



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Hart City Wings Communicator



INDIANA CHAPTER 02



Edition Two Hundred Thirty Five

ELKHART, IN.

January 2012

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RECRUITER/RETENTION

Joann Gabbard

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Bruce McLeish

COUPLE OF THE YEAR

Jim and Deb Whetstone

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Brenda Heckaman

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PHONE TREE

Connie Whalen

CHAPTER MEMORY BOOK

Carol McPhail

CHAPTER VISIT COORDINATOR

Wolfgang Gless

WEBMASTER

Cari Durecki

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Vernon Daly

RONALD McDONALD RIDE

Jim & Carol McPhail

CHAPTER POET

Deb Whetstone

FROM YOUR CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Jim and Deb Whetstone

Greetings Fellow Chapter 02 Members,



Can you believe it's a brand new year 2012, and with this New Year comes a new position for Deb and me. Yes you get to look at our faces for another two years, only this time we will be serving you as your new Chapter Directors. We are very excited to be able to work with you in our new role and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your support and help throughout the previous two years. I also want to thank our new staff for stepping up

and filling open positions and for our current staff that continued to hold their positions. You guys are **Great!**

Next, Deb and I, on behalf of the entire Chapter, would like to express a heartfelt Thank You to Wolfgang and Connie for leading all of us for the past four years. You two did a terrific job as our Chapter Directors and I know you will now enjoy the new position of Past Directors. We also appreciate you taking on your new positions in the New Year. (Promoter of Chapter Visitations and Special Activities.)

Last month the Chapter had a dinner at Whalen's and enjoyed the Christmas lights in Michigan City, and from what I understand it was a great time had by all who attended. The food was great and if you have never had the opportunity to see the lights in Michigan City, well you just don't know what you've missed. (Unfortunately not all of us could be there)

We will miss our Chapter members that have already headed south for the winter but you can still stay in contact with our snow birds by e-mail or cell phone.

On a sad note, Mark Skinner's father passed away on Monday December 19th. Please keep Mark and Carol in your thoughts and prayers.

As some of you already know, it is once again time to look for another meeting place. Yes you heard me right- we have to either pay a fee for the room or simply find another location. It appears that with our meeting numbers getting smaller we no longer fulfill the Lodges requirements. On the brighter side we were very fortunate to have had such a great accommodating place as the Elks Lodge for the last two years. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions, please speak up. We will be staying at the Elks Lodge thru March for the Pound Auction.

There is still time to sign up for Winter Rendezvous and we still have time to do a skit or maybe a walking float. We are looking forward to the fun filled weekend with our friends from all over the State. Hope **YOU** can join us!

**That's about it for now!
Happy trails to you until we meet again,
Your CD's Jim & Deb**

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held the 1st Thursday of each month at the Elkhart Elk's Lodge on Bristol St. just west of Cassopolis St. Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:15 PM

DINNER RIDES are every Thursday night May-Sept. (except meeting night). Meet in the parking lot BEHIND Discovery Middle School on Ash Road. Leaving promptly at 6:30 PM

FROM YOUR ASST. CHAPTER DIRECTOR

Vernon Daly



Hello All

Well, this is my first attempt at a newsletter article as your Assistant Chapter Director.

As we venture into the new year as your new O2 staff, we all hope that we will be able to lead the Chapter as well as past CDs and ACDs have done. I want to thank Wolfie and Connie for their past four years of service. It's been a blast, and we've done lots of fun stuff. Obviously, we will continue to do many of the events that Chapter O2 members have come to enjoy. We also want to try to introduce some new things into the mix. I would like to put out this challenge to all members to make suggestions as to events they'd like to see added. If everyone is pro-active in this effort, I'm sure we can continue to make Chapter O2 one of the best chapters in Indiana. Please, if you have any ideas, give Jim, Deb or me a call.

I also want to thank everyone who stepped up and took a staff position, both those who continued on in their past roll, and those who took on the duties anew. There's far too much work that needs to be done for just the few. But the many make the task easier. Lets all work together to make 2012 the best year yet for O2.

We also need new members. I know it's difficult to find new members, but we all need to re-double our efforts in this regard. If you happen to see other Wingers out there, don't hesitate to explain the function of GWRRA and the local chapters, and invite them to one of our meetings. And speaking of new members, as some of you already know, my Son and Daughter-In-Law picked up a 1500 last fall and will be joining GWRRA soon. As soon as my Mike can get his days off changed we will have two new chapter members.

December was a slow month, event wise, due to the holidays. But now we're heading into the new year and events are again starting to pick up. Probably by the time this newsletter goes out the Chapter Holiday Party will already have taken place, but we have some other things happening in January, namely the Niles Ice Festival tour and dinner, and D2's Chili Cookoff in Garrett.

