



Michigan District

"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge"



November & December 2022

THE LAST EDITION



Michigan District Directors

Dave & Carolyn Frazer

To all Active GWRRA Michigan Members Goodbye, So long, Farewell, and until we meet again. We know it was only a very short time that we took over the reins as Mi District Directors, but it was fun and exciting with

all your help. Wingless weekend not only came off without a hitch but was very active and exciting. We were glad for everyone that came and all the staff that helped, our hats will be ever off to you. Then the sad news that GWRRA was closing its doors for good, but by staying positive with a lot of preparation and hard work Michigan had one great District Rally for 2022 and it was only by members like each and every-one of you that made this possible. **Thank you very very much!**

After paying the bills and getting rid of equipment we got with the CD's to find all the Active members in the state (these are member that have been going to gatherings, Wingless, District Rally's etc. the last couple of years) as we will distribute the remaining funds to these members to close our books. This will be through Visa Cards as a Volunteer appreciation and be distributed with the help of CD's. We decided to allow Rider Education to keep the Equipment they use for rider education training as they stated they wish to continue and it's a good cause, but no funds will be given as all funds in the district account was made only with the help of you the members. Be it by bidding on stuff or buying tickets for clocks, and dolls, etc.

(cont.)



Michigan District Directors

Dave & Carolyn Frazer



Continued...

or selling raffle tickets, it was you the members and your family that donated this money so it will be distributed to you the members. We know this won't sit well with some, but it is the fairest way to distribute the remaining funds. We feel if you want to donate your appreciation amount then when you get it donate it to wherever you want your portion to go to on your own.

We know many of you have signed up for Eagle Wings or Winged Riders and some have decided to stay as groups but as independent groups. Whatever your decision we wish you the best of luck now and into the future.

Also a very Good Luck and hope for a brighter future to the new Michigan District Directors of both Eagle Wings (James and Ronda Ryan) and Winged Riders (Fred Alexander) as we know being a District Director will be hard work, so good luck.

Carolyn and I want to for now travel a little and see things we haven't. Still ride with many good friends and camp out some so, to answer what a lot have asked we are staying independent for now. We rode before we ever joined an organization and plan to continue riding as long as our bodies and minds allow us to.

Please remember we will still need your end-of-the-year reports if your closing shows you with a zero balance and your bank statement showing the same. We will also need to hear from you if you're planning to continue so we know you'll be filling out your own 990N to keep your non-profit status. If you are with Winged-Riders, I saw a paper from them the other day saying they will help you out in this process and explained what to do to help you out. If you are with Eagle Wings or going out on your own and want to keep your status with your EIN number, you can go to the IRS website and create your own password giving you access to a 990N E-card that you can complete and send to the IRS.

As Always Stay Safe and Keep it Between the Lines,
Dave & Carolyn Frazer
Former Michigan Directors GWRRA



District Membership Enhancement Coordinators

Dennis & Gayle Jisa

We wanted to share with you that it has been a GREAT RIDE being members of this GREAT association!! It is truly sad, but as has been said before, all good things must come to an end. The association may be ending but we will continue to keep in touch and hope you plan to do the same.

I (Gayle) was extremely shy when we joined in February of 1982. I had Dennis go to the gatherings for a few months before I would even go. Once I got the courage to attend, I was hooked into a great group of people!! I became the Treasurer/Secretary which I held for 18 years before becoming the ACD and then CD. Then we moved onto district staff and held many other positions, coming back full circle to be CD once again.

All of the FUN, SAFETY and KNOWLEDGE we received through all of you being so greatly dedicated. We THANK YOU for being the loving, caring people that you are. Please do not change!

All of the rides, events, traveling we did would not have happened if it was not for people like YOU!! I cant even begin to list the hundreds of people we have met and grown close to so I wont even try. If it was not for this group we would not have traveled to 48 states and most of Canada. What an absolute beautiful country we live in and the people are just as caring and loving everywhere we go.

Ride safe, ride often, enjoy the curves and stop in to say hi or...invite us to go along!! This isn't good bye but see you down the road...

Gayle & Dennis Jisa





District Educators

Dennis & Felicia Schulte



Friends and family,

Grateful is the word to describe what we soon will be able to call our GWRRA years from 2008-2022. Traveling to other chapters, to Wing Dings and other state rallies have meant that we have made friends from Maine to Florida to Texas to Iowa. Without all of you, there would be no reason to volunteer. And without those of you who support Rider Education 365 days of the year, we would never have been able to share safety information at rallies, wingless weekends, and chapter gatherings. It's up to each of us to continue being a family by keeping in contact.

