



MICHIGAN DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



December 2015

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Michigan District Directors

Bob & Kim Scott

One quick look out the window tells me we'll not be riding for a while; it's white on the ground and getting whiter. The bike may be parked for a while but there are still lots to do! We had our fall officers meeting Nov. 7th in Gladwin and I want to thank all of the officers and chapter team members who took time to come. The District Team learned much from your input and I want to share some of the changes we hope to make that will make our great district even better.

We had a lot of discussion about communication and the importance of our District newsletter. It is the most economical way we have to keep our members informed about anything related to our Gold Wing friends and family. Yet we know very few people actually use the "paper". We are going to make an effort to eliminate some of the duplication of information. It may take us a month or two to make it work but we know you don't need to read six versions of what has occurred in the past. The second change is that we are starting a contest in the paper. We will be randomly drawing a membership number and place it in the paper and the location of the number will change from month to month.

. If you read through the paper and find your GWRRR membership number, CALL Bob Scott AT 989-429-9144 or email us at bobnkim58@gmail.com and you will win \$25.00. The next month we will try to tell you who won or missed the prize. You must call on or before the 15th of each month to claim the prize!

Right now we have around 300 people looking at our on line newsletter out of around 2,000 GWRRR members in Michigan. Let's see if we can change that ratio as we move forward. One thing YOU can do, write an article about your chapter or a trip you have gone on with your motorcycle and send it in. This is YOUR paper. If each chapter sent in an article once or twice a year, what a change we will see!

This is a good time of year to remind chapters to update their information on their website as well as in their newsletters. When the Website lists one Chapter Director and the chapter newsletter lists another, it doesn't send out a very good message. Just as when the phone number is no longer in service. We have just closed a chapter that had a website that couldn't be opened and their most current newsletter was over a year old. This is not the reason they closed and we are not trying to single our anyone here. If someone wants information on your chapter,

these things only promote a sense that that chapter doesn't care and this reflects on GWRRA as a whole. . While you are updating the chapter information, send us the updates as well so we can check our records and make corrections as needed. Oh yes, Lee Tieche is no longer Region D Director! He is listed that way on a lot of web pages!

I looked out the window and it's still snowing, but I'll stop here and let the rest of our Team fill you in on the fun stuff!