Winter Rendezvous is coming up in February. We have some chapter members who have committed to attending. Be thinking about it, as reservations need to be made soon.

I hope everyone in Chapter O2 had a wonderful Christmas and New Years. Even though, as I'm writing this, there's snow on the ground, riding season is only about three months away. (Well, OK, maybe four)

Everyone be safe out there

Vern — ACD

FROM YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATORS

Bob & Sue Chute



QUICK TIPS: Ten Things All Car & Truck Drivers Should Know About Motorcycles

1. There are a lot more cars and trucks than motorcycles on the road, and some drivers don't "recognize" a motorcycle; they ignore it (usually unintentionally). Look for motorcycles, especially when checking traffic at an intersection.
2. Because of its small size, a motorcycle may look farther away than it is. It may also be difficult to judge a motorcycle's speed. When checking traffic to turn at an intersection or into (or out of) a driveway, predict a motorcycle is closer than it looks.
3. Because of its small size, a motorcycle can be easily hidden in a car's blind spots (door/roof pillars) or masked by objects or backgrounds outside a car (bushes, fences, bridges, etc). Take an extra moment to thoroughly check traffic, whether you're changing lanes or turning at intersections.
4. Because of its small size a motorcycle may seem to be moving faster than it really is. Don't assume all motorcyclists are speed demons.
5. Motorcyclists often slow by downshifting or merely rolling off the throttle, thus not activating the brake light. Allow more following distance, say 3 or 4 seconds. At intersections, predict a motorcyclist may slow down without visual warning.
6. Turn signals on a motorcycle usually are not self-canceling, thus some riders, (especially beginners) sometimes forget to turn them off after a turn or lane change. Make sure a motorcycle's signal is for real.
7. Motorcyclists often adjust position within a lane to be seen more easily and to minimize the effects of road debris, passing vehicles, and wind. Understand that motorcyclists adjust lane position for a purpose, not to be reckless or show off or to allow you to share the lane with them.
8. Maneuverability is one of a motorcycle's better characteristics, especially at slower speeds and with good road conditions, but don't expect a motorcyclist to always be able to dodge out of the way.
9. Stopping distance for motorcycles is nearly the same as for cars, but slippery pavement makes stopping quickly difficult. Allow more following distance behind a motorcycle because it can't always stop "on a dime."
10. When a motorcycle is in motion, don't think of it as motorcycle; think of it as a person.

Make A Difference



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 OR TRADE Once again I am offering a GWRRA 3-in-one jacket in extra large for sale for \$30 or trade for something about equivalent. This is a really nice riding jacket that can be worn all together or each piece separately. Original selling price from GWRRA was around \$100 or more. It's just too big for me. Call me at 574-259-3508 for more information.

Niles Ice Festival

The Niles Ice Festival is coming up again during the weekend of January 14th. Several Chapter members are planning on attending this event on Saturday the 14th and meeting at 6:00 for dinner at Hob Nob restaurant there in Niles. The plan is to go to Niles whenever you wish, in order to have enough time to look at the carvings, and then meet at the restaurant at 6:00. You will probably meet up with other chapter members as you walk around the displays. Or you can plan, individually, to get your group together at a specific time.

Meeting Place

As was discussed at the meeting, we are going to have to find a new meeting place or pay a monthly fee to use Christiana Creek. We have a few places to check out, but if anyone has any ideas of a possible location, please contact Jim, Vern or Wolfie.

We have decided to have the February and March meetings at CC, mainly due to the fact that we need the large space for the Pound Auction in March, and it's pretty late to be trying to change the location of that event.

There might still be a possibility that we can work something out to allow us to stay at CC, so we'll be working on that in parallel with trying to find a new location.

So remember, February and March will be at CC, and we will keep everyone informed as to the outcome of the new location search either by notice in the Newsletter or by Phone Tree.

Winter Rendezvous

It's not too late to join us at Winter Rendezvous. We have around 6 or 7 currently signed up to attend and will be making motel reservations soon. If you'd like to attend I want to remind you that early registration ends Jan 15th. After that registration cost goes up \$5.00. Also, we will be trying to get a group of rooms together, so if you make your motel reservation yourself, be sure and mention O2 so that maybe you can be at least in the same area as the rest of the group. Jim is making the motel reservations, so you could call him to add yours.

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. None are due in March.

Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional - Author Unknown

Meeting Notes:

By Vern Daly



Jim opened up the meeting to 22 members and one guest, Cindy Norman's Father.

