them a special thanks for showing us a good time. Now, what is up with the rest of our Michigan Chapters? Chapter Q had the

plaque for several months and now chapter J has had it for over 3 months. Please don't tell me you let a little snow or an early morning meeting get in the way of a great time? We have it all shined up and ready to go.

I'm probably not telling you guys anything new when I say the journey and the fellowship along the way are the main reasons you should establish your own SPURT and hit the road. Spending a few hours on the road with your fellow road riders gives you a great opportunity to learn a little more about each other and plan some rides for the upcoming season. The success of your chapter could come from just a few SPURT journey's. Just think, all of this and you get to meet some other two wheel enthusiast and I'm tellin ya we have a very unique group of folks out there that believe in having a good time. So, what are you waiting for???? Can I send you a map to Jackson?? If we don't have the plaque by the time you read this, check out the sate website and have some fun!

Ride Safe, Ride Often.
Tom & Darlene Taylor CD's
MI Chapter J



FROM THE BACK SEAT *Chapter V-2 Caro, Michigan*

I like the smell of skunks, the aroma of cow dung on a hot summer day, the smell of week old road kill at the side of the road, the biting scent of diesel fumes from a semi- truck chugging up a steep grade, the odor of a pig farm on a cool spring evening, the essence of freshly mowed clover, the heavenly perfume of sweet grass in the rocky mountains , the sulfur tang following a summer storm, the dense lush bouquet of a pine forest and the and burnt offering of multi-colored leaves raked into piles and incinerating on a crisp fall afternoon.

I can't smell these scents from my front porch, nor travelling in my car to and from work. The only time these wonderful aromas can make themselves into memories is from my perch on the back of our Gold Wing.

Susan McKenney
Chapter Director Chapter V-2

One day in 2006, Dan met some men that belonged to a GWRRA motorcycle chapter. He decided to join Chapter V2 and bought himself a 750 Honda Shadow. So now we belonged to a chapter, met members, and shared our time with them. These people were knowledgeable of the rules and regulations of biking. They believed in having fun but always practicing safety-first on our rides together.

Joyful moments are so memorable, for instance, Dan owned a motorcycle that he was very pleased with his decision to buy. His 750 Honda was small but it kept up with the big trikes on his way to Lake George, NY for his first Americade.

Everything was fine until he and his buddies just happened to see a picture of a trike at Bay Cycle, for sale. Well, they just had to go and check it out. Of course, they agreed that Dan needed such a machine. I could understand why. Upon Dan seeing this beautiful, black 1800 Gold Wing trike and imagining, in his mind, it was like seeing a black stallion rearing up on his hind legs, mane blowing in the breeze, ready to provide miles and miles of fun, enjoyment, and life. So he bought it and informed me that it was purchased mainly for my comfort and safety. That now I could travel with him on all of his trips. I had pictured Dan and I, at our age, relaxing on the front porch and watching the traffic go by. But, no, not Dan, he wants to be part of the traffic.

Submitted by

Erminia Monville
Chapter V-2

Heading for
The Michigan
District Rally
August 1-4
2013

From the
Back Seat !





Chapter J-2—Clare, Michigan Shamrock Wings

My wife and I have ridden together since 1961 while in high school but we worked odd hours and long hours and never felt we would be able to participate in GWRRA even though from time to time we had owned a couple of wings and three Valkries. I retired in 2006, in the fall and in the spring of 2007 we bought a new Gold Wing trike. About a week later we ran into Clark And Sandy Wentz and picked up an

application from them. Our hope was that we would find some friends to ride with and nothing more. We found them and a lot more. We participated in Chapter J-2, Clare ,Mi. as we had known Clark and Sandy since 1970 and it was our closest chapter. In 2009 our chapter attendance was down to about 8 or 10 . The current ACD's were moving out of the area because of employment and the chapter director, Sandy Wentz, was ready to close the chapter. I talked with her and said if she promised to stay on, I would be her assistant . She didn't respond right away and I thought she was not interested. A couple of months later closing the chapter came up again and I reminded her of my offer of help. This time we connected and she accepted my offer and soon gave us a copy of the officers hand book. I took this to heart and read it cover to cover. I could see from the manual many things in our chapter could be improved to help us grow.

