

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION Hart City Wings Communicator



## INDIANA CHAPTER O2



ELKHART, IN.

May 2010

Edition Two Hundred Fifteen

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### CARDS & FLOWERS

Brenda Heckaman

### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Judy & Rod Clark

### PHONE TREE

Brenda Heckaman

### 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

### *Wolfgang & Connie Gless*



Hello to All;

Well, well, well, can you believe it's already May? Where has the time gone? Good news though is that the riding season is here. May also brings back the Thursday Night Dinner Rides and Connie & I are looking forward to the first ride on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The starting point remains the same as last year and that is, we meet at Discovery School on Ash Rd. and leave at 6:30

pm sharp.

We had our bowling outing on the 24<sup>th</sup> at the Country Club Lanes in Elkhart. We had 6 people bowling, Wolf, Connie, Deb, Vern, Kathy, and Ron. Jim, Frank & Judy also attended as support. (Where were the rest?) Later the McPhails, Dureckis and Rod Clark joined us for dinner at JoJo's. Ron Gabbard was high score. I think he is a bowling shark. All that attended had a good time. Also, some members stopped at Zollman Tire on US-33 to pick up Nelson's Port-a-Pit Chicken prior to going to Bowling. The sales were sponsored by Chapter H and the chicken was as good as always. For those of you that have not read or heard, GWRRA has new Executive Directors. They are Mike & Lori Stiger. Melissa Easton has been promoted to Chief Operations Officer. Mike has held many positions in GWRRA, the latest being the Director of Rider Education and has been a member of GWRRA since 1977. Good luck to Mike and Lori.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, we again tried the Bake Sale at North End Cycle. The weather was threatening all morning and it was a little cool but the sales were a success. We took in \$223.00 on the sales and \$23.37 on the Quarter Drop. Just before the rain started, we were able to move the sales inside. "Thank You" North End Cycle for your help. Connie and I would also like to thank all the members that brought and or supplied baked goods for the sales. Without our member's support, it would not have been so successful.

We also would like to thank Judy Clark for all her hard work on making all the arrangements for the bowling and the bake sale. Great Job, Judy.

As we all can see Rich is doing very well, he is out and about and driving. Good for you Rich.

I believe that is all for now. See Ya and ride safe.

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



### Greetings Fellow riders!

Well riding season is definitely here and as you all well know, we start our dinner rides this month and guess who is going

to get you lost the first ride! Yes sirree the one and only me! Deb says thank Goodness there is only one of me...

As we know all too well May also brings plenty of pollen into the air. So please be aware that riding outside in the nice country air may trigger some unpleasant symptoms for you and your co-rider. I know that at least once a season it has done a number on me so it is always good practice to carry some antihistamines with you just to be on the safe side.

**May activities** include: **May 8<sup>th</sup>** is or was the parking lot practice by the time this is read we should have already participated in it. Rain date is May the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Editor's Note: The May 8 date was officially canceled at the May meeting and changed to the May 22 date.

**May 13, 14 and 15<sup>th</sup>** will be our **Chapter garage sale** which will be held at Cari Durecki's Mothers house located at: **29295 County Road 12, Elkhart, in 46514 - Joyce and Cortlin Casselman** Please remember to pre price your items using stick pins for clothing articles so the price stays put! **Remember**, this is a **fund raiser** for our **Chapter!** We do need volunteers to work the tables and clean up afterwards. Also, if you plan on helping out at the sale, please bring some snacks and drinks for yourself.

Also, the same weekend **14<sup>th</sup> thru the 16<sup>th</sup>** is the **Blessing of the bikes in Baldwin Michigan.**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Cari's plant sale:** Remember to keep this date open for **Cari's Fund raiser for Rich** - located at Cari & Richard's house: 30392 Lantern Ln. Elkhart IN. Lots of nice plants to choose from- come early!

