

GoldWing Road Riders Association

Chapter Z

Straits Area Road Riders

www.gwrra-mi.org/chapter/z/index.htm

January/February 2021

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Chapter Happenings – The restaurants are closed, but I have heard they will be opening soon. Maybe we can get together again. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and are staying healthy.

For those of you who have a Mackinac Bridge card, it will not be taken after December 31. If you have an account, you can go online and get the sticker for the windshield. This will allow you to go through any line. Even if you are pulling a trailer, the sensor will count the number of axles and deduct from your account the appropriate amount. One account is used for all of your vehicles; each vehicle has its own MacPass sticker. If you are in a two-axle vehicle, the first time across \$4 is deducted from your account. If you return within 36 hours, there is no cost.

Whether you already have an account or not, go to <https://macpass.mackinacbridge.org>.

If you have an account click on Activate Web Access, Enter your account number (from your card – first 5 digits), enter your email, check your email for verification email and opportunity to set up your user name and password.

If you don't have an account, click on "Don't have a MacPass account? [Sign Up](#)" and follow the directions. If you have questions call (906) 643-7600.

I know of no birthdays or anniversaries for January or February. I missed Denny and Sue Jessick's anniversary last month. Hope you had a great day. You can celebrate Super Bowl Sunday – GO (insert whatever team you want to win).

We have been riding a little out in Arizona, but our trike just developed transmission issues. We can still ride in 4th gear, but not 5th.

Important Dates 2021

Feb 11-13 Ohio Cabin Fever – Salt Fork Lodge – “Game Shows” Cambridge,

Ohio

Feb 19-20 Indiana Winter Rendezvous – **CANCELED**

March 5-6 Michigan Wingless Weekend in Chelsea, Michigan

March 13 Chapter J2 Blarney Bash

April 17 Chapter G Anniversary Party

April 22-25 Chapter J Mall Show

May 15 Spring Officer Meeting TBD

May 21-22 Indiana Spring Warm-up - Nashville, Indiana

June 4-6 Chapter Z Campout

June 11-13 Chapter V Biker Bash

June 17-19 Ohio Buckeye Rally – “Celebrate Your Freedom” - Wooster, Ohio

June 30 – July 3 Wing Ding – Springfield, Missouri!

July 23-25 North Section Campout in Curtis

August 1 Raffle Tickets DUE to ADDs!!!

August 7 District Team Rally Prep TBD

August 19-21 Michigan District Rally – St. Louis, MI

September 16-18 Chapter V – Vacation Station Campout in Ludington

September 25 Chapter Y Anniversary Party

October 9 Chapter V Anniversary Party

December 4 Chapter C Christmas Party

Rider Ed -

January article -bye 2020,

We'll never forget you. Since we are hoping Santa brings you a new helmet for Christmas, let's share some information about helmet safety.

We attended a seminar given by the Snell Foundation at the last Wing Ding, learning many things about safety and helmets. This nonprofit organization was created in 1957 after William "Pete" Snell, sports car racer, died in 1956 while wearing a helmet. The racing helmet he was wearing did not protect his head, and his friends searched for scientists who would help them understand what went wrong. As these things can do, the analysis of this accident resulted in thousands of us living safer lives. The research and the testing became part of a larger project; standards to improve the effectiveness of helmets.

We signed up for their emailing list, and wanted to share a new Snell video as a very short safety reminder <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAQoP9vOFQs>. Please do not attempt any of the maneuvers shown.

Hong Zhang is the Director of Education at the Snell Foundation, Inc. The foundation is currently using Zoom to educate the public about motorcycle safety.

The United States Department of Transportation, or DOT, has set safety standards that motorcycle helmet manufacturers must adhere to and helmets that meet or exceed these standards are known as "DOT certified" helmets. The additional protection a DOT certified helmet offers can help motorcycle riders avoid serious injury or even death in the case of an accident. You can easily distinguish a DOT certified helmet during a quick examination of the helmet.

But it's probably not what you're looking for—a DOT sticker on the back of the helmet means nothing. This sticker alone does not guarantee the helmet is DOT certified, as counterfeit DOT stickers on nonconforming helmets are common including the ones we used to receive when renewing GWRRA membership. The mandated sticker reads DOT FMVSS No. 218 Certified and lists the helmet's maker and numerical size.

