

# GoldWing Road Riders Association

## Chapter Z

### Straits Area Road Riders

[www.gwrra-mi.org/chapter/z/index.htm](http://www.gwrra-mi.org/chapter/z/index.htm)



**April 2021**

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## Chapter Happenings –

Blarney Bash was not cancelled, but the date was changed to April 10. Mike and Carol Rainey, and Mike Rath are planning to attend. Since our restaurants are open now, maybe we are hoping to go out to eat as a group soon.

Roland and I will be heading out of Arizona on April 10. We will do some visiting on the way back and return about a month later. We will be able to attend the officer's meeting on May 15 in St Louis, MI.

We don't know if our campout is a go or not. We won't find out if we have the Flywheeler's until May. Also, Carol is recuperating from a fall which really damaged her shoulder. Fortunately, she did not require surgery and Mike enjoyed waiting on her for a few weeks.

I learned of another birthday in March - it was Char Smock's. She reported having a great day. It included 2 birthdays, a wedding and her family together. Jerry Kovacks has a birthday this month. It's April 14.

# Important Dates 2021

March 5-6 Michigan Wingless Weekend in Chelsea, Michigan – **CANCELED**

April 10 Chapter J2 Blarney Bash

April 22-25 Chapter J Mall Show - **CANCELED**

May 15 Spring Officer Meeting St Louis

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

May 29 Chapter G Anniversary Party

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 -

Getting Close to Riding Season in Michigan,

As we know, many drivers are not aware of how to safely share roads with us as motorcyclists. Most crashes happen in intersections. Be sure traffic is clear when you are making the turn, but even more importantly remember that a vehicle turning in front of us is the largest cause of motorcycle fatalities.

Use your full lane when needed for road conditions such as potholes, animal and road debris.

When you are driving in a four wheeler with someone and they mention a motorcyclist ahead or behind that is swerving, point out that the motorcyclist has the full lane and from your personal knowledge, often needs it. I believe our sharing our knowledge with the general public, friends, and family does help us all.

We have little personal protection other than helmets and clothes, but we also know that the way vehicles are built, their cage is not the same as it used to be. Share that information with others also, whenever possible. Mention that the motorcyclist you just saw is wearing all their safety gear, or that one may some day have a rough landing in that tank top and tennis shoes.

Rick Andreen, our Rider Course Coordinator, has begun working with our regular venues to schedule classes. Oakland County Complex has June 5<sup>th</sup> available and are willing to host us so we will be holding an ARC and TRC there. LSSU at Sault Ste Marie has August 7<sup>th</sup> or August 14<sup>th</sup> available and are willing to host us so we will be holding an ARC and TRC there. Ionia School District is not allowing anyone on their campus from outside of the school but we are trying to get a Range Only on May 1 or May 8. Grayling High School is a possibility and we have tentatively scheduled them for July 24<sup>th</sup>, but they are wary of committing so we are waiting to hear from them again.

We would like to hold an ARC-R on Friday morning, August 20, in St. Louis during our Michigan Rally, but we have not yet found a paved 200 ft x 300 ft clear area (no poles, lights, drainage structures, curbs) for the range. Google Earth shows only a small parking lot at the campgrounds, and the St. Louis High School shows on Google Earth a 236 x 232 max parking lot. We do not want to put it on the Rider Course Registration form if we cannot have it, but we also want you to spend time with us practicing our motorcycle safety skills so we are trying to get the registration form finalized with the best knowledge we have at the moment.

We are offering MFA courses and have successfully taught them this year, so please complete the Request form on the Michigan website. We would love to have you keep such valuable information fresh and up to date.

National is working on adjusting to the pandemic. Rider Education is looking at Rider Courses as to range requirements and exercises within those requirements, and have also come out with a new policy regarding Range Only classes until December 31, 2021. See attached.

Can't wait to see you all and your motorcycles,

Dennis and Felicia  
MI-DE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO DISTRICT EDUCATORS,  
DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS**

**March 15, 2021**

The GWRRA Rider Education Program Team continues to explore different ways we can better serve the Membership during our collective recovery from the unexpected challenges caused by Covid 19.

GWRRA Rider Education Program policy for any GWRRA Member in the Levels Program who's *last on-bike course was "Range Only"* requires their *next on-bike course* to be a "Full" course (with both a classroom and a range portion) to be eligible for level course fulfillment.

*Due to the continued lack of classroom space available to accommodate Federal, State and Local distancing guidelines, temporarily, any Member with a rider course expiration on or after January 1, 2020 may renew their Level by participating in another Range Only class until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.*

Because many of us may be starting to ride again after a year or more, this decision was made to make it possible for more Members to participate in the valuable on-bike skill practice necessary to ride safely and proficiently.

We do encourage those Members able to attend a Full Rider Course when offered to do so in support of your District's Rider Education Program and the Instructors who teach them. These courses are proven to be beneficial for all riders regardless of individual riding experience.

The RE Team posts all GWRRA Rider Education events submitted by Districts including rider courses and MEDIC FIRST AID (MFA) on the Association's event page: <http://gwrro.org/events/> where you can perform a search to learn what is available in your area.

We also suggest Members contact their District Educator for more information about what will be available throughout the year. Please take advantage of any courses and classes available to you.

# 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

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# TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

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## 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**