



# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION Hart City Wings Communicator



## INDIANA CHAPTER O2



ELKHART, IN.

January 2009

Edition Two Hundred

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### CARDS & FLOWERS

Brenda Heckaman

### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Kathy Case

### PHONE TREE

Cindy, Al & Kyle Beachy

### CHAPTER SCRAPBOOK

Cathy Rummel

### WEBMASTER

Cari Durecki

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Vern Daly

### RONALD McDONALD RIDE

Jim & Carol McPhail

### CHAPTER POET

Deb Whetstone

## FROM YOUR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

*Mike & Margaret Knepple*



We would like to thank all of the Chapter Members who attend the Chapter Holiday Party. We hope all had a great time. The food was wonderful. Kathy's gifts game was excellent. We never knew we had so many talented members that could sing and dance so well. As for Maggie's backup singers, Brenda & Lucy did great. Good job girls. For the Chapter Members who could not make it, we hope everything is OK and that the whole Chapter can make it next year. We want everyone to enjoy the great food, fun and the great company .

Winter Rendezvous is getting closer. The guys talent practice is coming along great. The women's talent practice is excellent. The float will be started the 17<sup>th</sup> of January at Rod & Cheryl Rance's Home at 6:30 along with the men's & women's skit practice.

The planning meeting was cancelled Jan 11<sup>th</sup> due to weather, and was rescheduled for Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at Mike & Maggie's house. We will activate the phone tree again if the weather is bad that day. So start thinking about the things you would like to do this spring, summer & fall. Maggie & I have a few thing in mind.

Our Port-a-Pit Chicken Sale will be March 7<sup>th</sup> on the corner of Cassopolis and Bristol Streets. We will have advance-sale tickets at the February Meeting. So everyone cross your finger for nice weather that day.

Well, not much more. Keep warm, safe and happy. And hope for warmer weather.

Till next month

Mike & Maggie



**MONTHLY MEETINGS** are held the 1st Thursday of each month at Bennigan's in the Ramada Inn, off Cassopolis and the toll road. Dinner @ 6:30, meeting @ 7:15 PM

**DINNER RIDES** are every Thursday night May-Sept. (except meeting night). Meet in the Amberwood Terrace parking lot on CR 17. Leaving promptly at 6:30 PM

## FROM YOUR ASST. CHAPTER DIRECTORS

### Wolfgang and Connie Gless



Hello to All;

Well here we are. The New Year 2009 is here.

The Holiday Party has come and gone and was a great success. I do believe all who attended had a very good time. The meal was as good as always and the new gift giving procedure went very well. Kathy and Frank did a great job.

At the meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>, we discussed some of the next activities coming up, the main one being the chapter planning meeting at 2:30 on the 25<sup>th</sup> at Knepple's. If you are not able to attend, a list of chapter activities will be coming out soon.

Quick start is January 17<sup>th</sup> in Anderson, IN. At this time, I believe Bob and Sue are the only ones going.

Of course, we all know that Winter Rendezvous is coming up in February; the dates are the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> in Indianapolis at the Marriott East Hotel. We have a large contingent going this year and we have 2 talent groups performing. One is made up of all men and the other is made up of all women. It should be a lot of fun for both. We will be starting to work on the float soon.

March 7<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Nelson's Chicken sales again. We have secured the same corner at Bristol St. and State Road 19. Last year we sold 650 halves. This year we are shooting for 500 halves but we are hoping to increase that amount if warranted. The lower amount is due to the down-turn in the economy. We will also have pre-sale tickets. Please try to pick up some of these tickets and sell them. It is sure to help our charities. I know that at this time of the year, it could be cold but we have had a good time warm or cold at the sale.

A note to the performers in the male skit; we will have practice on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> and then again on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>. After the practice on the 18<sup>th</sup>, we need to see if extra practices are needed or if we are all we can be. The women are getting together for their practice at Kathy Case's house on the 12<sup>th</sup> at 06:30 pm. Good luck.

I believe that is it for this month, have fun and ride safe.

Wolfgang & Connie

## FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATOR

### Bob Chute



### Riding Tips – Go High-Viz

#### Why Go High-Viz?

Ask any rider, and they will probably tell you their biggest safety concern is being cut off, run over, or otherwise violated by another driver in traffic. It's a constant, serious threat.

However, as a rider, you can take control of the situation by making yourself as highly visible (conspicuous) as possible. Doing so will reduce the number of surprises you face every day and help you avoid getting blindsided by someone else's last-minute decision.

#### Introduction

Most riders would agree that their goal is to enjoy their bikes and make it home safely. Being high-viz will make that job easier. About half of all motorcycle crashes involve a collision with another vehicle. In many crashes, the other driver never saw the motorcyclist – or didn't see him or her until it was too late. There are many reasons why other drivers do not see motorcyclists.