Volunteering throughout the years for many different organizations and projects has been a very important part of our lives, but none has gained us more satisfaction than our choice to volunteer with GWRRA. We have learned more through GWRRA; we have had great leadership in past District Directors and in past District Educators. So many members of the National Rider Education staff in these past ten years have provided us with so much assistance and the grace to share that education with all of you.

We are excited for the new year to begin our journey with the RPM Academy LLC (Rider Safety, Personal Growth, and Management Skills). The ownership and use of all GWRRA University and Rider Education Program content is enabling us to continue helping all of you. Teaching rider courses, seminars, and modules are what we volunteered to do. And being able to revise the levels program while keeping all of the information in the database is something we look forward to seeing. These safety classes and courses are for everyone; there is no need to join any organization to participate.

There are states that have donated their Rider Education equipment and funds to the RPM Academy and we have always hoped to be able to use these to continue teaching rider safety for all of us on the road, no matter what we drive. The decision rests with the District Director.

Thanks for the memories, but be ready to make some more with us!

Dennis and Felicia



Couple of the Year & Medic First Aid Coordinators



**Gary & Carol Williams
2014 MI District C. O. Y.**

The words "Thank You" can sometimes seem enough, and other times, they don't come near what you really want to convey to others. This is one of those times. Gary and I have been blessed to have been a part of your lives for many years. We have been honored to hold positions on our District Team since 2014. But this is not about what we may or may not have done for you. It is about what you have done for us and all the other GWRRA members.

For those who have taken the Medic First Aid/CPR/AED classes throughout the years, we thank you for wanting to keep your knowledge for safety and helping others current. We thank you for caring enough about others that you wanted to stay up to date. We also pray you never have to use that knowledge!

For those who were MFA/CPR/AED Instructors through the years, thank you for caring, taking the time, traveling, and giving your best to teach and renew information to our members. You are all amazing in my book.

For every member who participated in living and sharing about Motorist Awareness in any way, thank you. Some of you were more involved in being the person who shared information with your Chapter. Others took on a more public persona in getting the word out. Rider Education was/is always important. But sharing to ALL motorists about watching out for 'us' takes that safety to another level. You have done a great job in sharing with the public, whether in handing out bumper magnets, yard signs, brochures, or bracelets. Thank you.

For every Couple and Individual who were honored through the years by their Chapter for being awesome members, I congratulate you once again. You were honored for being someone who cared about the GWRRA life, and cared enough to get involved and help make their Chapter a fun place to belong. For those who then went that extra step to honor their Chapter and took part in the District Selection Process, you are so appreciated for believing in yourself, your Chapter and your District. For those who were selected at the District level, both Couple and Individual, I congratulate you once again. You represented the MI District well. For those couples through the years who went above and beyond, whether in the (former) Region, Territories, and international levels, you are very much respected for doing this and we thank you. For all of you, please remember, no matter that GWRRA is finished as of December 31, 2022, and no matter if you join some other group or never do, no one can ever take away your title of being the Couple of the Year or Individual of the Year for your Chapter, District, Region, Territory or International!

(cont...)



Couple of the Year & Medic First Aid Coordinators

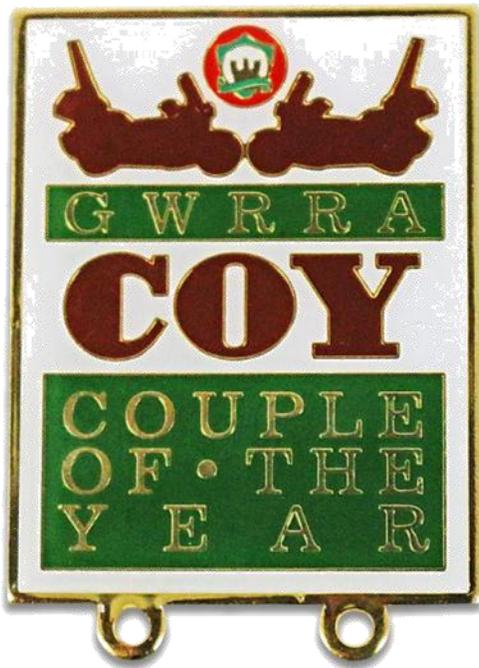


Gary & Carol Williams
2014 MI District C. O. Y.

No one can ever take away your time and memories of being honored for being who you are. And being who you are is the just about the best thing you can be. Thank you to everyone who was a part of this awesome program.

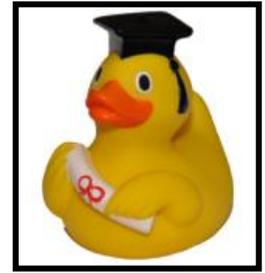
Finally, Gary and I offer our thanks to all the District Directors and all the members of the District Teams throughout the years for their leadership and friendship to all of us members. We know this is not goodbye, it's just looking to a future of continued gathering with and riding with friends.

