

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

November 2014



District Team

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2014 District Couple of the Year
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Past and Future Fun with Georgia GWRRA

Another rally season has ended in Region A with the close of the Mississippi District Rally. We must say the Mississippi District Staff put on a fantastic rally and, as always, we had a wonderful time visiting and participating with our GWRRA friends and family. Oh yeah, Vicky and I won 1st place in the District Challenge and Florida was a very close 2nd place. It is always FUN participating in these events. There was a change in leadership at the closing, Bobby and Lori Bryant have stepped down as Mississippi District Directors and Harry and Diane Schafer were appointed as the new Mississippi District Directors. We wish Bobby and Lori the best in their retirement. We also extend a warm welcome to Harry & Diane as our newest District Directors. We are confident they will continue moving Mississippi in a positive direction.

There was a right large turnout at the Chapter A's Boo-riffic fun day. The spaghetti lunch was excellent and they really piled it on the plate. Some folks even made a return trip for seconds. Oh and the deserts were right up there with the best of them. They gave away \$100.00 twice on the 50/25/25 and a set of tires as the Grand Prize. Chapter O captured the Georgia District Travelers Plaque and will be turning it in at Wind Down for the 2015 Georgia District Travelers Plaque, which they will be offering in

January for Capture. We want to congratulate Chapter A on a fantastic Boo-riffic Fun Day.

Chapter Directors it's that time again for the annual chapter charter fees. Please get with your Chapter Treasurer and mail the \$100.00 Charter fee to the District Treasurer as soon as possible. Hey, I'll make it even easier and better for you! Chapter Directors; bring all the chapter members that you can gather up including the Treasurer and come to Wind Down and bring the Charter Fee with you. There is a free meal in it for you and more fun than you would ever imagine.

GEORGIA DISTRICT **MEMBERS** **APPRECIATION DAY!** at **2014 Wind Down!**

The Georgia District Team invites you to join us for a day of Fun and Fellowship with your GWRRA friends and family at WIND DOWN 2014 on November 8th at the Perry Arts Center 1121 Macon Rd, Perry, GA. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

A FREE Lunch will be provided by the Georgia District and served by the Georgia District Team in

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ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

All of the beautiful, magnificent days that we have been experiencing lately make us hope that you have had an opportunity to get out and ride. Ah, enjoying the fresh clean air, comfortable temperatures, plentiful sunshine and virtually cloudless skies. Since it seems we are only allotted a handful of these perfect days to enjoy each year, it would be a pity to squander any of them!

Now I don't know about you, but we seem to have an angel on one shoulder and a devil on the other. The angel invites us to take advantage of the fantastic weather, but the devil reminds of us of all the sinister hazards that lurk within our realm. Fear is never a healthy feeling especially when heading out on a bike or trike! Now respect, on the other hand, is healthy! We can blend respect of perceived hazards with caution and utilization of all of our safety training to manage the risk associated with our sport. This allows us to enjoy the ride and return home safely. Returning home safely is always goal number one.

The statements, made by us, are our own editorial take on current events and are the sole responsibility of; well us. Yes, this has

become a recurring theme, but we honestly believe it is this type of safety concern that is our fastest growing and potentially lethal threat. With that in mind..... Georgia, we are here to tell you that it is beyond the point of ludicrous out there, people have taken the current situation to places we never imagined. Let's just list some of the experiences we have had and see what your take is:

- ⇒ Our vehicle is 1st in a left turn lane, left arrow appears, the vehicle behind us cuts inside (to our left) passing in the turn to end up in front of us – happened twice so far
- ⇒ A long line of vehicles stopped at a red light, truck creeps up in the right turn lane and when the light turns green, blast across the intersection cutting in front of everyone, only to turn into a subdivision two blocks later
- ⇒ A vehicle exiting a day care center, cuts in front of us to the point we have to slam on our brakes to avoid slamming into the side of their vehicle. We blow the horn, they blow their horn and flip us off