Also in **May** - don't forget **Spring Wing Warm Up** is scheduled for **May the 27<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>** in **Greensburg, IN.**

**That's about it for now!**

**Happy trails to you until we meet again,**

**Your ACD's Jim & Deb**

## FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATORS

Bob Chute & Sue Myer



### Team Riding Responsibilities

At GWRRA we are always doing things in groups. We meet our fellow chapter members and ride together for a weekly dinner run. Or we join each other for a weekend breakfast before going on a run. Or we make an ice

cream run together on a weekly basis. Most chapters have this kind of camaraderie and fellowship in one form or another. Then there are the monthly gatherings where we meet and eat and have fun. And the rides to visit other chapters and support them at their Fun Run or Anniversary Party, and various other events that chapters put on. Much of the time we ride together in groups traveling to and from our various destinations.

Whenever we ride in groups, someone is in the Lead Position. Hopefully, it is one of our GWRRA-trained Road Captains. In our chapter, it is someone whom we trust, respect and have confidence in. Someone with good judgment who is prepared to lead the group from the starting point all the way to our destination. Someone who has a planned route and shares it with all who join the ride. S/He holds a pre-ride meeting with all participants to tell us the route, advise us of any stops along the way, and discuss our speed on the road. Our Lead may ask questions about who is on medication, who may need to stop at shorter intervals (perhaps due to a smaller gas tank), who has a CB radio and who does not, etc. Our Road Captain covers hand signals for riders that are new to our group, too. Our Road Captain has been leading our rides for a few years now. We don't think twice about following him/her because s/he never lets us down. We always arrive safely when we follow our Road Captain.

We also have another Road Captain, trained in the GWRRA way, to bring up the rear of the group. This is our Tail Gunner. These two (Lead and Tail) work together like Lennon and McCartney. The Tail seems to know what the Lead is thinking, securing the lane almost as the thought passes through the mind of the Lead. They communicate well with each other and with the rest of the team. They let the group know what is going on around us. They inform us about things, like telling us we will be turning - in advance of the turn; when a car is attempting to pass the group on a 2-lane road; or when a car is passing on the right when we are on the highway. Our Lead and Tail always keep us aware of hazards on the road and all around us. We know they are looking out for the safety of the group. With Road Captains of this caliber, we feel very safe. We know we can enjoy the ride and watch the scenery with these two in charge.

### *Wait! Stop right there!*

We ALL need to remember that even those of us in the middle of the formation have responsibilities. We are responsible to pass on the hand signals from the Lead, such as for single file, stagger formation, pointing out potholes and road kill, sand in the corners and other hazards. (Continued in "Rider Ed" on page 3)



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.

## Bowling Party, April 24

Chapter O-2 revived an old tradition that had been lying dormant for several years...we went bowling. However, due to health issues and other aches and pains, the number of bowlers was quite limited, six to be exact. The ongoing rivalry between Rod Clark and Jim McPhail did not happen this year as Rod had to work and Jim is trying to prevent back problems from becoming worse.

However, the bowlers who competed with each other and themselves proved that "we still have IT...whatever IT is!! Ron Gabbard was the overall winner – high game, high series, and most strikes. No one else could even come close.

After bowling, everyone was very, very hungry so we ended up at JoJo's for pizza. Rod & Judy gave out a few prizes for various achievements. Ron Gabbard won for Highest EVERYTHING. Wolfie received a prize for most improved bowler (he went from a low game of 98 to a high game of 147). Deb Whetstone won a miniature bowling game to help her improve her low score of 86; and Vern won a beautiful trophy (a piece of gutter mounted onto a framed cabinet door) for having the most gutter balls. Vern and Connie Gless actually tied for the most gutters, but by process of elimination, Vern was the winner.

The highlight of the day for all of us was having Rich & Cari join us for dinner. Rich gets a gold star for belonging to the "Clean Plate Club." Good job Rich, and you did it without anyone threatening to play Airplane with you.