Bob & Kim Scott

Michigan District Directors

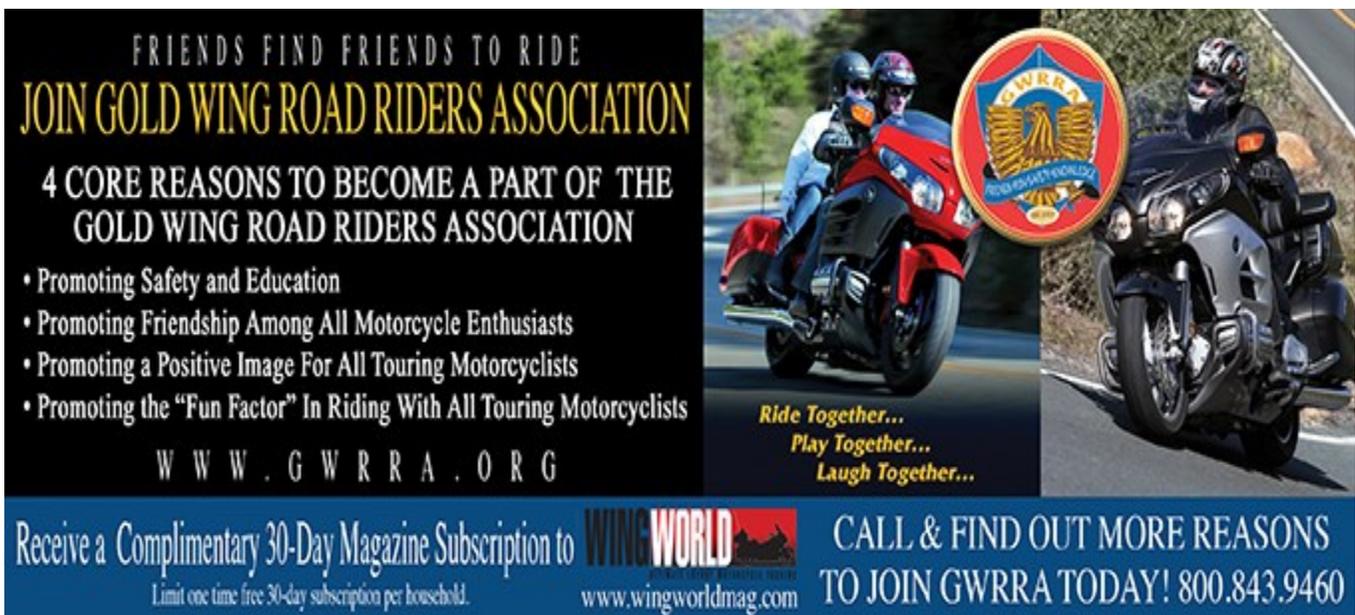


GWRRA OFFICIAL PRODUCTS STORE

Look What's New!

- Women's GWRRA Jerseys Sm-3X \$24.99
- Griffin Hooded Sweatshirts Sm-4X \$30.00
- GWRRA Performance Polos Sm-4X \$29.99
- GWRRA Belt Buckles 1 for \$25 or 2 for \$40

TO ORDER VISIT STORE.GWRRA.ORG
CALL **800.843.9460** FOR MORE INFORMATION



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- Promoting Friendship Among All Motorcycle Enthusiasts
- Promoting a Positive Image For All Touring Motorcyclists
- Promoting the "Fun Factor" In Riding With All Touring Motorcyclists

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Assistant District Directors Southeast Section

Bob & Nancy Natter

Southeast Section

Bike Classifications

From Way (way) down South...

Nancy & I missed seeing everyone at the Fall Officers Meeting, but we had a great time on the cruise. It was a relaxing week with some awesome shopping in St Maarten with Radar & Sandra Martin. Once we went ashore, we took a water taxi into town. Here it is 10am, and Radar suggests we try a Carib beer on the taxi. Wait, we're on vacation, why not. I have to say, pretty good beer. Once in town we start visiting some of the shops. The women hit the jewelry stores and Radar & I go to the camera shop.

Once we finished at the camera store, we found Nancy and the other women helping the local economy. After all the purchases were rung up, the jewelry store manager asked if we wanted a beer. Now this is shopping, shorts, sleeveless shirt and flip-flops drinking beer while you browse thru stores. I see why everyone is in a good mood there. Next store was the liquor store. After picking up a few bottles to take home, the clerk asks if we want to sample some local made rum. After 6-7 "samples" we add 3 more bottles to take home.

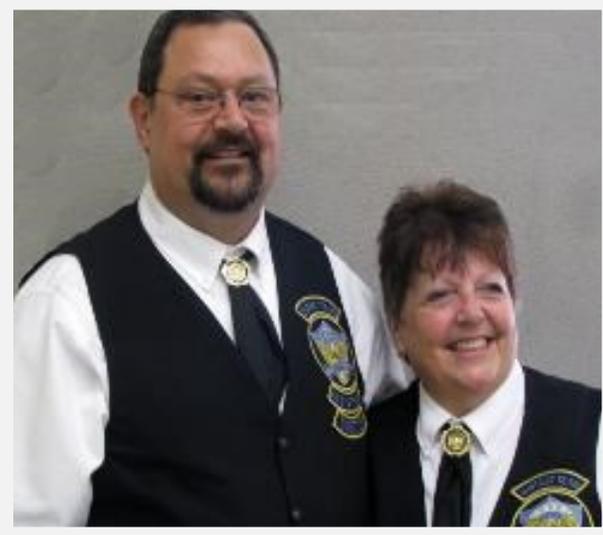


Now on to the Guavaberry store. If you're ever in St Maarten you have to stop in and try their rum. OK so now we add another bottle to take home and a slushy to go. After some lunch we go to the "Blue Bitch Bar" on the water front for a couple more drinks and then it was back to the ship. What a wonderful day it was. The weather was great while on the cruise with only a couple of rain showers lasting a few minutes. Just enough to cool you down. Every night we had dinner with the group. It was a good time to try foods you normally don't always get.