as if it was our fault

- ⇒ Tailgating so close we cannot see their headlights
- ⇒ Passing on a double yellow line, on a two lane bridge that curves to the left, we were already doing 5 mph faster than the posted speed limit
- ⇒ A car weaving, cannot stay in the lane, speeding up and then slowing way down – texting
- ⇒ A vehicle in the left turn lane, light turns green, they turn right
- ⇒ After waiting for an exceptionally long red light it finally turns green, but the 1st vehicle in line just sits there failing to move - cell phone
- ⇒ Following a vehicle that stopped for a green light! You read it right, a green light.
- ⇒ Blasting through school zones, we mean flying, when the yellow lights are flashing
- ⇒ Passing stopped school buses with flashing red lights and children getting on or off.
- ⇒ Some counties are now adding cameras

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Julie & Roy
Degler
Ride Educator

“Georgia, we are here to tell you that it is beyond the point of ludicrous out there, people have taken the current situation to places never imagined.”



ON TURKEY'S AND WIND DOWN.

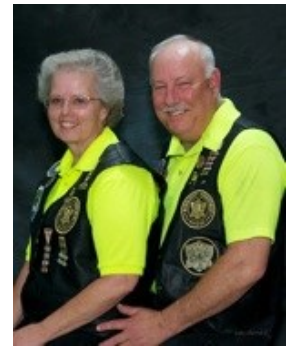
"HOLY TURKEY MONTH" it's November, and you know what that means! Yep it's our favorite month of the year. This year, as you know, Wind Down is in Perry Georgia on November 8th at the old Armory 1121 Macon Rd. Starting at 10:00 AM, and if you haven't heard it's free. We will recognize all current Couple of the

Year and your current District Couple, Vance and Fern Oakes It's also the time most chapters finish their plans for their annual holiday party and their selection and announcement of their 2015 chapter Couple of the Year. If you are selected, it is because you are being honored for representing your chapter and being

the ambassador you are. It is not intended to be a job or position. Take a few minutes and read the Couple of the Year manual. You can get it from the Georgia Web site under Couple of the Year. See you in Perry.

Ride safe and often,

Sid & Donna



**Sid and Donna
Cohen**

**Assistant District
Director/
Couple of the Year
Coordinator**

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

(Continued from page 2)

to their school bus fleets to capture the offenders' vehicles in the act and hopefully get a license plate number – this is how wide spread a problem this is!

⇒ How many times have you just wished a police officer was there and caught them in the act of any of the above?

We could go on and on, but Tommy likes to keep the Newsletter down to 4 pages. All of these scenarios have happened within the last month or two. It appears that as a society we have become totally self-centered; it's all about me. Think about your last trip in the grocery store....you are heading down an aisle and someone has blocked the entire way. No one can get by in either direction and when you say "excuse me"; they

look at you with a look that could kill. How dare you want to get by or how dare you want a product off the shelf they are looking at.

We are at a loss to explain it. What has happened to common courtesy and decency? Manners anyone? Have we become so self-absorbed in our always open, 24/7 internet access, cell phones, social media...let's just say; "technological lifestyle" that we have forgotten that we are all in this together? If there is not the least little bit of truth in that assessment, than a heck of a lot of people must be; "Asleep At The Wheel"! How else can we explain it?

Have you experienced any of these scenarios? Do you have others to share? What is your take on it? Are you offended and outraged by these actions? By establishing a dialog there is hope that we can

work toward a solution, but realize solutions take time and they need agreement. Still the seed, like an idea, must be planted, watered and nurtured if you want it to grow. The GWRRA Motorist Awareness program is an excellent place for us to begin to make a difference. Get involved! Remember though, YOU have to be willing to take that first step!

In the meantime, since we know we cannot change it, we must arm ourselves with the knowledge that they are out there. Expect to encounter them and be prepared for anything that might come our way or cross our path. It is not going to stop us from enjoying our passion; it is just another item we need to add to our Safety checklist.