- Most car drivers aren't familiar with motorcycles, so they don't think to look for them in traffic.
- Motorcycle riders typically wear dark colors and can easily blend into the background and "disappear".
- Motorcycles are smaller than other vehicles, so they are more difficult to spot in traffic and can be hidden by other vehicles or roadside features.
- Daytime headlight use does not give motorcycle riders much of an advantage anymore, due to the widespread use of daytime running lights on cars.
- The smaller size and single headlight on the motorcycle makes it more difficult for other drivers to judge a rider's speed and distance.

As a rider, the burden is unfortunately on you to do something about being visible. We expect other drivers to watch out for motorcycles in traffic, but because motorcycle riders are so vulnerable, they have the responsibility to make themselves as visible as possible. In a multi-vehicle crash, it's the rider's life and limb at stake, so it's the rider who must make the extra effort to stand out in traffic.

Fortunately, making yourself high-viz is relatively easy. There are lots of ways to get noticed in traffic. Most riders understand the concept of "conspicuity" even if they've never heard the word before. Conspicuity is a fancy term for "visibility". It is the ability of an object to draw attention to itself, even if nobody's actively searching for it. Rider conspicuity, therefore, is the ability of a motorcyclist to draw attention to him or herself, even though other drivers may not be actively looking for them.

Next Month: 20 ways to make yourself more conspicuous.

Information is from the Minnesota Motorcycle Safety Center  
[www.motorcyclesafety.state.mn.us/latest/MMSHome.asp?cid=1](http://www.motorcyclesafety.state.mn.us/latest/MMSHome.asp?cid=1)

Bob

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## RECRUITER & RETENTION

**Ron Gabbard**

Please send your renewals to Ron and he will forward them to GWRRA. We want to keep everyone current and enjoying the many benefits of membership in this great association. Due in March of 2009 is Tom and Caroline Albin

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Got an item that you would like to sell? Advertise it here in the "For Sale" listing of the newsletter. This publication is seen state wide and could help to locate someone that is looking for your item.

*Your Chapter Store Representative:*

**Cindy Norman**

*Chapter items for sale:*



**Hats** . . . . . \$13.00  
**Chapter Flags** . . . . . \$12.00  
**Gold Wing Clocks** . . . . \$15.00  
Various pins, patches etc. also available. See Cindy for details.

**FOR SALE:** An Eclipse heated vest. Size Large. Perfect for extending that riding season or just adding some extra comfort when riding early or late in the day. Asking \$75.00 OBO. Call 574 273-3001

**FOR SALE:** 1990 GL 1500. Light blue with matching trailer. Excellent condition, regularly serviced. Pin Striping by Charlie Bussard on both bike and trailer. Loaded with accessories. Also, two Gerbing electric heated coats with controllers, 1 Large, 1 XL. Call: 574-259-2393 or 574-276-6340 for more information.



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## Holiday Party



Submitted by Vern Daly

It's hard to believe that another year and another Chapter Holiday Party has come and gone. Almost everyone from the chapter was in attendance at this year's party.

Things got under way at 6:30 with a social hour where everyone mingled and swapped stories while munching on veggies and cheese and crackers. After everyone found their seats, the main meal began at around 7:30. It consisted of fried chicken, prime rib and assorted side dishes along with yummy deserts, all supplied by the Dal-Mar staff. If you didn't get enough to eat, it was your own fault. Everything was just delicious.

When everyone had finished eating, Mike and Maggie recognized their staff by calling everyone, individually, up to the front and presenting them with a special gift for being on the staff. It's amazing how many people are involved in making the chapter work. Also recognized were the past COY from 2008, the Beachys, and the current COY for 2009, Sue and Bob. Each was presented jackets embroidered with Chapter and COY lettering. Congratulations to both couples.

Last was the gift exchange. This year was a little different in the way the exchange was run. Kathy Case came up with a clever method of distributing the many gifts, accompanied by a poem instructing each participant what to do. Take a gift, sing, exchange with someone. Lastly, Mike and Maggie passed out Chapter gifts to everyone in attendance, after which the party broke up and everyone headed home. Thankfully, the weather cooperated and we did not have bad driving that night.

I wish to thank everyone involved in pulling this party together. Everything went off smoothly and everyone had a good time.



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A picture may be worth 1000 words. But it takes up 100 times as much disk space.

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## Meeting Notes:



After everyone finished eating, Mike opened the meeting to about 27 attending members.

First up was thanks to Kathy Case for her fine job on this year's Holiday Party. (See the article on page 3 for more information).

The date and time for the annual planning meeting was announced. It is to be Sunday January 25 at 2:30 at Knepple's house.

Bob Chute, talked about a concept called S.E.E. This stands for a riding paradigm Search—Evaluate—Execute. It's purpose is to help riders be aware of surroundings and act on them. Also, Bob is going to check in to setting up a First Aid/CPR class for the chapter, probably some time in March.

The Chicken Sale event was discussed. It will be on March 7. We will again be doing advanced sales. Information as to number sold and money collected should be in no later than the monthly meeting on March 5.

Winter Rendezvous was discussed with the upcoming practices for both skits as well as getting the float started. Those attending the practices will be setting up the work details for the float.