I enjoyed escargot and before the week was up and we had almost everyone trying it. Once the waiter knew we enjoyed eating, every night we sampled all the specialties served that day. You didn't go away hungry.

Your kids are becoming you.....but your grandchildren are perfect!

Bob & Nancy Natter
Southeast Section



Assistant District Directors Northern Section

Frank & Debbie King
Northern Section
Editor / Special Projects

Hi All,

Well this is my last Article as Assistant District Director, Debbie and I are stepping down at the end of December. We have other things that we will be doing and we don't have time to do both. We wish to say thank you to all the folks that supported us and made things fun while we helped out.

We're heading to Florida after the first of the year and will not be here for the District or the Chapter, we will be back in May but will not step back up... Hope to see you on the road,

Have a Happy Holiday and a Very Merry Christmas...

Be Safe,

Frank & Debbie King

RV Travelers





DISTRICT TRAINERS

Ken & Patti Kintner
Web Master
COY Coordinators

OCP? Officer Certification Program! For members, future officers, current officers or if you took the OCP online. Now is your chance to get an update since the OCP has gone thru yet another face lift! Kathleen Heibel our Region D Trainer has scheduled the all new OCP in Coldwater, MI on March 6th. See the attached flyer for additional information.

Is training in your future??? Whether it is rider education or leadership training this is the course for you! Our District Educator, Rick Andreen has scheduled a University Trainer Development Program (UTDP) in Clare, MI on December 12th. Contact Rick for information!

Website? As I'm writing this the Michigan District website is being moved to another server so there may or MAY NOT be a few glitches in the near future. Chapter webmasters may have a few other options and as soon as it is tested I will let all chapters know of any changes in the way you need to login.

Hope you all had a great Thanks Giving and have fun at all those Christmas Parties! Happy Holidays from the Kintner House!

Thanks,
Ken & Patti Kintner
Web Master
District Trainer

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Officer's Certification Program (OCP)

New Revised Material

Full Day Program

Reserve Your Spot Today!!!

New Officer's, Upcoming Officer's, those who would like an update, or if you've taken the on-line version!

March 6, 2016

Branch County Fairground,
Coldwater, MI

(Site of the 2016, Region D rally)

Contact: Kathleen Heibel, Region D Trainer,

Kahiball58@comcast.net, 616-901-2767



District Member Enhancement Coordinator

Cheryl & Randy Wiggins
Michigan District MEC

Those of you who have been a part of GWRRA for a few years know that there used to be a lot more chapters in Michigan than the 27 we now have. It makes you wonder why some of these chapters folded, especially those that had 40 or more members in them. Some were from a lack of interest or people moved away, especially during the recession, but many of them were because no one was willing to step up and take on a volunteer officer's position, namely the Chapter Director position when the old Chapter Director was ready to step down.

Why are people so reluctant to step up and say they are willing to help out? No one likes change and we would all like things to stay the comfortable way they are. You may think your chapter officers are doing a great job and there is no need for them to step down, but we don't always know what is going on in their lives that may be influencing their decision to step down, it could be health or family problems, or maybe they have just been doing this a long time and need a break.

So I am asking you to be bold, step up and say "I think I can handle this job for a year or two". Take turns rotating the jobs through your membership. The time commitments of a Chapter Officer should only be about 2 hours a month, no matter what position it is. Yes, you're supposed to go to the Officer's meeting, but it is only twice a year, and can be a lot of fun to attend. For those that want to learn more about being an Officer you can always take the online Officer Certification Program.

Be BOLD, Be ADVENTUROUS, this is a motorcycling organization after all.

Hope to see you soon,
Cheryl and Randy Wiggins
Membership Enhancement
Look 193652



RIDER EDUCATION

Dennis & Felicia Schulte
Assistant District Educator

GWRRA was awarded the State Motorcycle Safety Administrators Outstanding Supporting Member Award. We were in competition with Harley Davidson, Abate, Allstate Insurance, Evergreen Safety Council and others. This award recognizes supporting members who through their dedication, commitment and contribution to motorcycle safety have made a positive impact on the national, state, or local level. Rider Education saves lives!