Until next time:
**Be SAFE – We'll See
You On The Road!**

Roy & Julie

***"In the
meantime,... we
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WHY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

We were the first to balk at taking leadership courses, mainly due to being “trained to death” on our jobs for many years. We had had all the courses offered in GWRRA’s training program in one form or the other in the past. We had even taught some. However, we went and we enjoyed, and we learned new things. Some things we had forgotten, some things had changed over the years. The main thing is that we had fun, learned, got encouragement and gained different perspectives on the chapter functions. We think training makes better leaders and in this case better chapter leaders and participants.

Pam recently read an article from the *Allbusiness Network* that gives 10 good reasons why you should take a leadership-training course. The article stated that leadership courses “can help you improve your leadership skills, and to thereby help you to change your organization from **good to great.**” Isn’t that what we all want for our chapters?

Whether you are a participant or a team member, you can benefit from taking leadership-training courses. We are all leaders of something. We lead our families, we may lead at work, and we take the lead in planning rallies, fun days, door prize give-a-ways, and lots of other chapter activities. As chapter participants, we interact with the other participants in our

chapter and others. Wouldn’t you like to know how to effectively do this? Learn or refresh valuable skills? Gain insight into what others in leadership are doing? These 10 reasons for leadership-training can be applied to the GWRRA leadership training courses and as a past participant in the program and as University Trainers, we encourage you to read this and enroll for courses in the future. They are FUN! And you learn a lot! We are not too old to learn and each time we learned something new. So can you!

1)They build self-confidence and wisdom. Leadership training programs can help teach you the essential skills and techniques you need in order to look at challenges from a different perspective. Doing so can add clarity to a difficult situation, and also promotes wisdom and facilitates self-confidence.

2)They empower you to succeed. If you think great leaders are born and not made, think again. Leadership training courses and various techniques and examples emphasize the point that with a little hard work we all have it in us to be great leaders.

3)They teach valuable skills. Leadership training courses can teach you the skills you need to lead effective-

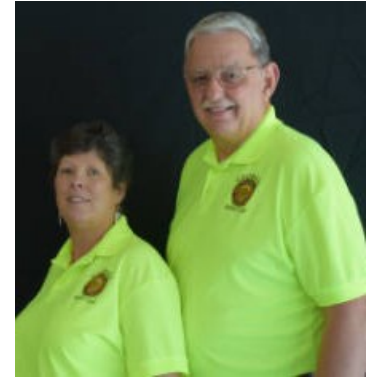
ly, including the often-tricky skills needed to persuade and influence people -- even those who are volunteers.

4)They encourage introspection. Before you get started, training courses typically test you to find out where you need development. Only after realizing these areas can you begin to improve your skills. You’ll have the opportunity to get to know yourself a little better by exploring your motivation to lead, and to test your level of self-confidence, your emotional intelligence, and other qualities that are needed to become a good leader.

5)They surround you with other leaders. Leadership training programs allow you to study how leadership ideas have emerged and changed over time, helping you make sense of the often-conflicting ideas about leadership that cause so much confusion. You’ll also get the opportunity to network with other leaders, and to draw on their experiences.

6)They help lead you to the next level. The next level is about progress, and one way to achieve that progress is to add to your skill set.

7)They help you clarify your vision. Successful leaders have a clear, sound vision of where they want to go. Training gives you the







**Pamela & Larry
Clemmer
Assistant
District
Directors**

“...leadership courses ‘can help you improve your leadership skills, and thereby help you to change your organization from good to great.’ Isn’t that what we want for our chapters?”



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NOVEMBER 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 GA-E, F2
2 	3	4 GA-S 	5	6	7	8 GA-B, D
Wanderer						Wind Down
9	10 GA-Q, T	11  Veterans Day	12	13 GA-K, M	14	15 GA-A, C2, I2, J
						Horizons
16	17 GA-O	18	19	20 GA-D2	21	22 GA-B2, E2
Horizons						
23	24	25 GA-R	26	27 GA-H, L 	28	29
	30					

See website for time and location of Chapter Gatherings. Please call before you visit to confirm date, time and location.

