



WV District Newsletter



January 2012

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Greetings from the District Directors

Hello everyone!!

We are in a new year and looking forward to an enjoyable riding season. The holidays were great and we enjoyed spending time with the family. It is always important to place the family first. We are in a social organization and really enjoy each other's company but remember that this is just your extended family. Please enjoy all you do and everyone you are with.

The District Operations meeting was held on January 14th was a great success. Chapter Directors and staff were updated on the basic changes and updates. Chapter I presented the District with their quilt square for the Region N Quilt. I have seen the square from Chapter G also. Thanks for your great work. Please make sure they are sent to me ASAP.

If you plan to attend Spring Fling, they are having a BBQ on Thursday evening but you must register on line to attend and it is for preregistered guests only. This is the message from the TN Directors:

"Please pass this on to all members immediately. There is a registration form on the TN District website for the free BBQ to be held on Thurs. night at Spring Fling. I need to know how many to expect. This is open to all fully registered participants."

There you go!!! We are planning for the first District Gathering in our Region already. It is almost time to get them out and ride. I look forward to seeing all of you at events until we get the trike out for the Spring.

Ride Safe!!

Buz and Missy Mowrer

WV District Directors



Please use barkbyte@aol.com

Fun Days

Chapter A – May 12

Chapter G – TBA

Chapter B – July 28

Chapter H – August 18

Chapter C – June 2

Chapter I – July 21

Chapter E – August 5

Chapter J – TBA

Chapter K – Memorial Day

Please plan rides to all Fun Days!!!!



Chapter J has the
“Been There Bear”
meeting is February 11
at Golden Corral.





West Virginia District Educator News

Don & Charlotte Henrey
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Salem, WV 26426
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January 2012



Hello to Everyone,

I'd like to start this newsletter by thanking all of the Chapter Educators who came to the District Op's meeting last Sat. Jan. 14th, 2012, in Morgantown, WV. Charlotte and I really appreciate all that you do for GWRRA and your local members. We appreciate the time you give to helping everyone and your dedication to Rider Education and Safety.

We announced at the Operations meeting that WV Rider Education is going to sponsor the Memorial Day Ride in Elkins, WV, along with the help of Chapter K. Wayne Gregoire, Chapter K Director, will be doing the registrations and we have attached a copy of that form to go in the newsletter. They have had really great success in the past with this ride and we hope that as many of you can, will attend. A lot of members from Ohio and New York try every year to come and it will be some really great mountain riding and lots of making new friends and seeing old ones.

Chapter A, in Martinsburg, WV will be holding an MFA Class on Saturday, February 11, 2012. We are hoping to start it at 11:00 AM, and will let you know ASAP where it will be held at. Please contact Brian McClure, Chapter A Educator, if you wish to attend this class. Remember - this is the time of the year to get these classes in so that once spring comes we can RIDE and have FUN!!

We are still uncertain as to what is going to be going on with WV Weekend this year. Boyer Station is in limbo as to their status. Larry Wheeler and I are in the process of checking alternative sites in case it is not available and will let you know something as soon as we do.

Just a reminder to all Chapter Educators and Directors - let me know, ASAP - if you would like a seminar presented at your meeting or would like to schedule an MFA Class.

Ride Safe and Be Safe,

**Don & Charlotte Henrey
WV - Sr. District Educators**



Remember Ride Safe and Be Safe With Riders Education!

Situational Awareness and Motorcycling

Larry Wheeler

WV Asst. District Educator

January 2012



Diana and I hope everyone had a great holiday season; we were very blessed to be able to spend time with family and friends these past holidays. We are looking forward to a new riding season and anxiously await the turn in the weather to bright sunny and warm days. The article below is part my own and part from another source, but the information is still pertinent all the same.

(NOTE: Parts of this article was excerpted from an article by the same name published in Motorcycle Consumer News)

Situational Awareness

How aware are you of your surroundings? To what degree can you take small clues and “connect the dots” to identify potential hazards? Are you conscious of your intuition? Answers to these questions can help you to determine your level of “situational awareness” (SA). SA is a concept used to describe the level of awareness and perception of an immediate situation. Someone with well-developed SA is able to “see the big picture” and to accurately evaluate likely outcomes. In other words, know your surroundings and evaluate your ability to react to unknown circumstances.