Jim thanked Wolfie and Connie for their service to the chapter for the last four years and then he turned it over to Wolfie for some comments. Wolfie explained that we will need to look for a new meeting place as Christiana Creek CC will not allow us to use their facility without paying a monthly fee. They have to add wait staff and an extra cook, and they feel they are not recovering their operating costs. We have a few ideas for meeting places and will be checking into these in the coming weeks. It was decided, at the meeting, to go ahead and have the February and March meetings at Christiana Creek due to the fact that the Pound Auction is in March and we need the additional space for that function.

Jim reviewed some chapter events from the past month including the Dinner and Lights at Whalen's. Thank you to Tom and Connie for hosting that fun event.

Pre-sale tickets for the Chicken Sale will be printed and distributed at the February meeting.

Vern discussed upcoming events including the Niles Ice Festival and Dinner. Bob got an attendance count for the restaurant. Looks like we're going to have a good turnout for this event. Hopefully the weather will cooperate.

Jim talked about upcoming District, Regional and National events, the main one coming up soon being Winter Rendezvous. It looks like there will be around 6 or 7 chapter members attending. If you decide you want to attend, contact Jim so he can try to get you a room at the motel in an area with the rest of the group. Please be sure and check the What's Coming Up section for a more complete list of upcoming events.

Bob Chute gave the Chapter Educator talk which mainly centered around two recently announced recalls: Kuryakyn has recalled their 7005 Floorboard. This is the passenger floorboard, but if you have any version of a Kuryakyn Floorboard you should probably call them to see if it is involved in the recall. Honda has done a recall on all 1800s for a possible brake problem. Contact your dealer to see if your bike is included.

Bob Chute gave Dumbo to Jim for having December 2011 on the meeting agenda for the January 2012 meeting.

Udderly Fantastic will be staying with Gabbards for the time being.

Paper Products will be the February Ronald McDonald house item.

Keep saving those crushed cans for the chapter. Jim McPhail or Frank Case will take these.

Thursday Dinners

Be at the restaurant at 6:30

January 19 . . Hibachi Grill, Indian Ridge Plaza, Mishawaka
This is just off Grape Road, just south of the Toll Road, where the old Circuit City used to be.

February 16 . . Texas Roadhouse, Elkhart

What's Coming Up

- Jan 14 . . Ice Festival, Niles, Dinner at 6PM, Hob Nob
Contact: Bob or Sue Chute
- Jan 29 . . D2 Chili Cookoff Garrett, IN
- Feb 3 & 4 . . Michigan Wingless Weekend
- Feb 10 - 12 . . Ohio Cabin Fever
- Feb 17 - 19 . . Winter Rendezvous, Wyndham West, Indy
- Feb 25 . . Starved Rock State Park, Utica, IL
- Mar 03 . . Chicken Sale
- Mar 17 . . Chapter Bowling
- Mar 24 . . First Aid Training
- Mar 31 . . Game Night at Chute's

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries:

February 20 . . Tom & Connie Whalen

Birthdays:

Feb 02 . . Cheryl Rance Feb 06 . . Cindy Beachy
Feb 13 . . Donna Johnson Feb 28 . . Darlene Elliott





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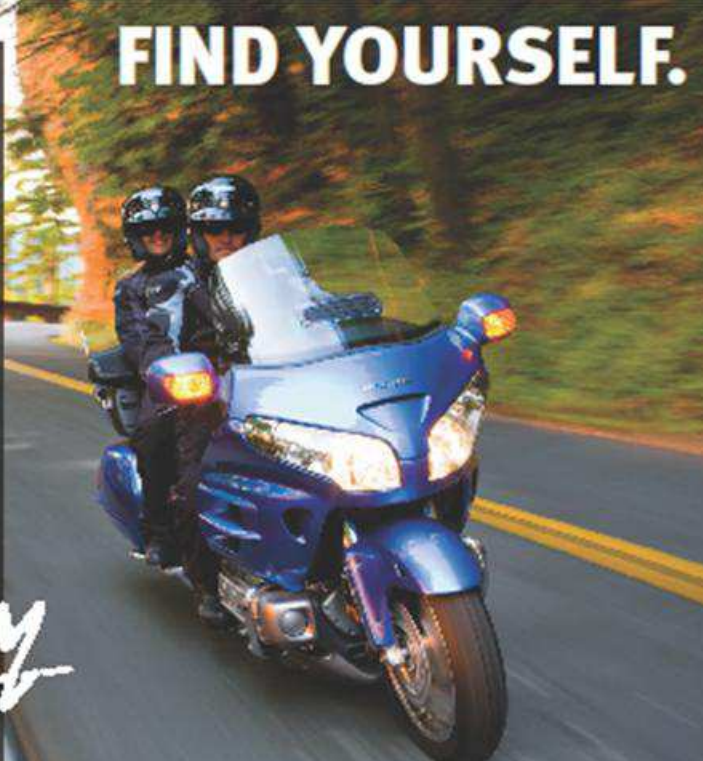
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