



WISCONSIN GWTA

JULY 2007

This is the best time of year for midwestern motorcyclists. The air is warm and the weather stable, we've had several weeks to get fully dialed in, yet plenty of time remains for still more riding. Begin the best half of the year by attending Gold Rush or, better still, Meet 'n' Greet, just three weeks away. Ride Safely, and Ride GWTA!

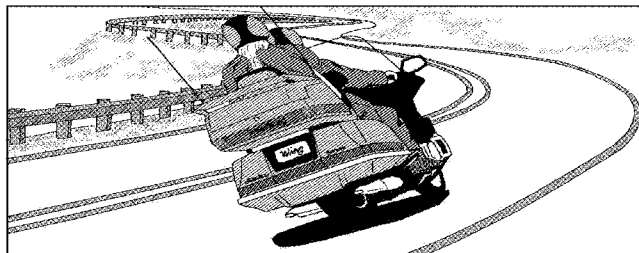
State Director's Corner

Can you believe it is July already? I hope everyone is putting on miles on their Wings. We will be putting on a few miles on our way to Gold Rush. I hope everyone has safe travels to South Dakota and back home. I am looking forward to having a good time with my GWTA family. Carlee Jo is looking forward to the water park!

Meet 'n' Greet, our state annual meeting, is not far off either. The campground is full and so is the hotel. If you still need reservations, give me a call and we can see if we can double you up with someone or find an alternative place for you. You can reach me at 715-839-9986 or threewingers@sbcglobal.net. On Friday night, we will be ordering pizza from a great pizza joint. On Saturday morning, breakfast is on your own. The picnic at Friendship City Park will be at noon. Brats, beverage, beans, and utensils are provided. Bring a dish to pass. Again this year we will have a 50/50 drawing and the BANGO ride. We will have a nice ride after the picnic and some great camaraderie at the campground/resort. Saturday's evening meal will consist of leftovers and walking tacos. Kathy Granger has volunteered her crew to make Sunday's breakfast once again. Remember all meals other than the picnic are by free-will donation.

Life is too short not to ride with the wind!

*- Sherri Vonderheid
Wisconsin State Director*



Gold Rush

As you read this, Wisconsin GWTA members Bob Johnson/Ginny Zittel, Jeryl/Sherri/Carlee Jo Vonderheid, Gerry Brix, Bruce/Bev Roehrborn, Bob/Linda Kruger, and others are on their way to our twentieth anniversary Gold Rush. The party takes place in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 16th to the 19th. This *is* the eleventh hour for deciding to attend Gold Rush, but it can still be done and, believe me, GWTA will make room for you.

Gold Rush events include an 80's dance, huge birthday party, light parade, drill teams, motorcycle rides, water park, motel door decorating contest, and laser light show over the falls. Held during Sioux Falls' Hot Summer Nights annual city celebration, GWTA will also be a part of the American Association Independent Baseball All-Star Game July 17. GWTA has been asked to take part in the luncheon and the pre-game festivities. Organizers want a large contingent of motorcycles outside the stadium as well as sidecars to bring in ballplayers as they are announced, so they need sidecarists, too.

Veteran GWTA members know what a good time Gold Rush is. New members are invited to see for themselves.

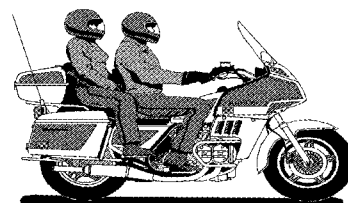
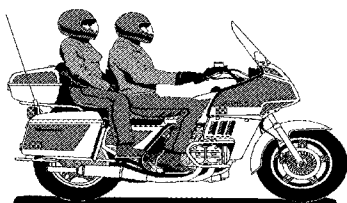
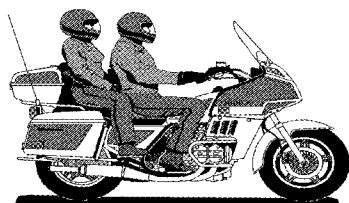
Wisconsin Meet 'n' Greet

Other than Gold Rush (frankly, most members now are either on their way to it or are skipping it this year), the Wisconsin Meet 'n' Greet is the Next Big Thing for GWTA in this neck of the woods. We all know many things compete for our time, but we in GWTA very much hope that all of us put this on our calendar and do all we can to attend. Our Meet 'n' Greet is the one scheduled time where we see each other, compare our motorcycles, and maintain our friendships. That's why we meet in Friendship.

For your information, this is the sixth annual Wisconsin gathering. Two state directors ago our head person at the time chose Friendship as the place to start our annual ride-ins. Looking at the map, you can see why. Its location is ideal, since Friendship is planted almost perfectly halfway across the state and is just slightly south of Wisconsin's center, making it well suited to collecting our members. And, what other state has such an aptly named town with such a nice city park? With Destination Friendship as our motto we'd be crazy not to use Friendship, Wisconsin, in some way.

As far as the Meet 'n' Greet moniker goes, your outgoing newsletter editor, as State Director, employed that phrase to make our state rally stand out against all the other GWTA gatherings with the word friendship in the name. There's no other Meet 'n' Greet across the entire span of GWTA—when you hear it, you know it's a Wisconsin thing. Secondly, the phrase Meet 'n' Greet rolls off the tongue so nicely and it describes to a "T" what we are up to: meeting and greeting each other, making and maintaining friendships, going about the business of Destination Friendship.