Two years ago, when the OCP came out, I knew it was based on the hand book but it was required and I felt it would be a good review of the material. It was a very good review and I would have been embarrassed to have claimed I had read the manual ! In mid summer of 2012 we decided it was time for us to become Chapter Directors. As the time came closer I realized there was still much to learn . We were lucky enough to have a couple willing to become our assistants when we would take over but they had not taken the OCP. The course now was condensed to one day from the original two days and we decided to take the course with them as a reminder or refresher as we wanted to do the best job possible for our chapter.

Our chapter is in a small rural community and yet in the last three years we have grown from five or six couples ready to close to an average gathering of 35 to 40 people. We have brought fun back and we have done this by following a few principles. We have learned to try to be inclusive instead of exclusive. Try extra hard to greet and talk to people that are new. While giving some one the raspberries seems like great sport, it usually causes more harm than good. We try to respect the things that make us different , believe me we are all different .

The OCP is of enough value to stand on its own without being mandatory. Anyone that wants to do a good job for their chapter should embrace it. Anyone who doesn't want to do his best for his chapter wouldn't listen in a class anyway!

Bob Scott CD J-2 Michigan

**REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR THE MICHIGAN STATE
RALLY BEING HELD AT THE MIDLAND FAIRGROUNDS
ON AUGUST 1—3, 2013**

“A VIEW”- New Words in my Vocabulary

By Maria Hay

CLUB MEETING: A place to go, the third Wednesday of each month & drink coffee. A chance to wear decorated vests and shirts, and hats with logos. Also an opportunity to talk more and louder than the others...and see who can keep Tim off the subject longest!

50-50 TICKETS: A chance to win back money you spent on 50-50 tickets last month!

BIKERS: Not children on tricycles; not teenagers on 10-speeds...but ordinary, every day adults riding \$8000 Gold Wings every weekend instead of lawn tractors.

DUMP (Not a place to put trash) but rather an unexpected fall from the bike—with the hope no one sees you—but of course you tell a modified version at each gathering.

MOTORCYCLE JACKET: Black, genuine leather, six to eight zippers and of course it must have “scars” - each with a story of those prided dumps.

CHAPS: Leather pant covers, that hubby wants you to wear around the house and nothing else!

HELMETS: Headgear your rip off, the minute your feet hit the pavement while you proceed to tell everyone how comfortable it is!

HELMET HAIRDO: That “classic” look everyone ends up with—after helmet removal & replacement every hour on the hour!

TRUNKS: (Not something hanging from elephants, nor an antique in the attic) But compartments on bikes for storing items used to repair helmet hairdos and of course beverages and watermelons!

COFFEE: A beverage that gives us courage at the crack of dawn and an excuse to stop once an hour while touring.

RAINGEAR: Water-proof garments (any color-any size) put on over dripping wet clothes—to be assured the rain will stop and the sun will shine hot!

RALLY: A designated site—where hundreds of bikes gather to “show” bikes and to receive praise and glory. Each wonder how the others can afford all that chrome and fancy trim! Then they go off to vendors booths and purchase the same.

WIMP: One who sits on a fluffy floral cushion the first time out and wears warm clothing when the temps drop below 50 and worries how their hair looks and proclaims at days end-”OUCH!” One who wants to sleep in after riding 500 miles the day before..and stocks candy bars on the bike for fear we may not stop again. One who worries about RAIN,WIND & DARKNESS!
SILLY ME!

