



Goldwing Road Riders Association

GEORGIA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

October 2015

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Chapter Tickets

Do you know why your Chapter sells Chapter Tickets? This is a fund raiser for the Chapter. 80% of the funds collected for these tickets goes to YOUR chapter. This money goes to support your chapter so you can have more fun! You can have a fun day, a Christmas party, help send your Couple of the Year to the selection, go on a special ride, and support many other things the chapters do for fun.

Of course, there is the prize too. \$500 is given to the lucky winner and \$50 goes to the person who sold the winning ticket. You don't have to be present to win this money, so even if you can't go to the Georgia Wing Fling, you can still win! Also, you can sell these tickets to persons outside of GWRRR—who doesn't want to have a chance on \$500!

We are encouraging you to support your chapter by buying and selling the Chapter Tickets. All of you are winners in GWR-



Larry & Pamela Clemmer
Georgia District Directors

RA, and I hope one of you is lucky enough to win this \$500. **See you at the Rally April 21-23, 2016 in Dalton, GA.**

Larry and Pamela Clemmer
Georgia District Directors

Bushtec Tickets for Sale

The District Team would like to thank you for being receptive to selling the tickets for the Bushtec Trailer give-a-way. Even if you don't need a Bushtec GL trailer, you can sell it to someone who needs one or trade it on a fancier trailer or a camper. The chapter which sells the most Bushtec tickets receives \$100 and the person who sells the most Bushtec tickets receives \$50. Free money folks!

The trailer is only **one of three grand prizes** to be given away at the 2016 Wing Fling in Dalton, Georgia. We will be giving away two \$500 grand prizes as well.

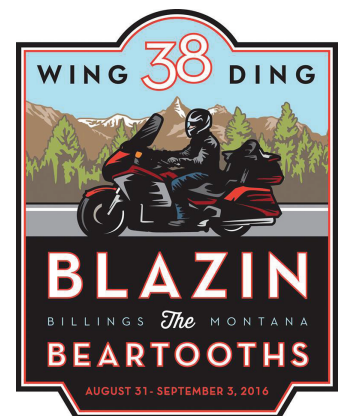
Thank you for helping with the tickets!

Larry and Pamela Clemmer
Georgia District Directors

Billings, Montana Announced as location of 2016 Wing Ding

Due to popular demand, Wing Ding 38 has been moved back to a Wednesday thru Saturday pattern! Mark your calendars for August 31 - September 3rd, 2016 to be in Billings, Montana for Wing Ding 38. Join GWRRR as they celebrate **Blazin the Beartooths** for fun, honors, learning and prizes. Next year's events will be held on the MetraPark grounds in Billings, Montana's Trailhead.

For more information, call (406) 245-4111 or 1-800-735-2635 or email us at WingDing38@Visit-Billings.com.



Couples of the Year to be Celebrated at Wind Down

We attended Wing Ding in September, and had a great time. We helped at the Recruiting Booth on Thursday, and Friday was Georgia District's day to work Ticket Sales. Our own Georgia Southern Stars & Stripes Drill Team performed Saturday at the Drill Team Competition. They had a great show. It was hard to believe that they have only been together for 7 months. They ended with doing drills with trailers, which was a great touch. Finally, they opened the trailers to release red, white & blue balloons.

We are planning to go to the Mississippi Rally the 15th through the 17th of October and then to the Region A Rally the 29th, 30th & 31st of October.

The District staff will be holding Wind Down on November 14th where we will be having our District Couple of the Year selection. Since we did not have a Couple of the Year for 2015, we are thrilled to have 3 couples who will be participating.

We hope that all 11 Chapter Couples of the Year will attend Wind Down so that we can honor all of them for their service to their chapters and to GWRRA. Chapter Directors, please encourage your Couple of the Year to attend and to wear their medallions.

Chapter Directors, if you are going to



Vance & Fern Oakes
*Asst. District Directors West/
Couple of the Year Coordinators*

have a Fun Day in 2016, you need to start planning now in order to get approval from Larry for the date you want. As many of the Chapters plan their rides for the next year before December, get that date out to the rest of the Chapters as soon as possible so they can include them in their calendar for next year.

Vance & Fern Oakes
*Asst. District Directors West/
Couple of the Year Coordinators*

Great Fun with Chapter R



Jim & Kay Elrod
Asst. District Directors North

Good morning Wingers. I would like to say that I sure I'm glad the weather has cooled some. If it would only stay this way it would be great. Eventually it will turn cold, but some of us will still ride.

I would like to congratulate Chapter R for a great fun day held at Dallas Landing in Acworth, Ga. They had about 80 people there from Chapters A, B2, L, F2 and S. What a great turn out! If I missed your Chapter, I am sorry. I was busy cooking hamburgers and hotdogs. My glasses were covered in grease, but what a great time we had seeing old friends and meeting several new ones. This is what it's all about, so get out there and participate. We bought our bikes to ride and have fun.