And this is the time of the year that Medic First Aid classes and seminars are ramping up for those dull winter months in Michigan of January through March.

Please go to the GWRRA Michigan website and choose the Request for MFA form to complete and send to Gary Williams, Michigan's MFA Coordinator. Allow him time to schedule it and also be sure to send the monies in at least 14 days prior to the class date made payable to MI GWRRA Rider Education. You will need to have a contact person with their contact information and Chapter Educator and Chapter Director approval signatures, along with three possible dates to allow Gary to get instructors planned.

Also on the GWRRA Michigan website is the Request for Seminar Presentation to be mailed to Richard Andreen. This form contains many seminars of your choice and will also need a contact name and information along with the Chapter Educator and Chapter Director approval signatures. Three possible dates are also appreciated.

Stay Safe,
Dennis and Felicia
MI-ADE



DISTRICT COUPLE OF THE YEAR COORDINATORS

Gary & Carol Williams

2014 COY

Happy December everyone! Well, as I write this it is still November, but as I look out onto more than 12" of the white stuff, it might as well be December already. Funny thing is, Friday night we were in the Jackson Christmas parade and were riding our motorcycles! A mere 12 hours later, we were dumped on. Sure glad they didn't schedule that parade for Saturday! It is Michigan after all.

Since it is the last month of the year, I know that many chapters will be announcing their new Couple of the Year and Individual of the Year for 2016. I'm sure each Chapter Director, their Assistant and their MEC have put much thought into who will be honored for their commitment to their Chapter during 2015. I wish I could be there when each chapter announces their Couple and Individual for 2016. Remember that this is an honor, not a position at the chapter level.

Here's just a few tips for Directors to remember. *Please do not ask the couple or individual. If this has been your way, please change your thought pattern. I've said it before and you'll hear me keep saying it--no one should be asked if they want an honor. Think of the Oscars, or Entertainer of the Year. They are not asked if they want the statue and honor, they are awarded it when their names are announced. Award your couple or individual with their medallions when you announce their names.

*Just as the Entertainer of the Year is given this honor for what he/she has done already and not for what they will do, so it is for your couple or individual. They are being honored for what they have done for your Chapter, not what they will do.

*Each month at your Gathering, include a special welcome to them. Have them stand as their Chapter family applauds them. Give them the honor of going first in line for any dinners.

*Please don't hand them 50/50 tickets to sell. If this is something they have always done prior to their honor, they may want to continue this, but don't just expect them to now.

*Your new couple and individual were chosen because they are active, excited, involved with your chapter. Chances are they are going to continue to do all they were doing, and maybe, just maybe, even be more involved. Your honor and encouragement of them may make all the difference.

*I understand that not all Chapters run their year from January—December. You may run February - January, or even different from that. Just let me know when you announce and when they actually begin their year.

*Please contact me with the Name, Chapter, phone and email of your new honorees so that I may congratulate them.

Here's just a few tips for the new Couple of the Year and Individual of the Year.

*Accept that your Chapter has honored you. You obviously like being involved in little and big ways that they have noticed.

*Understand that you do not have to do anything more. At the Chapter level, this is an honor, not a position. Just keep doing whatever it was that you did before.

*If you should want to be more involved, let your Director know. I'm sure they will appreciate it, but again, only if you want to.

*Consider writing an article each month for your Chapter newsletter. It could simply be about what fun you've been having with your chapter.

*Wear your medallion whenever you are wearing your chapter colors. It can be a great conversation starter when you're out in the community. What a great chance to promote GWRRA.

*Please contact me with your Name, Chapter, phone and email. Know that I am available to you throughout the year if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

To all of our 2015 Couples and Individuals, I trust you have been having a great year and that you have felt honored. I would ask again that you contact me with your Name, Chapter, phone and email. Your Directors should have given you an envelope that they received at the Fall Officer's Meeting. Please don't think that I only want to talk with you about the selection process. I would really appreciate speaking with all of you. I love this program, I love being able to take on this new position as coordinator. I need your help to do the best I can for you, the Michigan District and GWRRA.

