



Michigan District

"Friends for Fun Safety and Knowledge"



September 2021 - NEWSLETTER / BULLETIN



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Hello Michigan Members,

We had a "Rally Good Time" at the Michigan District "Pirates" Rally! It was great to see those of you who could make it. From most all the members we talked to we heard nothing but good things about the campground and facilities. It was a bit on the warm side – actually it was HOT! But we all had a great time. We had guests from Florida, Tennessee, and Ohio.

There was lots of "Pirate FUN" some of the greatest "Best Dressed" even included a real live parrot on Pam Robinson's shoulder. I think that helped get Rob & Pam the best dressed couple award.

Patti went around the campground on Thursday night and hid some little treasure boxes. There was a note in registration packets telling members to look for Ken's treasures that were hidden and bring them to opening ceremony. We had 12 lucky members bring the treasures and received some Dairy Queen gift cards for finding

them.

Overall it was a great time and we got to see many of you that we haven't seen in a couple of years. We look forward to the future with a new Michigan TEAM coming on the first of the year. As soon as we know who the next District Directors will be we will let you know. Currently interviews are in process with those who turned in a résumé.

Mark your calendars for the next Michigan District Events that have been determined. Saturday October 2nd, 2021 is the Fall Officer Meeting! It will start at 9am and will be in the Senior Building at the St. Louis Campground. March 11th & 12th is Michigan's Wingless Weekend. Our theme will be the one we missed last year (Hawaiian Luau) and is sure to be a FUN time for all at the Village Conference Center in Chelsea. And don't forget our 2022 Rally will be back at the St. Louis Campground August 18-20, 2022!

Hope to see you all real soon!

Ken & Patti Kintner, Senior District Directors

Senior District Educators



Dennis & Felicia Schulte

And our riding season begins soon!

Completion of 2021 Michigan Rider Courses just happened on a beautiful weekend in Sault Ste Marie. We got home to unpack, just in time to repack for the Michigan Rally. Hope to see you all there. After the rally is complete, we hope to be able to enjoy some riding time. Wing Ding is great fun, and we take the week off to travel and be there but it's time for us to enjoy some of this beautiful weather. It was so wonderful to be able to hold rider courses and to have almost 30 of you attend and share the fun and learning with our three instructors, Ken Kintner, Brent Blackburn, and myself.

Please join us at the Rider Education table at the rally and play a few games to support Michigan Rider Education. We also have a candidate who has signed up to become a Rider Course instructor for ARC, so there will be a jar at the table for any donations to the Send Your Instructor to Camp fund. We haven't had anyone in five years, so we have not actively sought donations since that time when the Camp Fund subsidized half the hotel room cost for four members from Michigan to attend, including myself.

This program is an intensive program consisting of one full day in the classroom to develop presentation skills and then, often in a separate session a few weeks later, actual teaching in the classroom and on the range during four full days. We just received word today, August 18, that the location will be Athens, Alabama for the ARC. We would like to be able to support the volunteer with enough to pay the hotel room cost and mileage, along with the \$100 application fee. All of the five days require after hour assignments and study, and there is a pass/fail riding skills test on the first day of the range portion. The specific schedule, also just announced today, is the initial one-day class will be held on Saturday, October 9 with the RCICP to be held on Wednesday, November 17th through Saturday, November 20th. If the student is successful, they will teach their first two classes with an experienced instructor. Then they will become fully certified.

Now for some chat about necessary motorcycle skills, starting with the basic clutch skill. This is the friction zone, ensuring smooth starts and also allowing low speed maneuvers. Being able to maneuver from the clutch being disengaged to being engaged is a basic beginner skill to be practiced. Next, keep the throttle hand in the wrist down position. This will ensure the ability to close the throttle completely when reaching for the front brake lever. These basics were learned long ago and are instinctual to you. The "expert" throttle skills are smoothness while accelerating, while moving through a turn, and while downshifting.

Braking skills come next, because not using the front brake but locking up the rear brake is an accident waiting to happen. Or grabbing the entire front brake and locking that up. ABS has, of course, changed those possibilities, but all motorcyclists need to understand what is involved in braking. You need to understand your bike's center of gravity and how braking presses the front tire down and makes more braking power. The difference between types of bikes, with our touring bikes carrying more weight on the rear of the motorcycle to allow more rear traction when braking, is also an adjustment to be made.

