



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION Hart City Wings Communicator



INDIANA CHAPTER O2



Edition Two Hundred Eleven

ELKHART, IN.

January 2010

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COUPLE OF THE YEAR

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PHONE TREE

Brenda Heckaman

CHAPTER SCRAPBOOK

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Cari Durecki

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Vern Daly

RONALD McDONALD RIDE

Jim & Carol McPhail

CHAPTER POET

Deb Whetstone

FROM YOUR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Wolfgang & Connie Gless



Hello to All;

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Can you believe it we are on the last year of the first decade of the 21st century, where has the time gone? I sure hope all had a safe and happy holiday season. I know Connie and I did.

First off, Connie and I, on behalf of the entire chapter would like to express a hearty thank you to Mike and Maggie, our outgoing Chapter Directors, for a job well done. We are sure the time went faster than they thought it would, but we believe they are ready to pass the reins to us, if not let us know. Again, thank you Mike & Maggie, welcome to the position of Past Directors and chapter members.

In the past month, we had the surprise farewell party for the Rances. It was well attended by the members although one key member was not there. Connie made up a Scrap-Book with memorabilia of their time with the chapter and we presented them with gift certificates to Penney's, Barns & Nobles, and Applebee's from the chapter members. We all wish them well in New Mexico and look forward to seeing them in the spring.

We had the Chapter Planning meeting on the 3rd and the year ahead looks active. Some good ideas were presented and considered. We also have other District, Regional and National activities to do if members want to. The first one of course will be Winter Rendezvous in Indianapolis; it should be a good time. The girl's skit is coming along well and the float is all but ready to go.

On a sad note, Mark and Carol have had a little tough time in the past weeks. First Mark's dad was put into the hospital but is out now and doing better. Carol's mom has been diagnosed with cancer and Carol flew down to Texas to be with her for her treatment. Our prayers are with all of them.

The Chapter had our first meeting at the new location and Connie & I feel it will serve us well. There was plenty of room and a larger room should be available if needed. At the meeting, we learned that 2 more members have joined the ranks of grandparents, Al & Cindy Beachy are the proud grandparents of a baby girl and of course, Kyle and his wife are the proud parents, congratulations!

A last note: Connie & I are looking forward to a smooth 2 years with all members having a good time and all enjoying each other's company. If anyone has something they would like the chapter to do, or get involved in, please let us know. Also, if you have a good idea for a money maker, let's look at it to see if we can make it work. One more thing, if you know of a Gold Winger or even someone who rides another brand of bike, invite them to a meeting or ride. They are welcome to join us.

Until next month, see you on the road or at the next meeting.

Wolfgang & Connie, CD

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the 1st Thursday of each month at the Elk's Lodge on Bristol St. just west of Cassopolis St. 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

Jim & Deb Whetstone



As your new ACD'S, Deb and I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and bring you upcoming events thru our newsletter articles and of course help in any way we can.

First off I just want to say thanks to everyone for putting up with me the last several years as your ride coordinator, (phew – I thought I would never leave that post) ok I know what you're thinking...

I would like to take the time to welcome and congratulate Bruce McLeish as your new Chapter O2 ride coordinator. Thanks Bruce for stepping up to help us out. I would also like to thank **every one** of our new & returning staff members for doing their part to help ensure that our chapter continues to thrive!

By the time you read this newsletter, we will have already enjoyed the Chapter Holiday party. I'm sure everyone that attended had a great time.

Once again the old year has ended and a new one is about to begin. It is the worst of times because we cannot get on the bikes and ride right now. However, it is the best of times because there are sooo many upcoming events for Chapter O2, starting with winter Rendezvous which runs from January 22-24. This is always a great time for the chapter and helps to keep the winter blues away.

There will be a sign up sheet passed around at our February chapter meeting for the Valentine's Day carry-in dinner and game night at the Whetstones on February 13th at 5:15. Also remember to sell, sell, sell your chicken tickets, as the fundraiser will be here before you know it (March 6th). We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at each of these events. If you can't be there in person, we know that you will be there in spirit in the midst of the fun. So we'll see you next month with a new list of fun and exciting things to do.