SA has a big role in safe group riding. Right from the beginning, it’s important to evaluate the participants. If the group seems to have a race-ready attitude, it may be smart to graciously opt out. Often a group doesn’t show its true colors until the ride is underway. The situation can be either a too aggressive pace with unsafe passing and bravado, or a group of riders who show little skill in motorcycle control or group riding etiquette. Either way, it may be time to kindly indicate that you’re going a different direction and detach from the group. Each of us **MUST** ride with in our own skills and limits if we are to be safe and conscientious riders.

Well-organized group ride leaders pride themselves in following procedures that take various levels of skill into account by posting “sweep” riders in the rear to keep an eye on everyone. Also, the chosen route and the pace are designed to keep the group within the comfort zone of the least experienced rider. But, most group rides are less organized, often consisting of between three and 10 riders who simply meet up for an impromptu ride. Rarely will the group participants address an individual rider’s level of experience, opting to defer responsibility to each rider to “ride your own ride.” Unfortunately, it’s not uncommon for this type of scenario to lead to a crash as a newer rider tries to keep up with the more experienced ones.

The new rider must make him or herself aware that this scenario is riddled with risk. However, you can do many things to help reduce your risk and riding with in your own limits is one of the most positive actions you can take. To help evaluate the situation, it’s smart to ask about the expected pace and route before venturing out with a loosely organized group. If they are planning on riding faster than you feel comfortable, you can either not ride with them or ask that they wait at turns for you to regroup safely.

Being situational aware means being tuned into your surroundings and riding environment. Learn from your “close calls” to prevent the situation from happening again.

Remember: *“Everyday on a Wing is like a honeymoon”* **Larry**

Membership Enhancement



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werideawing@att.net

From the desk of the WV district MEP's

Wow how time flies! We hope you all have had a good Christmas Holiday and a Great New Year! It's mid-January and we have not had much snow or cold weather. Sure hope it stays that way!

Did you read the nice article in December **Wing World** on Page 22 about **Area Reports**? It was a very informative article in explaining all the different pages in your ARL. Anyway, I believe it could have gone a bit further in instructing you on how to fill out the contact and comment sections and the importance of returning them to your MEPC. That would be--**ME!** I'll be taking on that soon!

New forms our out for any Chapter that wants to participate in **Chapter of the Year** selection. Let me know if you are interested and I'll make them available to you.

Also, we will be having the **new mascot** for our chapter couples. Hope he travels well and gets all decorated. Who knows, he might become famous and appear on **Facebook!!!** See you all next month!

STAY SAFE, REST UP WE'LL BE RIDING AGAIN SOON

IF IT AIN'T FUN.....MAKE IT FUN!!!!

Mike and Bonnie Ackermann
MEP Coordinators



GWRRA
Gold Wing Road Riders Association

**Leadership
Training
Division**



January is the time for beginnings and we are really beginning the year off great!!! We are being a little sarcastic because Beth Ann is still having PT three times per week and we had our first fender bender last Saturday. We were minding our own business when a lady, who wasn't minding hers' but her dogs business, decided that the back end of our car looked better than the front end of hers'. What can we say, the dog should have been driving!! Everyone was okay and when we looked in the back seat at our youngest grandson he was fast asleep – thank goodness. Anyway, it seems the full moon, the weather, and everything else that can happen that moves the world, was going in the wrong direction that day.

We are looking forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at the upcoming District Operations Meeting. We are sure that Buz and Missy will have a lot of things planned for all of us to do and I am sure we will be kept pretty busy with all of the things we need to talk about. We were going over the convention schedule and we're already worn out!! Beth Ann is looking forward to the chocolate tour while at Wing-Ding and it appears, from the vendors and schedule, that there will be something for everyone. Of course, it is always a pleasure to see all of our extended family and friends at all of the events we get to, this year, we hope to make all of them because Beth Ann finally got her boot off and she can ride the trike without scuffing it!! She hasn't started driving again yet so everyone is warned to look out when this occurs, it has been a year and a half since she last drove!!

We are going to be getting an OCP training program together in the next few months and all of the details will be worked out at the Ops meeting this weekend. Any GWRRA member is welcome to partake in the OCP program, so even if you aren't an officer but would like to learn more about the workings of the organization, please let us know so we can pass on the where and when information. Even though the program is on-line it shouldn't be used unless you are unable to attend a scheduled OCP program. The personal interaction you receive from coming to an OCP program is much better than reading the information and taking a test at the end of each section. It is also very hard to ask your computer questions, they don't compute personal very well!!

Anyway, as the fortune cookies says this month "your story is still being written because chapters are added all of the time and the book is never finished" (it was a long fortune!) Everyone is still writing their book and the chapters are always changing so just go with the flow, you will never know where it will lead you..