GWRRA: A unique & enthusiastic group of bikes sharing the warmth of comradeship. I sense the thrill of patriotism surging thru all, as we ride for miles thirsting after the beauty of the countryside God has created with a love for our USA, not taking for granted the freedom we have to ride from coast to coast. At our meeting never do I cease to feel shivers up and down my spine & while sitting on the back of that Gold Wing—pause...OH NO! IS IT RAINING AGAIN?!!!

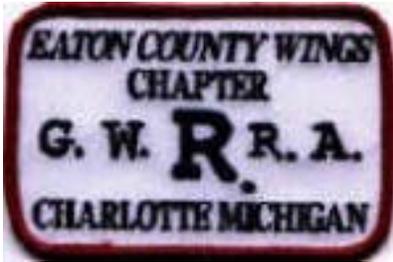
Article taken from October 1988 issue of GWRRA-Chapter V newsletter

Remember Chapter V was formed in September of 1983. Marie had never ridden a motorcycle before and was very new to the chapter. Comments from Sandy Wentz former Charter member of Chapter V, now former J2 CD.

Clark & Sandy Wentz
989-435-4753

Chapter R

Eaton County Gold Wings



Hey all chapters:

It is time for CHAPTER R's Mystery Dinner. We welcome all chapters to the festivities. It is going to be held APRIL 13, 2013. Its is going to be held at the same place as last year, in Charlotte Mi. at the Masonic Temple. Social Hour will begin at 5:00 PM, dinner will start at 6:00 PM The theme this year is MARDI GRAS. There will be games, prizes, an auction and lots of fun.

We would appreciate a call or an email from all who plan to attend. you can call 616/318/0478 or 616/318/0442 or eandaswan@yohoo.com. Prizes will be awarded for best costume for Man and for women.

Ride Safe,
Emmett and Alise Swan
CD's Chapter R



Earning Respect

Joy Hebner
Chapter V – Freeland, MI

Let's face it – GWRRA and motorcycling in general are a “man's world”.

My husband Rick and I graduated from the motorcycle course at Delta College on June 1, 2008. The total extent of my motorcycle riding career was exactly 2 days. We joined GWRRA in July. Within a few

weeks, I had my first bike, a 250. I soon learned that, although the salesman had “sold” me that the bike would keep up with the “big boys”, that was not the case. I could barely keep up with Rick doing 50 mph when we'd meet up coming home from work at night. When I bought the bike it had 47 miles on it. When I sold it to another member of our Chapter, it had around 4,700.

The following fall, I purchased a used 2007 Suzuki Burgman 650. Not only is it an automatic and comfortable for me to ride, it does indeed “keep up with the big boys”. When I bought it, it had 2,100 miles on it. It now has over 22,000.

I have a nickname given to me by a member of another Chapter, “Scooter Girl”. At first it hurt my feelings. But, thinking about it, I realized that in order for me to earn the respect of that male rider, and the male riders of our Chapter, I had to earn it. So, I've set out to do just that.

Although I have ridden with our Chapter and others on many, many rides, I still don't feel like I'm “there yet” although I often put more miles on my bike in a season than many of those from whom I am trying to earn respect.

I have taken the Road Captain Course twice, as well as many other courses. This summer, Rick and I will take our first Rider Ed ARC course. This is yet another step in which I hope to prove that I can indeed RIDE with the “big boys”.

I wrote this article to give you something to think about. Our Chapter has several female riders, as do others in our District. To those of you who do - Do you treat the woman riders as equals? Do you let them lead rides or tail gun, or "just" ride along? (I was honored to be asked by our Ride Coordinator to lead a couple of ice cream rides this year).

We **ALL** ride for the same reason – because we love to ride! What can we do to earn your respect?

Submitted by
Chapter V Director -
Joy Hebner

* * * * *

Whose Responsibility is It, Anyway?

How many times have you looked a driver of car right in the eyes just before they pull out in front of you?

How many times have you seen the driver of a car look your way before they pull out from that stop sign right in front of you?

How about the diver that looks over their shoulder and moves into your lane anyway because they did not see you?

