

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION Hart City Wings Communicator



## INDIANA CHAPTER O2



ELKHART, IN.

April 2009

Edition Two Hundred Three

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Ron & Dianna Miller  
517-851-7276

### DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Stan & Becky Egli  
812-468-8395

### ASST. DIST. DIRECTOR

Terry & Cherie Malcolm  
260-357-5004

### CHAPTER DIRECTOR

Mike & Maggie Knepple  
269-476-9777

### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Wolfie & Connie Gless

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Bob Chute & Sue Myer

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### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

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### PHONE TREE

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### 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*

Happy April Everyone



The calendar might say we have we have already had the first day of Spring, but it seems like Mother Nature says no.

Maggie & I can't say thank you enough for helping with the Chicken Sales. We sold our 572 halves by 1pm. That last hour the weather took a turn on us. But everyone braved it and stood out there waving in the cars. Poor Al Beachy's rain poncho got all twisted and turned inside out from the wind. But he stood his ground. Great job Al.

We have had a few members that have had surgeries and I'm happy to report that everyone is recovering well. Bruce McLeish & Bob Chute are back to work. Rod Rance's shoulder is better and Wolfgang is doing good.

We heard from Glen & Cathy Rummel at the meeting. Glen has been diagnosed with ALS. Cathy updated us on some of the issues Glen is facing. They are keeping a positive outlook, and plan to do as much as they can. And when the time comes they will let us know what we can do to help them.

Our weekly dinner rides are starting May 14<sup>th</sup>. We are having a new meeting place due to the work being done on Six-Span Bridge. We will be meeting at Discovery Middle School on Ash Rd and CR10. If you missed the meeting and would like to do a Dinner ride, please give Jim Whetstone a call.

Our Chapter Drill Team has been invited to Spring Wing Warmup to perform. This is a wonderful honor for our Chapter. So if you are able to attend and cheer on our guys, we'll see you in Greensburg on May 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

Maggie & I would like to wish our Chapter O2 Family. A very safe and Happy Easter.

Check out up coming events. You don't want to miss out on any of the fun.

Until next Month be safe

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 Discovery Middle School parking lot on Ash Road. Leaving promptly at 6:30 PM

## FROM YOUR ASST. CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Wolfgang and Connie Gless



Hello to All;

Would you believe it April is already here and we are starting to see some warm days (just not enough of them)? Hopefully we will be able to ride soon.

My understanding is that the C.P.R. class went very well and all received their certification. Great job!

The District Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> was not attended by any O2 members as other things came up on that date. So the next activity to look forward to will be Spring Wing Warm-up on May 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> in Greensburg IN, at the Decatur County Fairgrounds. From what we have heard so far, it should be a very fun time. If it is anything like Winter Rendezvous, it will be a very good time. On a personal note, I hope the date for SWWU is moved up a little earlier in May next year so Connie and I can attend. The Drill Team will be performing at SWWU with a slight new look and a substitute Drill Master (Rod Clark), good luck guys. On that note, I would like to mention that it looks like we are being challenged by Ohio's Drill Team, and if Michigan puts a team together, there may be a competition at the Regional Rally in Ohio. This is getting bigger than I thought. There will be Drill Team practice to get ready for SWWU. All will be notified as to when via phone tree.

There will be a Blessing of the Bikes in Nappanee, IN on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April. Those that want to attend will need to be at Denny & Brenda Heckaman's house by 10:15. Maybe after the Blessing we could go on a ride if the weather permits.

We have a Parking Lot Practice planned for May 9<sup>th</sup>. It will again be at the Calvary Assembly of God Church. The address is 1010 East Mishawaka Rd., Elkhart and will start at 11:00. Please try to attend. It will help clear the cobwebs out after a long winter.

At the meeting, Jim Whetstone passed the Dinner Ride Leader sign up list around. If you were not able to attend the meeting, please contact Jim to see what dates are available and sign up for one. Along with that, it should be noted that we are now meeting for the dinner rides at the Discovery School on Ash road. Hopefully this will be more centrally located.

That is all for this month, see you on the road.