### Rider Ed (continued from page 2)

We need to be aware who we are riding with too. The burden is not all on the Road Captains. We cannot sleep because we ride in the middle of the pack. We need to maintain safe spacing with the other bikes around us. And most importantly, we need to ride our own ride. We MUST stay alert. Hazards don't always appear in front of the Lead bike. Sometimes they come at the riders in the middle of the group. We need to be aware of our surroundings and always be prepared to react to the unexpected at all times. We must remember that, just because our Road Captain is leading us, we are not excused from thinking for ourselves and riding our own ride. We are *all* responsible for our own safety at *all* times. *Never* give that responsibility away. It is nice to have someone willing to help look out for your safety, but ultimately, it is your life. Guard it wisely! Be sure to ride your own ride, even while Team Riding.

(From Rider Ed 'GIMME 5' by Bruce and Melissa Thayer, former MI Asst. District Rider Educators)

## 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 June is Jim and Tammy VanLaecke.

## Chapter Garage Sale

The chapter garage sale will be coming up on May 13 thru 15 and will be held at Cari's mom's house. Please contact Connie Gless for more details about how this will all work and when to take items to the sale.



Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission. *Eleanor Roosevelt*

## Meeting Notes: By Vern Daly



Wolfie opened up the meeting to about 24 chapter members and three guests, Rummel's grandchildren and Bobby Newman who was there to talk about the upcoming Ride For Kids on July 11.

The meeting started out with reports on various events sponsored by the chapter as well as some other events attended by chapter members.

Jim Whetstone gave a summary of upcoming events, of which there are several in the upcoming couple of months as well as some further-out events such as a possible Canoe Trip (possibly in August), and a Scavenger Hunt. Watch the "**What's Coming Up**" section of the newsletter for dates as soon as they're available.

Bob Chute talked about the 2010 Rider Ed schedule. It is as follows:

May 15 and 16, ERC in Brownstown

May 15 and 16, ARC and Trike in Marion

June 12 and 13, ARC and Trike in Rensselaer

July 17 and 18, ARC and Trike in Akron

Contact Bob or Sue for further information if you wish to attend one of these classes.

He also spoke about the need to replace your helmet based on age. GWRRA recommendations are that you replace your helmet:

5 years after purchase OR

7 years after manufacture

whichever comes first.

Wolfie mentioned that he is going to continue visiting surrounding chapters in an attempt to garner support for the RMD House ride in September. If you'd like to accompany him on any of these visits, make him aware of your interest.

Both Dumbo and Udderly Fantastic will be staying with their current guardians.

Glen and Cathy Rummel were presented with their various certificates, pins and awards for being this year's Chapter COY. Congratulations to both of you.

Next month's RMD House item is Cleaning Supplies. Examples are: Liquid Laundry Detergent, Liquid Dishwashing Soap, Bathroom Cleaner, Dryer Sheets, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, All Purpose Cleaner, Hand Sanitizer.

Be sure to save crushed pop cans for the chapter and get those pictures to Cathy Rummel for the scrapbook.



## Thursday Dinner Rides

Meet at Discovery School just off Ash Road north of the Toll Road before 6:30. We leave promptly at 6:30.

May 13 . . Jim Whetstone

May 20 . . Wolfie

May 27 . . Bruce McLeish

June 10 . . Jim Whetstone

June 17 . . Bruce McLeish

June 24 . . Open

After June 24 there are LOTS of open slots. Contact Bruce to sign up to lead a ride.

## What's Coming Up

May 13, 14, 15 . . Chapter Garage Sale

May 14 - 16 . . Blessing of the Bikes in Baldwin MI

May 27, 28, 29 . . Spring Wing Warmup (Greensburg, IN)

June 17 - 19 . . Ohio Buckeye Convention (Wooster)

June 30—July 3 . . Wing Ding

July 11 . . Ride for Kids

July 30 - 31 . . Michigan District Convention (West Branch)

Aug 20 - 22 . . "Ben" ride in Michigan (Details Later)

Sept 5 . . MDA ride

Sept 16 - 18 . . Region D Rally (Coldwater, MI)

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Anniversaries:

June 25 . . Rod & Cheryl Rance

### Birthdays:

June 04 . . Carol McPhail

June 11 . . Denny Heckaman



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!  
June Item . . Cleaning Supplies



**Perennial Plant Sale and Fundraiser for Rich Durecki**

Fundraiser for costs associated with Rich's recent Double-Lung Transplant Surgery.