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN

Your ACD's Jim & Deb



FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATORS

Bob Chute & Sue Myer



Continuing our discussion on the various types strategies for staying safe while riding your motorcycle.

THE HIDDEN LEFT TURNER

You're riding in heavy traffic, behind an eighteen wheel semi. The semi travels through the intersection and you proceed to follow behind. A car in

the opposite direction is attempting a quick turn to go behind the semi. With virtually no time to react, you hit the car just ahead of its front wheel and go sailing over the hood, giving your helmet its first road test.

Strategy: This is a variation of the "Basic Left-Turner". It is never a good idea to follow too closely behind a larger vehicle. You should have slowed and increased your following distance, where you could better see and be seen.

CARS WAITING TO PULL OUT.

Riding along a wide arterial street, like University Park Mall, with an uninterrupted view of traffic ahead of you, you observe a minivan waiting to pull out of the shopping center. You make eye contact with the driver to visually confirm the vehicle is not moving. Just as you are about to pass the shopping center exit, the driver accelerates into your path.

Strategy: This is a classic example of a potential danger zone between intersections. Drivers waiting to pull out may not even see you or they fail to accurately judge your speed. Have an open area scoped out in case you need to take evasive action when approaching a vehicle that could pull out into your path. Approach every intersection with your senses alert. Search for other vehicles and try to anticipate what each will do. Check the vehicles front tire for an indication that the car is starting to move. Wear a bright colored helmet or jacket and use your high beams are especially useful. If it's clear the other driver doesn't see you, honk your horn.

THE ONE-WAY STREET

You're riding in the left lane of a one-way street, with a car ahead of you on your right. As the two of enter the intersection, the car swerves left across your path to make a turn.

Strategy: The driver may have forgotten that he was traveling on a one way and never looked in his blind spot. There is no way to predict this driver was going to turn left. Remember that intersections are always situations of increased risk. You might have prepared for this by taking action to separate yourself from the other vehicle. By riding so close and inside the driver's blind spot you effectively hid yourself from the driver's vision and greatly increased your exposure to danger.

Successfully negotiating any of the above situations is largely a matter of observing SEE protocol to decide how best to deal with the approaching hazard, then acting with skill and control to make the proper maneuver. There are no universal solutions. Every situation you encounter while riding will be different and require its own unique response. What is important is learning to apply this protocol in order to execute sound decisions.

Bob & Sue



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.

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 February 2010 is Imants Kalass, Mike & Maggie Knepple, Jim & Deb Whetstone.

"Unexpected acts of kindness...are common among our group. That's one of the ways we define ourselves."
Janeway to Seven of Nine VGR/"Day of Honor"

Holiday Party

As always a good time was had by all. Lots of good food, fun and friendship. I want to thank Judy Clark for the festive candy cane favors she made for the party and Brenda Heckaman for making the lovely centerpieces.

Wolfie did a fantastic job being in charge as our new Chapter O2 Director and I can only say "WOW" when I think of all the work Deb put in on her chapter holiday poem.

Just one note about the gift exchange. Everyone played fair and tried to follow the rules. That's hard for our chapter! We are wondering about the Malcolm's and concerned that they had problems with differentiating between "Guy" and "Gal" gifts.

Submitted by Kathy Case

A Note From Your Newsletter Editor

I have enjoyed being the newsletter editor for the last two years and am looking forward to continuing in this position for the next two years under the new administration. I want to thank everyone who helped out with various articles and event announcements. Your submitting actual copy which could be placed directly into the newsletter helped tremendously as I only had to make slight adjustments in order to make them fit in the available space. Thanks again and keep up the good work.

I would also like to, again, put out a request for interesting and appropriate articles from any chapter member who would like to submit something for consideration for publication. Some times I am hard pressed to fit everything in the newsletter, and some times I have extra space that I'd like to try to fill. This issue is an example of the latter. Obviously, as the editor, I have to reserve the right to make the final decision as to suitability for publication. And space availability will always play a role. But if you'd like to submit something for consideration you know my e-mail address.