Blessings,
Gary and Carol Williams





GWRRA University



**Rick & Joy Hebner
Team GWRRA - University Assistants
Senior District University Coordinators – MI**

DUC Corner (District University Coordinator)

As I sit down to put my final newsletter article together, the weather is really starting to change. We started the week in the mid 70's and today, the bottom fell out. I'm not ready for winter, but it is coming whether I'm ready or not.

Like many of you, I have a passion for teaching. I have found it to be very rewarding, and over the years, I've enjoyed meeting a lot of new people. Joy and I have had the pleasure/privilege of teaching at the Chapter and District level, as well Nationally. Within the last year, I presented classes internationally through teaching online. In every class that we both have presented over the years, we learned things from the members participating in the classes.

We want to thank all the instructors who over the years educated the membership (regardless which program you taught under). Without all of you, the programs would not have been successful.

We also want to thank all of the members for taking the time to attend the classes, and for your valuable input. Without your willingness to participate, the program would not have been as successful.

The GWRRA training program is coming to an end, but that does not mean our friendship will end. As we have ended all of our articles - Until next time remember - training is FUN (as well as educational).

We hope you enjoy all of the photos on the following pages of some of the trainings over the years (they do not include all of the instructors due to lack of available photos).



Rick & Joy Hebner
Team GWRRA - University Assistants
Senior District University Coordinators – MI







Thanks for the memories!





Assistant District Directors South East Section

Jeff & Terri Curtis

It started out in 2011... we bought a GoldWing, went to Chapter J's Mall Show and next thing you know we're part of Chapter J. Little did we know that we'd learn so much about motorcycles, riding, and friends. Louie Schippers invited us to come and see what the ARC course is all about. So, we drove up to Stockbridge, Michigan and checked it out on a Saturday afternoon. Thinking "we can do this" we signed up for Sunday's course and learned that we still had more to learn about riding motorcycles. It opened our eyes to the art of safety and motorcycle skills.

When we first became GWRRA Chapter J members we didn't realize the adventures ahead of us and all the connections we would make with likeminded friends. It's truly been a family affair for us, from trips out west, to trips south, summer rallies, wingless weekends and many GWRRA events, including Wing Ding in Fort Wayne.

When we look back at the last eleven years, we feel a happiness about our experiences and memories, places we've been and a multitude of people we've met. Without GWRRA we probably would never have ventured out to that extent.

As life takes us forward, our pictures, our memories, will continue to bring a smile to our face. GWRRA has been a wonderful experience for us. Thank you for being part of our family. See you down the road.

Jeff & Terri Curtis
ADD's GWRRA-MI Southeast Section



Blast FROM THE PAST!



Assistant District Directors

North Section

Phil & Char Smock

Dear Family of Friends,

With Phil's accident this spring we weren't around a whole lot, so maybe you noticed and maybe you didn't; but we have remained quiet about our feelings on GWRRR closing. Losing a valuable part of our recreational pastime when we already couldn't ride this past summer was an additional blow to an already emotional time in our lives. It was just too hard to comprehend at first. After all, we were feeling a strong sense of comradely from all the cards, texts, calls, and visits from around the district. In our shock and dismay, we were left to wonder how our social and educational lives, away from our normally steadfast association and friendships, would be impacted. The thought of extricating our friendships and divesting the funds that we had worked so hard to accumulate left us grieving and was, in essence, "...a hard pill to swallow."

Hard because; as CD's who hoped to pass the torch after nine years of leadership, we couldn't keep enough of our J2 membership committed to chapter life due to the GW closure's "easy out" from responsibility. That felt like failure! The news was also hard because we worked hard as ADDs to engage the members of our Northern Section and were watching our chapters grow in loyalty, if not in numbers. We were afraid of losing that. What was a summer promising added excitement as we welcomed back our Canadian friends to the numerous North Section Campouts and the District Rally became bittersweet. Then, to experience our friends feeling conflicted and worried just seemed to add to our sadness.

But time marched on, and reality has healed some of our personal grief. Summer came and went, and our sadness has ebbed with the reality of the situation; our friends are still our friends! And thankfully new associations and older groups have stepped in to pick up the pieces. We're happy some members have embraced the opportunity to continue their educational endeavors and will go on to support the friends they have forged deep relationships with by joining one of those many groups. We will certainly miss some of those who have turned their thoughts to becoming independent riders, but we respect the decisions of all members to find their own happiness.

To say the least, it's been interesting to see which chapters and individuals stayed loyal to chapter life and remained steadfast in their friendships. We are grateful that our closest friends helped counter some of our sadness with the reassurance that the one thing that won't change is those coveted friendships. We feel so blessed to have been part of the Michigan District of GWRRR that gave us the opportunity to get to have you in our lives.

(cont...)