Wolfgang & Connie

## FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATORS

Bob Chute & Sue Myer



This month we continue our discussion of SEE by looking at Evaluate

To "Evaluate" is to process the information that you gathered using your search patterns. To evaluate means simply to anticipate potential problems and to make plans in your mind to deal with those problems should

they actually occur. Evaluating effectively is a logic puzzle of sorts, a game of figuring out how factors accumulate and interact to create hazards or conflicts.

The fundamental rule of successful evaluation is this: "To get the best results, predict the worse possible outcome." Though this might sound counter-intuitive, predicting a worst-case scenario will help you to best anticipate all possible outcomes. Predict a green traffic light will soon change to red, predict the curve is sharper than it looks; predict that another vehicle will cross into your path. The minimum safe following distance in dry weather is two seconds. And closer would be considered tailgating, since you wouldn't have time to brake or swerve in an emergency.

Evaluate the mix of possible factors that could cause you trouble. Do this by considering potential hazards from these three primary categories:

### Traffic Control Devices and Markings

Know what your responsibilities are regarding traffic flow as well as what others are supposed to do. Don't count on others being aware of traffic control devices. Get the big picture as you evaluate the situation ahead as well as the space around you.

### Road Characteristics and Surface Conditions

Consider the type of roadway as well as surface conditions. Evaluate areas that have fixed objects near the road because they aren't very forgiving if you hit them.

### Other Roadway Users

Most other vehicles outweigh you and are moving quickly, so think about how they might affect your speed, lane position, or path of travel. Don't think of evaluating outcomes as guessing--think of it as "reading" the situation. Take clues from your surroundings and assemble them into a reasonable scenario as you might assemble random words to create a grammatically correct sentence. As you can see, your level of riding knowledge and experience is important for this "what if" portion of the SEE process. This process is called risk management. Managing risk while riding means successfully managing time and space to create a safety cushion for you and your motorcycle. Categories to consider include: 1) your capabilities and limitations with regard to your skills in operating your motorcycle; 2) the capabilities and limitations of your motorcycle; and 3) roadway/traffic conditions.

Next month we'll look at the second "E" - EXECUTE





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.

## \* IMPORTANT NOTICE \*

The meeting place for the Thursday evening dinner rides, which will be starting in May, has been changed due to work on Six-Span Bridge. The meeting place is now Discovery Middle School parking lot which is located on the west side of Ash Road (County Line Road) just north of the Toll Road. Departure time remains the same, 6:30.

## RECRUITER & RETENTION

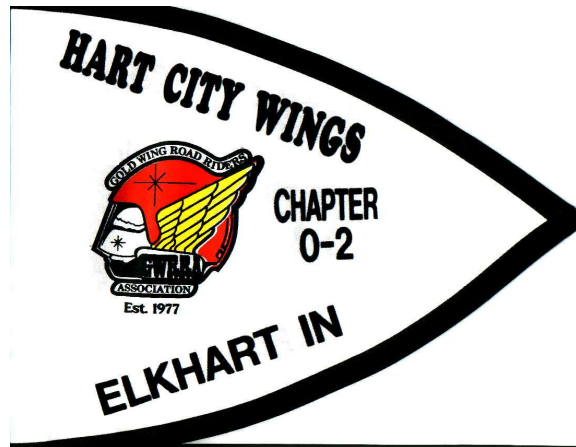
**Joann Gabbard**

Please send your renewals to Joann and she will forward them to GWRRA. We want to keep everyone current and enjoying the many benefits of membership in this great association. Due in May 2009 are Frank & Kathy Case, Max & Darlene Elliot and Glen & Cathy Rummel.

## SPRING By Deb Whetstone

Warm weather and sunshine make you want to sing  
But more than that they make you want to get on your Wing  
The snow is gone and the salt is too  
It's an open invitation for me and for you  
Winter makes you feel like you bear a heavy load  
But springtime gives you hope when you see that open road  
Spring Wing is around the corner and it is important to this group  
Once again our "drill team" will appear as a special F-Troup  
Don't forget to T-Clock your bike before you go  
Safety should come first for us...as we all should know  
Planning adventures begins to take place  
And we look down the road at that wide open space  
We remember the things we were taught by heart  
And we use the knowledge we've gained from our favorite \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, spring has sprung and it's not a time to stay inside  
Let's get ourselves in gear and go out and ride ride RIDE!!!



"Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It's not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything."

[Muhammad Ali](#)

## Meeting Notes:



Mike opened the meeting to 30 chapter members and two guests, Terry and Cherie Malcolm. He started by thanking everyone who worked at the Chicken Sale on March 7. We sold all the chicken we had ordered, 572 halves. For the most part the weather cooperated fairly well, although it did rain some right near the end of the sale.

Bob Chute, Chapter Educator spoke about group rides, reminding everyone of some important things to keep in mind when participating in one of these rides:

Arrive prepared for the event. This includes things like having your bike fully gassed up so you don't require the group to stop. Having the proper riding attire considering the weather and length of the ride. And the rule that everyone should "ride their own ride". That is, don't ride in a way that you would not normally ride just because you're in a group.

He also went over some items that the ride organizer/leader should consider in preparation for the ride:

The leader should have pre-ridden the route to make sure there are no surprises along the route. Road construction or a closed road can wreak havoc with a ride. Inform everyone in the group of the destination in case the group gets separated. Supply a map of the route, or at least a turn-by-turn description. Put the slower riders near the front. Ride in a staggered formation, not side-by-side. Single file is OK in a turn or corner. In case of a breakdown all following riders should stop to assess the cause and provide assistance. Group rides can be fun but require some preparation.

Wolfie spoke about some upcoming events:

Alysha's baby shower is on April 4th at 2PM. It will be at Alysha's house. For directions contact Rod.

April 19th will be the blessing of the bikes in Nappanee at 11:00. A group will be meeting at Heckaman's at 10:15 and proceeding from there.

And the annual parking lot practice will again be at the Calvary Assembly of God on East Mishawaka road at 11:00 on May 9th. This is the same place it has been held before. The rain date will be May 16.

Maggie did the Birthdays and Anniversaries in Brenda's absence.

Udderly fantastic will be staying with Rod and Cheryl for another month

Dumbo went to Wolfie

Remember the Bonneyville Mill ride with B2 on May 16. Details are not yet available. Hopefully we will have details before the May meeting so everyone will know the schedule.

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

- Apr 16 . . Hunter's (Elkhart)
- Apr 23 . . Hacienda (Goshen) \*See note below
- Apr 30 . . Texas Roadhouse (Elkhart)

## Thursday Dinner Rides

Leave from Discovery Middle School at 6:30

- May 14 . . Jim Whetstone            Please see the notice
- May 21 . . Wolfgang Gless        about the dinner rides
- May 28 . . Mike Knepple            on page 3.

## What's Coming Up

- Apr 19 . . Blessing of the Bikes (Nappanee 11:00)

Note: Meet at Heckaman's at 10:15

- May 02 . . CMA Run For The Son
- May 09 . . Parking Lot Practice (rain date May 16)
- May 16 . . Bonneyville Mill / Essenhaus with B2
- May 28 - 30 . . Spring Wing (Greensburg, IN)

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Anniversaries:

- May 1 . Denny & Brenda Heckaman, Greg & Brenda Swanson
- May 20 . . Larry & Donna Johnson
- May 26 . . Jim & Deb Whetstone

### Birthdays:

- May 5 . . Mark Skinner      May 26 . . Deb Whetstone
- May 29 . Candice Rance

## Note on Hacienda Dinner

This dinner is a fund raiser for the Bonneyville Millers Vintage Baseball Club in which Frank Case participates. The club will receive some of the proceeds from this dinner. Frank has tokens which you must have in order for his club to benefit from the event. Either get one from Frank before the event or upon arrival at the restaurant. Note that this is the Hacienda in Goshen at the Linway Plaza.



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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.



**CALL GERRY  
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**Stop in TODAY and practice your riding skills!**

**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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