Well, what have you done about it? Get mad, upset or let them distract you from what is happening around you? May is Motorcycle Awareness Month -- what have **you** done to promote that we are out there on the roads?

Did you know that if you go to the GWRRA website there are tools on the site under Motorist Awareness that you could use to help educate the public regarding motorcycles? There are several ways that you can use this material. One is to get in touch with your local radio station and see if they will let you do a public service announcement; there is a script you can download. If that is not something you could not do, then there is an audio script that you could ask them to run. There is also one you could ask your local movie theater to run as well.

You could become a presenter and do presentations for other groups such as schools and churches. I believe it is **our** responsibility to make sure the general public is aware that we are on the road.

Rick Hebner
Chapter Director - Chapter V
The Chapter that has the MOST FUN!



Chapter Y—Houghton Lake, Michigan

Wings of the North

Are We There Yet?

Is often the question asked on trips with our children or anyone's children. As a co-rider, I must admit there have been some times when I have asked "how much longer" or "are we getting close"?? The co-rider has an important role in our journey. The view from the co-rider's position is always looking from left to right and keeping an eye on traffic, or the occasional animal that might want to hitch a ride with us, or miss judge our speed. Perhaps they just want to cross to the other side and don't really care what is in their way.

We are always watching and observing, unless we have dozed off and are taking a little nap, which leaves our riders on their own. I have a hard time even trying to take a nap because I just can't get comfortable with the idea of sleeping on a moving motorcycle. I have no problem in the car, but on the Wing it is a different story. I always feel like I could just fall off at any bump or jostle of any kind. I do enjoy watching everything go by and seeing all the sights. Perhaps I am just afraid of missing something. I know a few people who can 'nod off' and sleep but I am not one of them!

If we are traveling with a group of people, the noise also keeps my attention. The CB radio is a wonderful thing, but can be very annoying when it never stops talking! We often listen to music and rock while we roll. Try listening to a song when everyone is talking all the time. It is very irritating! So, we tend to turn off the music and turn down the volume! Many times, we are all part of the conversation and that makes our ride so much more enjoyable. Listening to some the stories being told is very amusing.

Picture taking is another activity of the co-rider and some of my best pictures have been from the back of the bike. I try to catch signs when we enter an area so I know where the pictures are from when we look at them. We can watch for places to stop for breaks, sight seeing and directions. Some of us are pretty good navigators and others not so much! Either way the co-rider is a pretty valuable part of the team and I do love riding and traveling on our Wing! Ride safe out there!

Cheryl L. Allumi
GWRRA Chapter Y
Houghton Lake, MI

**FOR A GREAT TIME—
FOLLOW THE CROWD TO THE
MIDLAND FAIRGROUNDS, AUGUST 1—4, 2013**



Chapter H—Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Canada

Knights of the Hatchet

We had a great time at Wingless Weekend. Thanks' to all the Michigan Staff for promoting our Chapter camp-out September 6th and 7th. We are planning a mall show on Saturday April 13th to promote our Chapter and G.W.R.R.A. and to try to raise a little money for our Charity which is The

The Algoma Residential Community Hospice.

We have also started a penny drive at our Chapter Gatherings to help A.R.C.H. Canada has decided as of March to remove the penny from circulation, you can still redeem pennies at the bank but you will not receive pennies in you change anymore, retailers round off to the nearest nickel. Our penny drive will go on until our Christmas Party. The mall show and the Wawa ride which will be our 18th annual were two things the Chapter has decided to try again. So if you are up north please stop for a visit we love to see you.