Take care and safe riding!!

Beth Ann & Bill McCormick
WV District LTD Trainers



Greetings from the District Couple

At this time, we would like to thank all of the **Chapter Couples** for their help last year, and we look forward to meeting all the new couples for the upcoming year. Mike and I are starting early this year visiting chapters and honoring chapter couples for this year. It really is an honor to be a Chapter Couple. For those chapters that do not have a Chapter Couple, we will be encouraging the Chapter Directors to find a deserving couple to honor.

We would like to have all the chapters in West Virginia have a Chapter Couple. We would also like to see all the Chapter Couples at the West Virginia District Convention. Mike and I will be stepping down after this year as **District Couple** and we would like to see another couple take over the honor. Being District Couple of the Year is not a job it is an adventure. Come have an adventure with us.

Mike and Kelly Means
WV District Couple of the Year

WV Chapter Meeting Times

“FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE”

CHAPTER A (Martinsburg)

Becky & JJ Jones

304.667.0121

rpepgirl@aol.com

The 1st Sunday @ 8/9 AM

Hoss's Steak & Seafood I-81 Exit-16 E RT 9

Martinsburg WV

CHAPTER B (Clarksburg)

TBA

304.782.2600

dc8657@cs.com

The 3rd Saturday @ 6/7 PM

ELKS Restaurant, Clarksburg

CHAPTER C (Huntington)

John & Glenna Frame

304.523.2868

glenboy@frontier.com

The 2nd Thursday @ 6/7 PM

IHOP at Huntington Mall

CHAPTER E (Wheeling)

TBA

304.280.1667

weridewingair@yahoo.com

The Last Saturday @ 5/6 PM Hoss's Steak House

Exit 5, I-70 -10 Elm Grove Crossing Plaza, Wheeling

CHAPTER G (Summersville)

KB & Dave Morgan

304.254.9110

d-kbmorgan@suddenlink.net

The 3rd Saturday @ 6/7 PM

Shoney's Summersville

CHAPTER H (Charleston)

Judy & Ken Shivley

304.984.0503

kshivley10454@cebridge.net

The 1st Saturday @ 6/7 PM

IHOP Kanawha City

CHAPTER I (Morgantown)

Gloria & Gary Rowan

304.278.9721

gloria@cityneon.com

The 2nd Saturday @ 6/7 PM

Golden Corral, Star City Exit 155 I-79N

CHAPTER J (Parkersburg)

Pete & Sherry McMullen

304.489.2932

rpm1@frontier.com

The 2nd Saturday @ 10 AM

Golden Corral Parkersburg

CHAPTER K (Elkins)

Wayne & Sheila Gregoire

304.636.4718

wgregoire@cebridge.net

The 1st Saturday @ 6/7 PM

Steer Steakhouse, Rt. 250 & 92

Elkins WV

***Chapter Meetings some
have been changed
because of Weather.
Check with the CD***

**A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

Elkins Rider Ed. Memorial Weekend 2012

Schedule

- May 25th 6:30PM Meet at Super 8 for Rider meeting and Ride sign up.
Drink & chips provided.
- May 26th 8:00 AM Line up at Super 8 parking lot for guided ride
- May 26th 7:00 PM Meet at American Mountain Theater Show for those with
tickets. (Call 800-943-3670 for tickets – Use the name
Goldwing Group for discount)
- May 27th 8:00 AM Line up at Super 8 parking lot for guided ride.
- May 27th 6:00 PM Group Picture at Super 8.
- May 27th 6:30 PM Dinner “Roast” at Steer Steakhouse. (On your own)

Note: Please pack a lunch for each day’s ride. (3 Subways, Quiznos, Walmart,
Kroger, etc. are available)

Registration / Application Form

LIABILITY RELEASE: I/we have read and understand this application. I/we
hereby agree to conform and comply with the ideals governing this
rally and agree to hold harmless GWRRA, co-sponsoring
organizations, and any property owners for any loss or injury to
self or property in which I/we may become involved by reason of
participation in this event. I/we also agree to assume
responsibility for any property which I/we damage.

Date: _____

Rider: Print _____ Signature _____

Co-rider: Print _____ Signature _____

Address: _____

Email Address and/or Phone: _____

Fee: \$10.00 per person for the weekend Total enclosed: _____

Please make checks to: WV Rider Ed.

Mail to: Wayne Gregoire; 138 Apple Creek; Elkins WV 26241

Questions: wgregoire@live.com (304-642-4718) or Don; insclaim@citynet.net (304-782-3943)