Assistant District Directors

North Section

Phil & Char Smock

As a final GW farewell to you, our Family of Friends; we wish you happiness and security in your freedom to choose if you should join a group or go your own way independently. May you all find harmony in your choice; because "a spoonful of sugar (happiness) helps the medicine (sadness) go down", no matter how bitter the pill. Know that we are forever your friends and welcome your communications, visits, and especially your hugs should we meet along this crazy road we call life. And, if you still feel sad; let it go, and please be safe out there!

On behalf of the J2 Shamrock Wings, and as one of our first friends in GW taught us to say in Gaelic, "Slan agus beannacht" (Goodbye and blessings with you). It's been a great ride! Thanks for the memories!

Much Love and Best Wishes,
Phil and Char

P. S. Although not a formal chapter, some of us at J2 will meet, eat and ride together as the Shamrock Riders. If you ever want to meet us for a Sunday breakfast, give us a shout for the location. We usually meet at 10:00 a.m. We also look forward to attending your events should you contact one of us.





Assistant District Directors

West Section

Randy & Cheryl Wiggins

Well, it is said that "All good things must come to an end", and I guess that is just about where we are at. GWRRA was a good organization, and we made a lot of good friends over the 15 plus years we were members. What keeps going through my mind now is a children's song (I can't include the actual lyrics as it is copyrighted) about making new friends, but making sure you keep the old ones as well. As we move on from GWRRA we hope to be able to maintain many of the friendships we have developed.

We are not going anyplace other than the occasional bike ride, camping or sightseeing trip. So, we will still be around. Our Chapter, Chapter N, will continue to meet, and all are welcome to come visit. If you are interested in what Randy and I have been doing you can always check out our YouTube Channel, **Wiggi's Wanderings**, to see what rides we have been on. We don't market anything, and we are certainly not making any money off it, it is just videos of the rides we have been on.

I would like to thank everyone who has ever helped me out, especially all the Chapter MEC's when I was the District MEC, 2014-2017. I know I was a demanding person and was a little strict on my time-lines, but you all did a great job and I really appreciated everything you did.

I would also like to Thank the two Couple of the Year coordinators during my time as District MEC, first was Patti Kintner, who I inherited (it was a good inherit) and then of course Carol Williams. Both did an outstanding job and Carol had to take on additional work when I incorporated the Individual of the Year into the program.

I would also like to thank all those who helped out on the Chinese Auction, whether at Wingless Weekend or at the Rally. Setting all of the stuff up in a short amount of time, labeling it and selling tickets all day was a rather tedious job at times and I really appreciated a break to get lunch or even just a quick get away to take care of personal business. Many members helped me out over the years and while I would like to give a list of names, I also don't want to forget anyone so I will just say Thank You to all who have helped.

Lastly, a big Thank-You to the three Chapters in my section for staying together continuing to have fun and enjoying the ride. We have enjoyed many get togethers with you and look forward to seeing you more in the future. Like we said, we will still be around, so contact us and we will be more than happy to get together with you.

Now I promised to leave room so my "Arm Candy", Randy, could say something.

BYE! SEE YOU LATER!

 From Randy.

Randy and Cheryl Wiggins
Soon to be Former Assistant District Directors
Western Section



Newsletter Editor

ONE LAST TIME!

Ken & Patti Kintner
Former Senior DDs

Hello MICHIGAN!

I (Ken) was asked to put this last newsletter together. Last time I did a district newsletter was when Bob & Kim Scott were our District Directors. And it happened to be right after the Mardi Gras! Themed Wingless Weekend. So... I left one page of pictures from that FUN weekend that you will see on the next page!

We've made a lot of memories and FRIENDS since joining GWRRA and it was a real shock to hear it was closing back in July. My first thought was: Am I ever going to see some of the friends we made over the years? OH IO? Indiana? And beyond? I sure hope so. I know a couple of organizations have formed. Some chapters will go with one, some with the other and some chapters like ours will close as a chapter but continue to get together for group rides. No matter what your chapter is doing I hope to see you somewhere on a ride or at a campout next summer. And I HOPE these various organizations don't cause any of us who were brought together by GWRRA to be somehow divided by separation or competition.

I don't know what the formal plans are for the District Facebook page but I plan to keep it going and just change the name to NOT reflect GWRRA. That way we can all communicate and announce all motorcycling events. If anyone has any ideas or would like to help with the Facebook page please let me know...



So enjoy the pictures on the next page. Take care of yourselves. Ride Safe. And we hope to see you all somewhere down the road!

Keep the Shiny Side UP!

Ken & Patti Kintner



FUN



Upcoming Events



MICHIGAN DISTRICT TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Don't be sad!

You've made friends all over Michigan, Canada, and the USA!

Hope to see you all again!

Ride Safe!