Counter steering, which is contrary to our nature, consists of turning the handlebar opposite of the way in which you want to turn. Looking through the apex of the curve keeps you on track to then counter steer back toward the direction you were going before the curve/turn. This, of course, is for two wheel motorcycles. Trikes use the push/pull method.

You've got the throttle and the clutch figured out in separate situations, now how to smoothly downshift comes into the picture. This is going to take lots of practice learning how to clutch release at the exact speed needed by the gear you are dropping to.

Looking for a smoother ride for you and a co-rider? Practice, practice, practice. And for those of you who know all these skills, practicing is only going to enhance your abilities and keep that ride as smooth as silk.

Ride safe,
Dennis and Felicia
Michigan Senior District Educators



Assistant District Directors



North Section

Phil & Char Smock

NEWS FROM THE NORTH

Ahoy Maties,

Our Northern Section managed to survive pirate attacks, ship wrecks, plank walking, HOT & HUMID weather and came home with some awards at Rally. It was a great time and we rekindled many friendships from around the district. We had 32 members attend from around the North Section. Although the humidity was high, the weather cooperated and the rides were well attended. We had a lovely potluck dinner with the Section members on Saturday night. the Rally went very fast and saying goodbye came too quickly.

It's bittersweet when we have to say goodbye on Sunday. Not only do we have to watch our friends drive away, we also know it is one of the last hurrahs before fall sets in. Summer will be over before we know it. That doesn't mean we have to quit riding or having FUN though. There are many great riding days ahead to take in the fall foliage and enjoy the crisp smells.

There are Anniversary parties and dinners to attend. Chapter Y will be hosting their Anniversary Party on Sept 25th in West Branch. Chapter V has their flyer on the gwrra-mi.org site for their Anniversary party on October 9th. They have a theme of Roaring 20s; that should be a hoot. They also have a campout planned for Sept. 16-18 in Ludington if you're interested. That info is out on the website too. The Fall Officers Meeting was announced for Oct. 2nd, so that will be coming up before we know it. It will be held at the same location as Rally. We're hoping to make it a weekend camping trip just to relax a bit before and after.

We may also know by the Fall Officers Meeting who our new District Directors will be. Ken and Patti have decided they need time to concentrate on Patti's health and spend time with their family. They have been instrumental in keeping the Michigan District in good order and informed of changes from Home Office. It's a very demanding position and they have served us well. We wish them well in return and thank them for their commitment to the well-being of the association.

We want to thank our members for helping with the great campsite decorations, helping with and attending the potluck, and for stepping up to help us with all the jobs we needed to perform for the district to make Rally a success. We are also thankful for the participation in the district sponsored contests and the awards we won within our chapters. Chapter Y won the Pillowcase Pirate Flag contest and J2 won both the night-time and daytime campsite decorating. And, J2 had the highest tickets sales this year. Individually, Roland and Jennifer Lempke were recognized for bringing their son and grandson (new members) to their first ARC course, Rainey and Smocks were given their Merit Award patches, Glenn and Deb Grasley were awarded their Senior Treasurer patches and Sandy Wentz won the 2nd place Rainbow Connection raffle money. (Hope we didn't miss anyone!)

What we did miss was all the humor and love from our Canadian counterparts. They are always good for keeping things stirred up and the laughter flowing. However, we did manage to have a lot of laughs along the way: Mike and Phil came up with a new way to enhance J2's ticket sales assignment, Bobbi was threatened to have her bun cut off during the decoration setup, and she in-turn threatened to find some firecrackers during campfire time. Campfire time was the best as we could relax and just be together. We may have been lucky not to get kicked out for being so loud.

Actually, we are lucky! We have our great friends, and we had the opportunity to spend time with them. Here's hoping to see more of you soon! Especially the newly engaged couple: Mike Rath and Sandy Lahti from Chapter Q. Congratulations you two from your other North Section members!

Much Love and Wishes for Peace,
Yours as Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge
Phil and Char

District Motorist Awareness Program Coordinators

Medic First Aid Coordinators

Couple of the Year Coordinator



Gary & Carol Williams

Couple of the Year / Individual of the Year

It was a great time seeing everyone at the Rally in St. Louis.

Especially the Couples and Individuals of the Year that represented their Chapters and the State!

I was privileged to give out the State gifts to MI District Couple of the Year 2020, Dave and Carolyn Frazer; MI District Couple of the Year 2021, Earl and Bobbi Gerard; MI District Individual of the Year 2020 & 2021, Dale Duncan.