We have the Mississippi Rally next and then the Region A Rally in Eufaula Ala. These are great rallies. If you can make one or both, I guarantee you will have fun and meet new people who will quickly become friends.

Then, it will be time for Wind Down, which will be held in Perry, Ga. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Until we meet again, Ride Safe Ride often.

Jim and Kay Elrod
Asst. District Directors North

Newsletter Contest Dates Changed for 2016



Georgia Fling for 2016 has been moved from June to April. This will change the months for your newsletters to be submitted if your chapter is entering the newsletter contest. The November, December and January issue are the ones that are to be submitted.

Please go to the Georgia District website, click on the 2016 Georgia Rally tab, select rally contest rules and scroll down to Georgia Wing Fling 2016 Newsletter Contest. You will find all of the rules for this competition and the scoring sheets that will be used in judging.

If you have any questions or need more information contact either of us.

Norm and Wendy Morton
Membership Enhancement Coordinators



Norman & Wendy Morton
*Membership Enhancement
Coordinators*



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sue Jackson - Region A Director, Jim Jackson's wife, while she recovers from hip surgery

Chapter A - Jim Thomas

IN MEMORY

Mr. Sam Wilson - Chapter A

Richard Mashburn - Chapter F

There Are Only TWO Aspects to Motorcycle Safety

Stacey "Ax" Axmaker
MRFA&E Recording Secretary

In my years in the motorcycle safety and rider training business, I have come to conclusions that there are 2 aspects (and 2 aspects ONLY) to motorcycle safety:

1. Prevent the crash
2. Survive the crash

...and the rider is responsible for both. You can make the argument that other drivers are also responsible for preventing crashes, and while there may be some truth to that, there is precious little you can do to make someone ELSE take responsibility (just ask anyone who has ever been married or had kids!) So, since it is the rider who stands to lose, it is the rider who is responsible for both preventing and surviving crashes. And to put this in perspective, if WE don't succeed in reducing the crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving motorcycles, more government regulation of our sport is very likely.

This month's article will address the first aspect- **PREVENT THE CRASH**.

There are a number of skills that we know contribute to preventing crashes. A few notes: **ONE**-None of this is rocket science, but at the same time, almost none of it comes naturally. **TWO**-None of these items are guaranteed 'crash-preventers,' but they sure stack the odds in your favor!

•**Visual Scanning** - This means head and eyes up at horizon level and looking well ahead (if you don't see it and know it's a hazard, the other skills don't matter). There are two elements here; one is seeing and the other is perceiving. Get your eyes up so you can see 20 seconds ahead (look ahead to a point it will take you 20 seconds to reach- for example, at freeway speeds, that will likely be over 1/3 of a mile). This includes corners- to see the hazards as soon as possible, you need to actually turn your head and point your nose in the direction of the turn. This is part of proper cornering technique, but also part of good general visual scanning habits.

•**Following Distance** (time = distance) - Americans tailgate...you know it...I know it. Every state I know of recommends a 2, 3, or 4 second following distance. Take a stopwatch and stand on the side of the road and measure what drivers (and riders) are actually doing. You'll find that it is closer to a half a second...maybe 1 second. Unfortunately, this is very common and it's really asking for trouble. Have a passenger take a stopwatch and measure your following distance and just see what it is. Once you know what it is, you are free to choose to adjust it. Knowledge is power.

•**Maximum Braking** (Quick Stops) Mo-

torcycles have the ability stop very quickly. Unfortunately, the crash reports tell us that many riders don't. Even after all these years, there are STILL riders who say 'stay away from the front brake.' Your front brake has MOST of your stopping power- learn it, live it, love it. What we see in the crash reports is riders locking up the rear brake (skidding), often ending up in a low side crash (laying it down), and using very little (if any) front brake. If you want to have the skill of stopping quickly you HAVE to practice it - there is no other way. Since you use your right foot to stop every time in your car, that is what your 'emergency response' will likely be - UNLESS you spend time practicing using with both brakes on your bike. The more often you stop with both brakes on your bike, the more likely your 'emergency response' will be the right one.

•**Cornering** (running off the road or low-siding in a corner) - This is becoming a more and more common crash scenario. Proper cornering technique (and the ability to respond to 'mid-corner surprises) is one of those skills that simply does not come naturally (even with lots of miles). There are books, courses, videos, magazine articles etc. that can provide this information. Knowing in your head is a good start, but there is no replacement for practice. If you can master countersteering, head turns (see 'Visual Scanning' above), and relaxation, you can avoid many of these cornering crashes.