Instead, check the liner. All DOT certified helmets must have an inner liner about one-inch thick. If you only feel a thin sheet of foam or no liner at all, it is not safe nor DOT certified. Chinstraps also should not feel as if they would break with a hard pull. All DOT-certified helmets have tough, sturdy chinstraps that won't break or become loose while riding. If your helmet seems too light, it probably is. Unsafe helmets typically weigh one pound or less, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. A DOT certified helmet typically weighs about three pounds.

Also, anything that protrudes from the helmet more than one-fifth of an inch is not DOT certified. And, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration claims it has yet to see a full-face protector on a non-DOT certified helmet.

February article -Winter doldrums,

As Carly Simon sang to us—Anticipation is making me wait—for more activity, excitement, and Medic First Aid classes! But not any longer--Michigan has begun holding MFA classes and we are thrilled that Gary Williams is feeling soooo much better and that he and Cheryl Wiggins are able to teach. Please complete the Request for Medic First Aid form found on the GWRRA Michigan website and submit it to us.

During a recent GroupWorks communication we found out that University Instructors who are not current can still present all seminars and modules EXCEPT for the seven associated with the 100 series of Rider Education seminars.

We were notified by Philips HeartStart, the company who sells AEDS and accessories, that the HeartStart FR2 that we carry to district events, rallies, and rider courses will no longer be supported. Accessories, including batteries, will not be available. Again, we have such great appreciation for all of you who support Rider Education and most of all, Ron and Jan Smith, because we can afford to purchase a new one with Michigan Rider Education savings and have placed the order.

The existing grace period for all members whose levels expired on or after January 1, 2020 in the Levels Program has now been extended through December 31, 2021. We have not yet begun contacting colleges, schools, and government complexes regarding Rider Courses until Michigan's governor provides some more consistency towards opening Michigan. But we have not forgotten and we certainly want to provide these courses. Perhaps February 1st will be the day she releases us to go on about our lives. With the assistance of Rick Andreen, our Rider Course Coordinator, we will then re-engage with all our contacts.

We do want to thank Tyrone Scott who has been an active GWRRA Rider Course Instructor since 2016 along with being a Master Tour Rider for his years of assistance to us. Personal commitments have resulted in him informing us that he can no longer be active with teaching and we will greatly miss his participation.

Stay safe and think spring!

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CHAPTER SKILL ENHANCEMENT ADVISOR



Job Summary

The role of Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor (CSEA) is to proactively support Member/Participant by providing them with information they can consider on ways to become skilled, prepared and safer riders and co-riders.

Encouraged Responsibilities

- Serve as an example by being actively engaged in the Levels Program.
- Monthly, or as often as possible and weather permitting based on Members interest, put on an on-bike skills day with skill practice, bike games for riders and co-riders.
- Team with the Chapter Ride Coordinator to promote the importance of best riding practices at chapter gatherings, rides and events.
- Utilize the quarterly Chapter Levels Report provided by the District Educator to support the Members and assist them in achieving milestones and earning recognition.
- Communicate directly with the District Educator to advocate for classes and courses to serve any chapter participant with an interest in progressing in the levels program, becoming a more proficient rider and being better prepared to respond to emergency situations.

Qualifications and Skills

The Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor:

- is not an officer; and the position is not mandatory.
- has a basic knowledge of the GWRRA Rider Education Program
- is appointed by the Chapter Director
- is interviewed by the District Educator
- completes a Confidentiality Agreement
- is a current Level II Rider or Co-Rider
- receives guidance and support from the District Educator
- communicates with the District Educator directly, keeping the Chapter Director in the loop to assure the needs of the chapter participants are met. Remember, the Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor is an active participant on the Chapter staff and primary direction comes from the Chapter Director
- does not have access to the RE database and relies on the District Educator for the information.

Goal: To provide the membership with the basic support needed to participate meaningfully and successfully in the GWRRA Rider Education Program at the Chapter level.

Let your motorcycle friends know about the Trial Membership.



 FOR MORE INFO ON BENEFITS, VISIT **GWRRA.ORG**

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

4 *Free* Months

You will receive:

- Rescue Motorcycle Towing of 35 miles
- 4 months subscription to *Wing World* magazine
- Opportunity to participate in Chapter Life

Yes! I would like a 4 month free trial membership to GWRRA

Name: _____ Corider: _____

Address: _____
(Street Address)

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: (_____) - _____
(Area Code)

Email: _____

Referred By: _____ Member Number: _____

Mail to GWRRA-PO Box 42450, Phoenix, AZ 85080-9942