Ken and Kathy Frechette
Chapter H Ontario, Chapter Directors
kfrechette@shaw.ca

**FOR A SUMMER OF FUN,
GOOD FRIENDS
AND EXCELLENT RIDES,
CHECK THE DISTRICT CALENDAR
ON THE GWRRA WEBSITE
FOR CHAPTER EVENTS THROUGHOUT MICHIGAN
AND CANADA**

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

GWRRA-MICHIGAN EVENT CALANDER 2013

APR

DATE	EVENT	WHERE
4.....	Chapter A Gathering.....	Mt. Clemens, MI
13.....	Chapter Q-2 Anniversary Party.....	Mayville, MI
13.....	Chapter R Mystery Dinner.....	Charlotte, MI
18.....	Chapter E Gathering.....	Tecumseh, MI
24-28.....	Chapter W Men's Tennessee Ride.....	Adrian, MI
25-28.....	Chapter J Mall Show.....	Jackson, MI
28.....	Chapter A Blessing of the Bikes.....	Mt. Clemens, MI

MAY

2.....	Chapter A Gathering.....	Mt. Clemens, MI
4-5.....	Advanced Rider's Course.....	Stockbridge, MI
13.....	Chapter R Mystery Ride.....	Lansing, MI
10-11.....	INDIANA DISTRICT SPRING WARM UP	Lebanon, IN.
18-19.....	Advanced Rider's Course.....	Pontiac, MI
19.....	Chapter L Picnic in the Park.....	Lansing, MI

JUNE

2.....	Chapter E Fun Run.....	W. Bloomfield, MI
8.....	INDIANA COY CAMP	Whitestone, IN
8-9.....	Advanced Rider's Course.....	Stockbridge, MI
9.....	Chapter W-2 Birthday Picnic.....	Garden City, MI
13-16.....	OHIO BUCKEYE RALLY	Xenia, OH
22-23.....	Advanced Rider's Course.....	Grayling, MI
22.....	Chapter G-2 Chicken Run.....	Greenville, MI



Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Michigan District Rally/Convention
August 1st - 4th, 2013
Midland County Fairgrounds
6905 Eastman Avenue, Midland, Mi.
Theme: "Cops and Robbers"



Please Type or Print CLEARLY **Advance Registration Form**

Riders Name: _____ GWRRR #: _____ Exp Date: _____
 Co-Riders Name: _____ GWRRR #: _____ Exp Date: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State/Prov.: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Telephone #: _____ E-mail: _____ Chapter: _____

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1ST, 2013 TO WIN. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN. **PRIZE: A RAGGEDY ANN & ANDY PLUS A CLOCK.**

GWRRR MEMBER **BEFORE** JUNE 1ST: _____ X \$20.00 NON-GWRRR MEMBER **BEFORE** JUNE 1ST: _____ X \$25.00 **Total: \$ _____**

REGISTRATION: POSTMARKED BETWEEN JUNE 2ND AND JULY 15TH, 2013 (ALL REGISTRATIONS **MUST** BE POSTMARKED BY JULY 15TH, 2013)

GWRRR MEMBER **BY** JULY 15TH: _____ X \$25.00 NON-GWRRR MEMBER **BY** JULY 15TH: _____ X \$30.00 **Total: \$ _____**

ON-SITE REGISTRATION ONLY AFTER JULY 15TH, 2013: MEMBER: \$35.00 . NON-MEMBER: \$40.00. CHILDREN 15 YEARS AND UNDER GET IN FREE.
 DAY PASS MEMBER: \$13.00 NON-MEMBER: \$15.00. **SO GET REGISTERED EARLY !!**

MASTER'S BREAKFAST (PRE-PAID ONLY): _____ X \$6.00 (BREAKFAST LIMITED TO 80 PEOPLE) **Total: \$ _____**
 Shirlene's Cuisine Breakfast Buffet, 1720 W. Wackerly Rd. Just Off Eastman Rd. 7:30 A.M. *All You Can Eat*

Camping Fees: (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Only) August 1st - 4th, 2013

Motorcycle Towed Units and Tents: \$ 8.00 Per Night X _____ Nights **Total: \$ _____**
 RV and Car Towed Pop-Up Units: \$15.00 Per Night X _____ Nights **Total: \$ _____**

Fees Cover Rally Nights ONLY. Campers Will Be Permitted On Grounds Early. *Additional Nights Stay MUST Be Paid Directly To The Fairgrounds Office!*
 GWRRR of Michigan Reserve The Right To Remove Any Marking, Roping, or Barricading Of The Camp Sites Deemed Excessive Or Inappropriate To The Best Interest Of All

RALLY SHIRTS MUST BE ORDERED BEFORE JULY 1ST, 2013. NO ON-SITE SALES!