This crazy year is more than half over all ready. Hard to believe for me. It feels like we have accomplished much, and in comparison to last year, we have. Our Couples and Individuals have been able to do more of the things that earned them their honor.

Slowly but surely we are getting back to "normal."

Normal can mean different things to different people and Chapters. I choose to look at it as just being yourself! As being your Chapter Couple or Individual, I hope that you will honor them by considering going on to the next level by going through the Selection process at Wingless Weekend. You may think that you haven't done enough this past year. Well, everyone is in the same boat, so to speak. Plus, the process looks at the previous 5 years, not just last year.

Take a moment, or twenty, to write down the events you have been to in the last 5 years, and even more importantly, the events you participated in! Did you help at a table, sell tickets, take a seminar, facilitate a seminar, anything you did that helped

your

Chapter or the District. Then keep track of the rest of this year.

Not sure about things? Call me!

Your Chapter has seen something in you that is special. Even if you haven't seen it yourself! Not everyone likes to 'brag' about themselves, but simply being yourself and being honest about what you have done, is being truthful, not bragging.

And guess what?? It's NOT scary! Sure, there's a few nerves, but that normal. It's FUN! You CAN do this! Are you required to? Absolutely not. Are you encouraged to? Absolutely YES!

I do hope you will seriously consider going on through the Selection process. There is complete information on the GWRRA National site. Or I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me by phone call, text, messaging, or email.

Thank you for being YOU!

Blessings,

Carol Williams

MI District Couple/Individual of the Year Coordinator

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District Motorist Awareness Program Coordinators

Medic First Aid Coordinators

Couple of the Year Coordinator



Gary & Carol Williams

Medic First Aid /CPR / AED

I would first like to thank those Chapters who have already scheduled and held their MFA classes. And I know of 2 others that will be held before much longer. Not only are you keeping yourself up-to-date with skills, but you are also keeping your levels up-to-date.

I would very much like to thank Cheryl Wiggins and Sandy Blackburn for their part in keeping our classes going by being awesome instructors. You two are appreciated!

For those chapters wanting to schedule a class, please go to the Michigan website, then Programs, then Rider Education, then scroll down the page to Rider Education Request Forms, then click on the request form to print or download.

This form should be completely filled out and then sent to Dennis Schulte as soon as possible once you know you want a class. Dennis will then forward it on to me. I will pick the best of your 3 dates that works for one of we 3 instructors, or 2 if needed. Remember that a class is maximum 12 with one instructor, 24 with two. If you have scheduling or any other questions, please call me.

No one ever wants to use what they learn in our classes, but should the need ever arise, you will be equipped. I hope every single GWRRA member will take the MFA/CPR/

AED class.

Thanks,
Gary Williams
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District Motorist Awareness Program Coordinators

Medic First Aid Coordinators

Couple of the Year Coordinator



Gary & Carol Williams

Motorist Awareness

When you were a kid and riding in the car, did you ever want to slug your brother or sister, but needed a reason so that you wouldn't get in trouble? So you watched for as many Volkswagens as you could see so that you had a reason to slug your sibling, yelling Slug Bug while slugging them! So satisfying...

Yah, well...I'm not advocating teaching your children or grandchildren, nieces or nephews, to slug anyone. But you can still make a game with the kids while riding in the car. Have them look for motorcycles, trikes or can-ams and call it out and count them. Highest count at the end of the ride, wins. By the kids looking out for us and calling it out, it makes the driver more aware of us, too.

People are still mowing lawns for a while yet. Thank your neighbor for not mowing his grass into the road. Should you ever encounter someone mowing it out into the road, kindly explain to them the danger they are causing motorcyclists. If you explode with anger at them for their stupidity of mowing into the street, they'll only get angry or defensive, and if they already have a dislike of motorcycles, it'll only give them more ammunition against us (in their mind). Truth is, chances are they've never even thought about it.

Everyone deserves a chance to learn. Educate those you meet.

Drivers who tailgate are a big problem on the road. Chances are when you were taking driver's ed, they taught you the 2

second rule for following the vehicle in front of you. I'm letting you know that that is a minimum and it should definitely be more like 3 - 6 seconds. The higher the traveling speed, the longer the distance you should put between you and the vehicle in front of you. The person in front of you may have to slam on their brakes unexpectedly, and your reaction time will vary, and your stopping time will be increased. The larger the vehicle, including semi's, trucks pulling trailers or campers, the longer it will take to stop, so give yourself the extra room. Non dry road conditions are also a very good reason to increase your following distance. If someone is tailgating you, perhaps you should find a safe place to pull over and let them pass. Better than having them climbing up your trunk.