Thanks again for everyone's help and I look forward to serving you again for the next two years.

Vern

Meeting Notes: By Vern Daly



Wolfie opened the meeting to about 19 members and two guests. This was a new start for Chapter O2 in a couple of ways. It was our first meeting with our new staff and our first meeting at our new location, the Elks Lodge in Elkhart. Thank you again to Judy Clark for securing this location. It looks like, from the first meeting, that this is going to work out well. I heard nothing but good comments about the food. And it looks like the meeting room will fill our needs very well.

Wolfie handed out then new phone tree list as well as the 2010 schedule of events. Looks like we have a lot of fun things planned for the coming year. It's not too late to get in an idea or two. So if you have any ideas you'd like considered, contact Wolfie or any of the staff.

As you are all aware, we are collecting needed items for RMD house each month. This month was paper goods. NEXT month is canned goods. Please bring your donation to the meeting in February.

Wolfie is trying to pull together some chapter visits between now and the Pound Auction. If you're interested in going with the chapter to one or more of these visits contact Wolfie. Below is a list of possible visits.

U2 Michigan City 1st Wednesday
V Gary 3rd Sunday
F Warsaw 3rd Tuesday
H Goshen 2nd Wednesday
N Mishawaka Blue Lantern
S2 South Bend Ryans 3rd Sunday

Judy Clark has pre-sale tickets for the Chicken Sale on March 6. Members that were present at the Jan meeting got them but if you weren't there and need some please contact her.

Dumbo will be staying with Wolfie for another month.

Udderly Fantastic went to Glen & Cathy Rummel for hanging in there and continuing to participate in spite of Glen's problems. We all hope you can both continue to be with your O2 friends for a long time to come.

The new Chapter IN-O2 Couple-Of-The-Year for 2010 was selected at this month's meeting. It will be Glen and Cathy Rummel. Congratulations to both of you.

Once again, Cathy Rummel has pleaded with everyone to please get pictures to her for the scrapbook. Either print out good ones you have taken at chapter events, e-mail them to her or burn them to a CD and give them to her at a chapter meeting. If she doesn't get pictures to put in the book she can't produce a good one.

Also, I, your newsletter editor, am again asking you to send (E-mail) event pictures to me so I can collect them all up on one place. If you wish you can do this and I will forward them to Cathy for the scrapbook as I normally do this anyway with the pictures I take at the events. It takes very little effort to pick out a few of your better pictures and e-mail them to Cathy and me as attachments. We really all need to do a better job of this so we can document the chapter activities.

Remember to bring your CRUSHED cans to Frank or Jim.

Thursday Dinners

The Thursday Dinner Rides have now changed over to dinners at 6:30. The restaurants for January & February will be as follows:

Jan 14 . . Jade Garden (Nappanee St. by the river)
Jan 28 . . JoJo's Pizza (Cassopolis St., Elkhart)
Feb 18 . . Mad Anthony's (Main St. Downtown Elkhart)

Note that we have reduced the number of Thursday dinners to every other week, or thereabouts Watch your newsletter and calendar to see what weeks we will be meeting for dinner.

What's Coming Up

Jan 22 - 24 . . Winter Rendezvous
Jan 31 . . D2 Chili Dinner (Ft. Wayne)
Feb 04 . . Monthly Meeting (Elks Lodge, Elkhart)
RMD Donation Item - - Canned Goods
Feb 06 . . Quick Start Training (Anderson, IN)
Feb 12 . . Michigan Wingless Weekend
Feb 12 . . Buckeye Cabin Fever
Feb 13 . . Valentine's Day Carry-In Dinner and Game Night
5:15 PM, Whetstone's - - Bring Games
Feb 27 . . Horizons Training (Anderson, IN)

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



Save those pop tabs for next year's Ronald McDonald Ride. Let's make the September 11, 2010 Ronald McDonald Ride the best one yet!
February Item - Canned Goods

A Few Pictures From The Chapter Birthday Party



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For more REAL WORLD Training Contact:

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Jeff Bartlett
Phone: 260.486-7688
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