One last thought...Remember that you are never the former Couple of the Year or Individual of the year. You are always the 2015 Couple or Individual, as Gary and I are the 2013 Couple for Chapter J and the 2014 Couple for the Michigan District. We are not a former! You are not a former! No one can take that honor away from you!! Directors and Couples, I look forward to hearing from you.

Have a Blessed CHRISTmas!

Carol and Gary Williams
MI District C.O.Y. Coordinator
MI-J Directors
517.262.6314
gwrri.mi.coy2014@gmail.com



For the second year in a row, Chapter J has had the honor of participating in the Annual Jackson Christmas Parade. We have little time to prepare for the theme, and we have a lot of fun meeting the actually had a song recorded for us changing the words to the 12 Goldwings of Christmas. We even won an award for best use of lights. This year's theme was It's A Silver Bells Christmas. We had silver bells everywhere, including large ones on our hands to ring as we were waving to the crowd. No award this year, but just as much fun. It's a great way to get our name out there, too.

The weather was clear and cold. But not so cold that two trikes and two bikes couldn't ride behind the float itself. We had seven people on the float, two in the truck, and four riders with three co-riders. Jackson had a huge turnout of both floats and crowds.

Thankfully the parade was Friday night, as Saturday morning the snow came and by evening, Jackson had at least 12 inches on the ground!

Pictured from left to right are: Randy Lea, Ella Rudolph, Terri Curtis, Jeff Curtis, Lorraine Chouinard, Gary Williams, Charlotte Williams, Gordon Rudolph, Louie Schippers, Teague Williams, Carol Williams, Dale Duncan, Donna VanTassell, and Bear (Mike) VanTassell. Present but not pictured are: Andrea Duncan, Lori Taylor, Jeanne Reimers and Tim Reimers.



Traveling Plaque Captured



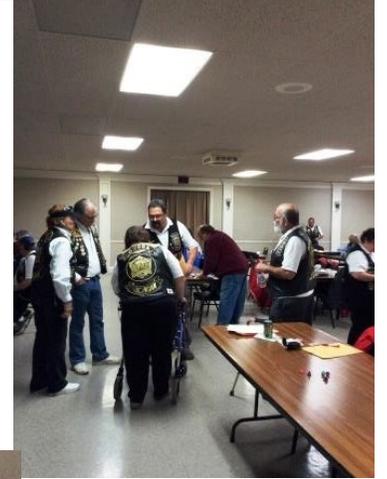
J2 sneaks into K2 for the capture



J2 Installation of Officers



Fall Officers Meeting



Barb's Surprise Party at BT.

She was really surprised too. We had 23 of us and for those who couldn't attend, we missed you. I don't have any pics when we came in with her yet. These are just the ones I got Clark & Sandy Wentz.



Chapter J2



MICHIGAN EVENTS

DECEMBER 2015

DATE	EVENT	CHAPTER	PLACE
Dec 5th	1st Annual Winter Solstice	Chapter S2	Livonia, MI
Dec 5th	Christmas Dinner/Party	Chapter J	Jackson, MI
Dec 12th	Christmas Dinner Party	Chapter Q	Sault Ste Marie, MI
Dec 18th	Christmas Dinner /Party	Chapter ON-H	Sault Ste Marie, Ont CA

JANUARY

Jan 1st	Happy New Years	Gwrra	Where you are
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FEBRUARY

Feb 5-6	Cabin Fever	Ohio District	Mt Sterling, OH
Feb 12-13	Winter Rendezvous	Indiana District	Columbus, IN
Feb 26-27	Wingless Weekend	Michigan District	Bay City, MI
Feb 28	Spring Officers Meeting	Michigan District	Bay City, MI

APRIL

April 2	Spring Officers Meeting	Ohio District	Obertz, OH
April 16	Spring Officers Meeting	Indiana District	Anderson, IN

MAY

May 19-21	Spring Wing Warmup	Indiana Rally	Rockville, IN
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JUNE

Jun 16-18	Buckeye Rally	Ohio Rally	Canfield, OH
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JULY

July 28-30	Region Rally	Region D	Coldwater, MI
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AUGUST

Aug 5-6	Rally	Michigan Rally	Evart, MI
Aug 31 –Sept 1-3	Wing Ding 38	Gwrra	Billings, MT



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