Simply said, if you can read someone's bumper sticker, chances are you are tailgating. Be an aware motorist when driving!

Thanks,
Gary Williams
MI District MA Coordinator
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1146 Scarlet Oak East
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District Member Enhancement



Dennis & Gayle Jisa

The Michigan Rally is now history! The Church of God Campground in St Louis, Michigan was such a great location that we are going back next year (August 19-20 2022). We greatly appreciate all of the help we received from the members to make it all run smoothly! This can not happen without input from everyone. Please let someone on the Team know of any suggestions you have to make it even better.

We appreciated the members who participated in the camp site decorating and would love to see more of you join in next year. We believe a lot of you enjoyed the Pirate theme and really came up with some great costumes!! We are looking for ideas for next year's theme so let someone on the Team know of any suggestions you might have.

Ken & Patti Kintner have done an outstanding job of leading us these past four years and thank them for their years of service to the members. This had to be a huge challenge with the virus health issues and selling their house and moving all thrown in. THANK YOU so much!!!

We look forward to the changes ahead and hope you will step up and help wherever you can!!

Talk to everyone you know about our association and what a FUN group it is! We need you to help bring in new members to help us grow stronger.

Our chapter Membership Enhancement Officers need to contact the people that show up on the MEC Report sent to you each month. Reach out to the members expiring by calling them and encourage them to renew. Those that show up as expired, call them and see why they expired and, if you can, convince them to renew!! Contact those in your area that do not show up as being in a chapter and try to get them to join you on a ride or event...ice cream...dinner...picnic etc. Perhaps send them your newsletter for 3 months and follow up with another phone call and ask if they have any questions? PLEASE reply by the 5th of the next month letting us know who you contacted so that we can turn in our report to national on time. We would LOVE to have ALL of the chapters respond to this report. Let's TRY for 100%! If you have nothing on the report to respond to, just send us an email saying you didn't have any contacts this month. It will let us know you received it and viewed it!! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!! WE NEED YOU!!

Gayle & Dennis Jisa

GWRRA MI SR MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT COORDINATORS





Chapter V's 37th Anniversary Party



WHEN: October 9, 2021

**WHERE: Mills Township Park
2601 E. Shearer Road
Midland, Mi 48642**

Social hour & games starting at 3:00pm Dinner at 5:00pm
50/50, Chinese Auction, Game Prizes and Wild Bingo after dinner

Cost: \$12 individuals or \$20 couples

MUST RSVP BY OCTOBER 1ST

Contact: Glenn Wegner, CD at 989-835-5385 or cd@chapterv.net
Or Dave Frazer, ACD at 989-662-3397 or acd@chapterv.net

Michigan District Rally



Michigan District Rally



Michigan District Rally



Michigan District Rally



Michigan District Rally



NATIONAL & MICHIGAN DISTRICT TEAM

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Vendor Coordinators
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Earl & Bobbi Gerard
Email squ11997@gmail.com
Phone (419) 460-4079

Dale Duncan
Individual of the Year
DADUNCAN001@aol.com

You're invited – 7th annual



February 27, 2022

Mark your calendar and join your fellow Winger friends on the amazing Allure of the Seas for 6 nights of FUN! You will meet Chapters from all over the country. Please share with Wingers and friends.

ALLURE OF THE SEAS



2/27:	Fort Lauderdale, FL	
2:28:	Cruising	
3/1:	Cozumel	7:00am - 6:00pm
3/2:	Roatan, Honduras	9:00am - 5:00pm
3/3:	Costa Maya, Mexico	8:00am - 5:00pm
3/4:	Cruising	
3/5:	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	6:15am

INSIDE CABIN - \$623.54pp

OCEANVIEW BALCONY - \$864.54pp

Our group rates are subject to change until booked, based on double occupancy & include port taxes! The refundable deposit is \$250pp & final payment by 11/20/21.

Please book with us to ensure you are included into our special events, parties, and group dinners. Ask about Crown & Anchor discounts & balcony boardwalk cabins. **Reserve by 3/31/21 and receive \$50 FREE onboard credit per cabin.**

Complete your reservation form today deanna@wingersnwaves.com or
386-299-7535 www.wingersnwaves.com – LIMITED SPACE