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-O captured the plaque from GA-A. The current plaque will be retired and the new plaque to be given away by GA-O in January. Stay tuned for details!

Region A Wanderer: Chapter FL2-A will be giving away the Wanderer on November 2nd at TooJay's, 2504 SE Federal Highway, Stuart, FL 34994 at 10:00 AM

Schedule of Events

- November 8—Georgia Wind Down Perry
- November 15-16—Horizons Warner Robins
- January 24-29—GWRRRA Chapters Cruse, Port Canaveral, FL
- February 14—GA-S Sweet-heart Fun Day, Winder
- March 19-21, 2015—Florida Convention/Rally, Kissimmee
- July 16-18, 2015—South Carolina District Convention/Rally, Anderson
Note: New date and location!
- May 14-16, 2015—Alabama District Convention/Rally, Eufaula
- June 18-20, 2015—Georgia District Convention/Rally—Gold Wing Dynasty



Past and Future Fun with Georgia GWRRA

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Appreciation of the members support.

You don't want to miss this one! We are planning a different kind of Wind Down this year. More fun and participation for all that attend. The 2014 Travelers Plaque will be retired and the New 2015

Travelers Plaque will be introduced and set on journey through the District. We will be recognizing all Georgia Chapter and District Couples of the Year. There will be games, door prizes, 50/25/25, a swap table and lots of fun activities that you don't want to miss. So mark your calendar

and join us at Wind Down, where a LARGE TIME shall be had by all!

We hope to see you there!

Tommy & Vicky



**Tommy & Vicky Martin
District Director**



Another Benefit of your GWRRA Membership

The GWRRA Vacation Center-has partnered with America's largest cruise agency, CruisesOnly®, to offer the lowest prices in the industry to Gold Wing Members and backed by the only 110% Best Price Guarantee in

the industry.

Shop and compare thousands of cruises from 18 of the world's top fleets departing from 22 U.S. ports. Browse the latest in new promotions and last-minute offers or shop by category--weekend cruises,

family cruises, honeymoon cruises, and more. Trained cruise consultants are ready to answer your questions, help you choose the right cruise for your needs and even help arrange land excursions. Go to gwrra.org/benefits.html to find out more.



Are you ready for to show off your Gold Wing Dynasty?

WHY LEADERSHIP TRAINING.

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chance to step back from your daily responsibilities, to examine your organization, and to think about how the future may unfold. You'll learn how to communicate your vision in a way that truly motivates the people around you.

8)They teach you how to influence people. Part of leadership training is about teaching participants the power to influence those around them. They uncover the ele-

ments of motivation and show you how to motivate your team. They also help you discriminate between good and bad sources of power, and between strong and weak methods of influence.

9)They teach you how to build a team. You'll gain insights on how to pick a good team, how to build a team capable of delivering your vision, and how to give orders without coming off as either too weak or too overbearing.

10)They teach you how to avoid mistakes. Training will give you a glimpse at the worst mistakes you can make as a leader.

We are firm believers in "Never stop learning!" GWRRA offers very good training courses and where else can you get quality training for free? Please consider the training in the future. You can even get together and RIDE there. We do have fun as well as learning.

Larry & Pam

Our 2014 Couples of the Year!

International —Tommy & Gayle Wilson

Jenkins

Watkins

Region A—Dewey & Alice Cole

GA-B2—Walter & Linda Wiggs

GA-J—Mike & Peg Jones

Georgia District—Vance and Fern Oates

GA-D—Mike & Nancy Lynbery

GA-S—Glenn & Sherry Wisdom

GA-A—Don & Sharon

GA-H—Jeff & Maud Verner

GA-I2—Larry & Linda

**GWRRA Motto—
"Friends for Fun,
Safety and
Knowledge"**



Among our sick

Judy Severs, GA-A

Donna Wolbach, GA-S

Debra Roberts, GA-D

Roy Wyatt, GA-S

Donald Taylor, GA-D

In Memory

Chuck Parry, GA-A

Diane Long, GA-L

Diane Harden, GA-Q