



# Gold Wing Road Riders Association Georgia District Bulletin



December 2020

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I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

I know that it has been a long and hard year with all this covid virus. All of our chapters have had a hard time trying to keep things going and a lot of them lost their meeting place and a few have closed.

The New Year will bring new challenges for the chapters to maintain and hold their chapter together. It will take a lot of leadership from the chapter Directors to keep the chapter together. It is not like it used to be when the members knew when the meeting and the place was and would be there. It is more important now for you as Directors to give your members a call. Emails are good but they sometimes don't get to the members. A phone call is a lot more personal and will mean a lot more to the members if just to say hello and we missed you. Or to remind them where the next meeting or ride will be. Let them know at least a week ahead so they can make plans to participate. We all have things that we have to plan to do and a lot of times we have to work things in, that is why it is important to plan your rides and meetings in advance. I know that all the Directors will do all they can to keep the chapter alive but it takes every member to participate for us to survive in this day and time.

Thanks to all the Chapter Directors for getting your Charter fees in on time.

Please keep Vance & Fern in your thoughts and prayers as they recover from the accidents.

We wish you and yours a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Frank & Melinda Brothers  
District Directors





Greetings to all, we are the Stogden's, Jim and Sylvia.

At the 2020 Georgia District "Come Ride With Us", we were honored to have been appointed Motorist Awareness Coordinators for the District. However, due to the two of us having to get tested for COVID, our doctor felt it best to stay home and be safe, both for us and for you. It was good to read and to hear about how successful it was. We were sorry to have missed it and have already registered to attend Georgia's 3rd Annual "Come Ride With Us" – have you? It is scheduled for September 16-18, 2021

Just a little bit of information about us, we are members of the Classic City Cruisers, or better known as Chapter T, in Athens. We have been members of GWRRA since 2010 and have enjoyed getting in the wind. Only Gold Wings can understand the joy of meeting members from different states at Rallies, or attending the gatherings. We enjoy seeing and visiting with our friends and meeting new ones.

Our goal is to visit the Chapters in the District and making ourselves available in helping promote Motorist Awareness to their local communities; to represent the District at various Rallies - one of which will be the Florida District Rally. Lord willing, we also plan on doing the Trail of Tears ride from Cherokee, NC with a stop over in Springfield, Missouri for Wing Ding 42, then on to Tahlequah, OK.

As of this writing, Vance and Fern Oakes, need our continued prayers as they recover from surgical procedures and a sore body as a result of a motorcycle accident.

In closing, we wish for you and yours a Blessed Christmas and remember, "The beauty in Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence".

God Bless

Jim & Sylvia Stogden  
District Motorist Awareness Coordinators



Chapter Directors, please consider naming a Chapter Couple of the Year.

The Couple of the Year program is an important program. This is the way for Chapters to honor a couple who have made a difference in their chapter. There is always a couple who are energetic, who try to help wherever it is needed and who are outgoing and friendly. They are the ones who everyone in the chapter seems to be attracted to.

Your Couple of the Year should not be asked if they want to be the COY, because they never think they have done enough to “earn” it. Just surprise them at your Christmas party, chapter gathering, or some other function where everyone can participate in the surprise. Present them with their medallions and maybe a bouquet. If you wish to, the chapter can pay for rockers and name tags for their vests.

A lot of people think that being the Chapter COY is a “job” and that they have to visit other chapters and districts. That is great if they want to, but nothing is required of them.

We hope that every Chapter Director will consider naming a 2021 Couple of the Year.

Vance & Fern Oakes  
ADD & COY Coordinators

## **Congratulations to the new 2020 – 2021 Georgia District Couple of the Year, Woody & Carol Whitlock**





## How to Avoid a Common Crash

We ride and we know riding is dangerous. With some wrecks, there is nothing we can do about it. Sometimes a crash is something that can be avoided.

Here is a common crash and how you can avoid it -

### **LEFT TURN**

Studies of crashes show this is the most common accident. The cage driver doesn't see you coming down the road and makes a left turn right in front of you.

Sure, the cage is at fault, but the rider can take steps to prevent this. The first thing is to **Be Aware**. Watch oncoming traffic. Watch traffic to each side, if there's an intersection. Watch coming up behind you (if you've taken a GWRRA riding course you should remember us telling you over and over to **check your mirrors!**)

Watch for indications, other than a turn signal, that the driver is not paying attention.

- Can the driver see you?
- Are the wheels already turned?
- Is the car moving even slightly?
- What is the driver looking at?

If the driver is already turning, you need to be braking and looking for a way to get around the vehicle without laying it down if at all possible. You need to stay upright to use the brakes. Shed as much speed as possible.

Be Alert, Be Aware, Ride Safe!

Murry & Dawn Cail  
District Rider Educators