Short Sleeve T-Shirt with Logo: **\$ 8.75** each | **\$ 9.75** for 2XL or 3XL
 Small: _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ | 2XL: _____ 3XL: _____ **Total: \$ _____**

Short Sleeve Golf Shirt with Logo: **\$ 16.50** each | **\$ 17.50** for 2XL or 3XL
 Small: _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ | 2XL: _____ 3XL: _____ **Total: \$ _____**

Grand Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Check Payable To: GWRRR of Michigan
Mail Payment To: Ronald Linn, GWRRR of Michigan, District Treasurer, 1345 Peachwood Dr., Flint, MI. 48507
 Any Questions, Please Call Ron At 810-239-5334 (Home) or 810-223-4404 (Cell)

Payment Method: Credit Card (Circle One) : Master Card Visa Discover Card Cash Check (Number) : _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Number: _____

Signature: _____

I/We Do Agree To Conform And Comply With The Ideals Governing This Rally, And I/We Further Agree To Hold Harmless GWRRR, Co-Sponsoring Organizations, And / Or Any Property Owner (s) For Any Loss Or Injury To Self Or Property In Which I/We May Become Involved By Reason Of Participating In This Rally. I/We Also Agree To Assume Responsibility For Any Property Which I/We Knowingly Damage. I/We Have Read This Entire Form. I/We Also Agree To The Credit Card Charges, If Applicable.

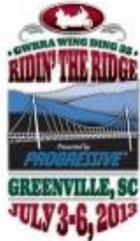
Riders Signature: _____ Date: _____

Riders Signature: _____ Date: _____

Refunds After July 15th By District Director's Authorization Only. Please Do Not Reduce Or Alter This Form

WIN A NEW GOLD WING! Visit www.wing-ding.org to Find Out How!

Do You LOVE To Ride?



JOIN US FOR THE 35TH ANNUAL WING DING

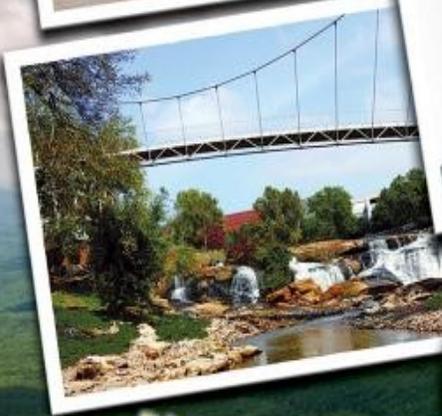
JULY 3-6 • 2013 • GREENVILLE, SC

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association invites you to experience Southern Charm and nature at its finest as the backroads of South Carolina take you places and show you sights you never knew existed. These picturesque highways and byways will captivate your imagination and stir your spirit of adventure as you make your way to or from Wing Ding 35 in Greenville, South Carolina!



- EXPERIENCE THE LARGEST INDOOR MOTORCYCLE RELATED TRADE SHOW!
- RIDE THE NEWEST MODELS FROM OUR DEMOS AND EXPERIENCE THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FROM OUR DISPLAYS
- BIKE SHOW
- POKER RUNS
- DON'T MISS THE WELCOME PARTY ON TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 2ND
- 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION
- SAFETY SEMINARS & CLASSES AVAILABLE
- CHANCES TO WIN A NEW GOLD WING AND MANY MORE PRIZES!

TWO NIGHTS OF LIVE ENTERTAINMENT!



BBQ Dinner & Entertainment Sponsored by



Comedian Kermet Apio



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT! TRASH!



For More Information, Please Call 800.843.9460