Brenda read the list of birthdays and anniversaries. There were quite a few in January. Refer to the January Calendar for that list.

Cheryl Rance presented Udderly Fantastic to Kathy Case for her work on the Holiday Party.

Dumbo will be staying with Brenda for the time being.

With that the meeting was adjourned.

Please get pictures to Cathy Rummel for the Scrapbook. You can also e-mail digital pictures to Vern Daly for possible inclusion in the newsletter, space permitting.

If anyone has **crushed cans** to turn in please get them to Frank Case or Jim McPhail to help with the Chapter funds.

## Thursday Night Dinners

Meet at the restaurant at 6:30

Jan 15 . . Jade Garden (Nappanee St. Elkhart)  
Jan 22 . . River Inn (Bristol)  
Jan 29 . . Wings Etc. (CR6, Elkhart)  
Feb 12 . . Hacienda (Elkhart)  
Feb 19 . . Between-The-Buns (Granger)  
Feb 26 . . Legends (Edwardsburg)

## What's Coming Up

Jan 17 . . . . Quick Start (Anderson)  
Jan 25 . . . . Planning Meeting (Knepples - 2:30)  
Feb 6-7 . . . Wingless Weekend (Bay City, MI)  
Feb 20-22 . Winter Rendezvous (Marriott-Indianapolis)

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Anniversaries:

Feb 20 . . . Tom & Connie Whalen

### Birthdays:

Feb 02 . . Cheryl Rance Feb 06 . . Cindy Beachy  
Feb 08 . . Paul Pearson Feb 25 . . Alysha Rance  
Feb 28 . . Darlene Elliott

## O2 Resolutions

By Deb Whetstone

A New Year's Resolution is a decision that someone has made  
They make it because they want to, Not because they are being paid  
I went online to get the top ten 2009 resolution list  
Now I bet you have thought of at least one of these and on some you might insist  
Starting from the bottom we will work our way up to number one  
And hopefully somewhere along the way you will relate before I am done  
I've changed them just a little to make them fit our group  
So here we go, get ready...it's the New Year's Resolution scoop  
Number 10, get organized in the barn, the garage or the house  
To a Goldwinger that means "tidy up" so that we can leave the house  
Number 9 was to help others by being all that you can be  
With most Goldwingers it is just understood that you help everyone that you see  
Resolution number 8 is to learn something new, something you didn't know before  
When a group of Goldwingers get together they gather new information galore  
Number 7 is to get out of debt and that surely would be fine  
But to a winger that means no new safety chrome in the year 2009  
Number 6 is to quit drinking. Yes in society it's a problem at best  
But we all know that O2 wingers only drink when their bikes are at rest  
Resolution number 5 is enjoy life more and have a little less stress  
A winger with the wind at their back and a safe open road  
Really couldn't care less  
Number 4 is quit smoking, a habit that is a choice  
Wingers think that the decision is yours and each of us has an opinion to voice  
Number 3 is tame the bulge. Yes, loose weight and keep it gone  
A real winger thinks that a ride without ice cream really is all wrong  
Number 2 is exercise. Yes, go out and get really fit  
To a winger that means you take a long walk before you get on that bike and sit  
Then comes the number one resolution  
To spend more time with family and friends  
Yes Chapter O2 respects your family time and the fun with O2 never ends  
The rides, the dinners, the gatherings and such  
Phone calls and cards help us all stay in touch  
Yes you knew when you joined O2 from the start  
That it was a wonderful group with their favorite - - - - -!!!  
So pick your favorite resolution, or pick absolutely none  
For the goal of O2, in the year 2009 is to enjoy life and have lots of fun!!!



Save those pop tabs for next year's Ronald McDonald Ride. Let's make the 2009 Ronald McDonald Ride the best one yet!

# Pictures from the Holiday Party



You can see all the pictures at <http://cid-50637d35d3743aa2.skydrive.live.com/browse.aspx/Holiday%20Party%202009>  
I'll leave them posted there for about a month or two.

# Gold Wing

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# HART CITY WINGS CHAPTER 02 ELKHART, IN



# SMART

## **HONDA** **SMART**

### Safe Motorcyclist Awareness & Recognition Trainer

The Honda SMART Trainer or Safe Motorcyclist Awareness and Recognition Trainer is a computerized traffic simulator that allows beginning riders the opportunity to operate a motorcycle in real life situations without the real world consequences.

The Honda SMART Trainer uses state of the art software and actual Honda motorcycle controls to give the rider an opportunity to learn basic motorcycle control operations such as clutch, brake, throttle, and gearshift coordination in a computer simulation environment. It also offers intermediate or experienced riders the opportunity to operate in more risky traffic situations giving them a chance to evaluate and address the various safety scenarios in a controlled environment.



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**For more REAL WORLD Training Contact:**

#### **FORT WAYNE AREA**

Jeff Bartlett  
Phone: 260.486-7688  
eMail: jnkbartlett@comcast.net



#### **ANGOLA AREA**

Matt McCallister  
Phone: 260.925-6054



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