•**Group Riding**-I have often talked with riders who are proud of how tight their group rides. This isn't just one kind of group either- I hear this among police officers, HOG groups, and Outlaw groups. One phrase I hear is "That's how we ride!" "I encourage you to give this some thought. The two main issues we see in group riding are riding with a very short following distance within the group, and poor visual scanning. The result is predictable; we are seeing quite a bit of 'bike-on-bike' crashing. Here is the advice: - **Spread out**. Give 1.5-2 seconds between each rider in staggered formation (not the 1 second recommended in many rider training courses). If a car gets in the middle of your group, LET IT. Believe me, they don't want to be in the middle of a group of bikers any more than you want them there - they will leave soon. Having a car in the middle of your group temporarily is much less of a risk than riding in a tight pack and 'fighting' against a car who may need to get over to take the next exit. - **Avoid target fixation**. Many riders in groups end up focusing on the rider directly in front of them (only about 1 second ahead) rather than 20 seconds ahead (see 'Visual Scanning' above). Yes,



Frank & Melinda Brothers
*Rider Educators/
Medic First Aid*



you need to know if the rider ahead of you changes speed, BUT if you are looking well beyond the rider (20 seconds ahead), your peripheral vision will give you the information you need. Just because the rider ahead of you rides into trouble, that doesn't mean you have to follow them there. - **Break it up**. Many of us ride in rallies and parades where there are hundreds of bikes in a single group. While this is impressive looking and makes for great media coverage, it's not what we recommend for most group rides. Break up your group into sub-groups of 4-8 rider.

As I said before- none of this is complicated, but it does take deliberate practice. But, if we really want to be active in crash prevention, it starts with ourselves, our riding buddies, and our groups and clubs. By working on crash prevention, we accomplish several things:

1. Save ourselves and our friends from injury (or worse)
2. Save the families of those folks from having to watch their loved ones suffer.
3. Improve the public perception of bikers (you know... 'the public'...the ones who vote)
4. Reduce the likelihood of more government regulation in the sport of motorcycling

Ride well, ride lots.
Frank & Melinda Brothers
Rider Educators
Medic First Aid

HOW DO YOU LEARN BEST?

We all learn differently. As trainers, we often ask "How do you learn best?"

The Analyzer: The analyzer is a perfectionist who hates mistakes. Analyzers need to hear the whole presentation and role play. They break the task down into manageable parts. Never throw the analyzer into a "wing it" situation. These learners will not get into a sail boat until they have read the manual, taken lessons and visualized exactly what they are supposed to do. And believe it or not, actually they sail pretty well the very first time.

"A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects."

Robert Heinlein
Science Fiction Writer

Doer: The doer is the dominate learning style. For the doer, the most powerful learning moments occur during performance.



Jim & Dee Allen
Georgia District Trainers

These learners will get into the sail boat, turn it over, sink it and destroy it in the process, but they will learn. Therefore, give doers a small task and the outcome you want. Then let them go and get out of their way. Doers are frustrating because they won't give your advice much credence. They have to experience the good and bad outcomes themselves before they believe that it's true. But they



are wonderful to have around because they are the first to volunteer and jump into a new challenge.

The Watcher: The watcher is an imitator. They won't learn by breaking the task down and role playing. They learn by watching a total performance. For them to see the individual parts is like seeing the pixels of a digital photograph. They need to see the whole picture. The best way for this person to learn is a "ride along" with one of your great performers.

At this point in our lives, we have pretty much developed a way of learning. Depending on what I am doing, I learn better by getting involved. What kind of learner are you?

Jim and Dee Allen
Master Trainers
Georgia District Trainers

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COUPLES OF THE YEAR!

International —
Jim & Reba Berry

Region A—
Dewey & Alice Cole

GA-A—Gary & Juanita Rackley
GA-B—Paul Loeser & Geraldine Duenas
GA-B2—Dick & Gail Cross
GA-D—Joel & Jenny Reasons
GA-F2—Randy & Georgia Moore
GA-I2—Paul & Jane Moricz
GA-J—Dave & Judy Hurd
GA-L—Murry & Dawn Cail
GA-O—Barry & Barbara Owens
GA-S—Craig & Pat Whitehouse
GA-T—Tommy & Vicky Martin

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-Q captured the Georgia Traveler's Plaque from GA-A! It will be given away at their Dessert Auction on October 3rd. See their website for more information!

The Georgia Hot Potato—Was last seen with at Georgia L in Rome. Look out for the Hot Potato! You could be the next in line!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapter Q's Dessert Auction
October 3rd, 2015

Mississippi Rally
October 15th-17th, 2015

Region A Rally
October 29th - 31th, 2015

Wind Down
November 14th, 2015

OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 GA-T	2	3 GA-F2
4	5	6 GA-S	7	8 GA-K,M	9	10 GA-B,D
11	12 GA-Q	13	14	15 GA-D2	16	17 GA-A,C2, I2,J
18	19 GA-O	20	21	22 GA-H, L	23	24 GA-B2, E2
25	26	27 GA-R	28	29	30	31

Chapters frequently have had changes in meeting locations and time. The District website (www.gwrra-ga.com) also posts times and locations of Chapter Gatherings. As always, call before you visit to confirm date, time and location.