Thursday May 20th 10am - 2pm  
 Friday May 21st 10am - 6:30pm  
 Saturday May 22nd 10am - 1pm

Large Variety of plants for Sun or Shade  
 Bargain prices, many plants \$1.00, \$2.00, or \$3.00

30392 Lantern Lane, N/W area of Elkhart,  
 off CR 1 from California road.

1 mile east of the corner of Edison (Day) road and Ash road

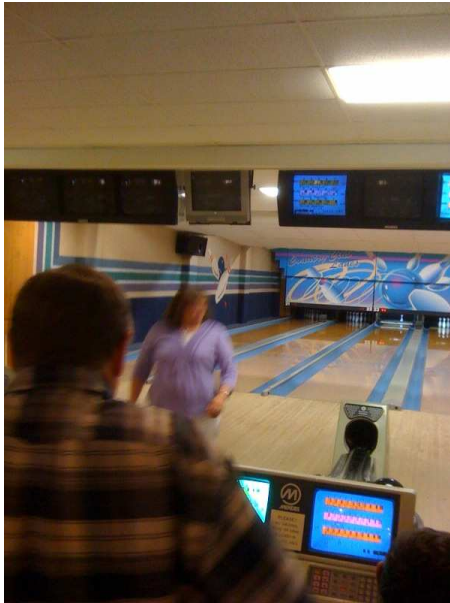
Plant info, Map, Photos, prices, etc. are all on my website:  
[www.cari2.net](http://www.cari2.net)

**Bowling With Chapter O2** By Deb Whetstone

The alleys were ready...the bowlers were there  
 Would any of us get a strike or a spare  
 Yes it was a very possible thing for us to do  
 We even threw in a few gutter balls too  
 We had 'Smarties' for strikes...they would make us squeal  
 And 'Dum-Dums' for gutter balls...they were way too real  
 We all slipped around on the alley floor  
 But Ron took the WIN with the biggest score  
 JoAnn started out bowling and then let Deb take her place  
 And the 'most improved' Wolfie was glad for his space  
 Connie and Vern were vying for the most gutter balls...who could ask for anything more  
 And Kathy C consistently bowled a pretty impressive score  
 Deb struggled along her last game and got the worst bowler there  
 But she got some Dum-Dums and also some Smarties so she really didn't care  
 Our favorite --- ---- helped Jim W give Wolfie some sound advice  
 And when his score started to go up they didn't have to tell him twice  
 Then off to JoJo's for pizza and other wonderful food  
 We were all having so much fun and everyone was in a great mood  
 Cari and Rich joined us for supper and Rich looked really great  
 We are all so glad that you could be there...we hope this helped you gain just a little weight  
 Judy and Rod put our bowling together and made the award giving fun  
 We appreciate you both and the things that you do even though you are busy and on the run  
 The most interesting trophy by far was the gutter ball award  
 Vern was the winner and he didn't know what he was headed toward  
 We laughed and we took pictures of his gutter on the door  
 With chapter O2 and Judy and Rod in charge you never know what to look for!  
 So our day ended well, it was a lot of fun  
 It all goes too fast once it has begun  
 If you missed it this year be sure to be there at the next bowling day  
 Some of our 'out of commission' people will want to play  
 Just remember that if you haven't bowled it is time to start  
 And you can always get tips from our favorite --- ----!

Thanks again Judy and Rod for doing such a wonderful job.

# Some Pictures From Bowling April 24th



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**FIND YOURSELF.**



**IT'S A HONDA**

Vern Daly  
Newsletter Editor Chapter IN-O2  
54661 Bethany Drive  
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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  
for Appointment  
TODAY!**

**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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