So do what you can to make an appearance. State Director Sherri Vonderheid has already listed above the fun things planned for the weekend. We're especially looking forward to meeting all our new faces from the Green Bay area. There are riders from out-of-state we can meet, too. If you just have Saturday available, ride on down for the picnic and head home the same day. And, if you want to make a three-day vacation out of it, we can do that, too. Closer than the Region C Rally and cheaper than Gold Rush—the 2007 Wisconsin Meet 'n' Greet!



Region C Rally Report

This year was Illinois' turn to host our annual Region C Rally and they chose Galesburg, in the northwest corner of the state, for its location. The rally was held June 8-10.

Attending from Wisconsin were Sherri, Jeryl, and Carlee Jo Vonderheid, Bob Johnson and Ginny Zittel, Rick Verber, Doug Jorgensen, Bruce and Bev Roehrborn, Darrell and Fran Broten, Gerry Brix, and Bob and Linda Kruger. Nearly all had to battle fierce winds Thursday on the way down, but by late Friday the winds died down and the rest of the weekend had almost perfect weather. Region C Directors Barb/Tom Johnson reported 184 registered rallygoers.

Galesburg turned out to be an interesting town. Its population is about 33,000, a far larger city than our other Region C locales. Seven separate rail lines go through town, so the sound of trains was everywhere. The city and area is very historic, with markers locating the site of the last Lincoln-Douglas debate, the nearby home of Carl Sandburg, and the Mormon community of Nauvoo just down the road. The landscape is very flat but the rides to the John Deere factory in Davenport, the local Honda dealer, the Maple Candy Company, The Great Escape bed and breakfast, and Cerno's famous long bar were all hugely interesting. And, of course, besides the riding rallygoers had seminars, a sand castle building contest, dirty bingo, the light parade, and ice cream to keep them busy.

One special event was the drawing for \$1,000 at the very end of closing ceremonies. All attendees were eligible but the winners were whittled down until only our own Ginny Zittel and Family of the Year's Joyce May were left. But

instead of waiting for one winner, both decided to split the pot. So, Ginny walked away with \$500 in her pocket. Congratulations, Ginny!

Instead of a county fairgrounds, this rally was centered in public Lake Storey Campground, beautiful with tall trees on the south shore of peaceful Lake Storey. On the north side of the lake a terrific indoor pavilion was used for all rally functions. Rally facilities were very nice.

In 2008 Region C will travel to Nebraska City, in the southeast corner of Nebraska, just across the Missouri River. Pencil in June 13-15 for next year so you don't miss another reunion with your Region C riding buddies.

Ride For Kids

This time of year is high tide for motorcyclists all over the country. It's no different here in Wisconsin. And one of the important happenings coming up during this buzzsaw season is Ride For Kids, the motorcyclists' fund raising rides for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. The RFK events work out very nicely for us in Wisconsin, what with the St. Paul event July 22 in St. Paul, just at the end of Gold Rush, and the Madison RFK on August 5, the very day our Meet 'n' Greet ends. I've stated previously that Ride For Kids is a good way for us to put GWTA on the motorcycling map. It is also a good way for GWTA members to "get out of themselves" for a change and focus on something else outside of our own organization. In Touring News we at times read a section entitled "Caught Being Good." How about if we had almost all of our Wisconsin members caught being good while participating in the Ride For Kids? You know, it's been said many times that a person finds her/himself by caring or focusing on someone else. People and organizations find themselves by *losing* themselves in glorious quests. What a good and great motorcycling cause Ride For Kids is. It helps innocent children, gives a good name to motobikers, and it's sponsored by Honda, for crying out loud. This year, help GWTA find its identity—and yours—by looking beyond the things we do for ourselves. Let's help somebody out. Let's do Ride For Kids!



Wisconsin GWTA Member Starts New Business

Chapter Y members Bruce and Bev Roehrborn of Glenbeulah recently opened their own motor-based business. Since late last fall, and beginning in earnest this spring, they have been servicing and selling mopeds, ATVs, dirt bikes, and go-karts.

The venture started out innocently enough when, back in October, Bruce bought a used ATV. "We then looked for information on the internet about this kind of business and information on different machines, and one thing led to another," said Bruce.

The business, called B & B All-Terrain Sports, seems to be off to a good start. "Mopeds are out-selling everything else, by about a three-to-one margin," explained Bruce. "It took us a total of five months to gather all the necessary permits and licensing but we are on our way now."

Glenbeulah is located almost halfway between Fond du Lac and Sheboygan. There are a number of members in the Green Bay area so it is not beyond the realm of possibility for some of our eastern members to contact the Roehrborns for their small engine needs. Their address is N7047 CTH T, Glenbeulah, WI 53023. Phone them at 920-980-2789 or 920-980-2729. B & B's hours are eight to four (and by appointment), Monday through Friday, and ten to four (also by appointment) on Sundays. They are closed on Saturdays.

GWTA Wisconsin wishes the Roehrborns the best of success in their new business.

State Gets New Newsletter Editor

Beginning with the October issue, Barb Williams of Chapter GB will be heading up the state newsletter, succeeding Darrell Broten as editor. "I am excited to take over production of the newsletter," said Barb Williams, who has completed a two year-course at the Institute of Children's Literature and has had two articles published in Wing World magazine.

Broten has been doing the newsletter for the past five years, including during the time he served as State Director from 2001 to 2005. "It is time for someone else with new and different ideas to try their hand as editor," explained Broten. "We all benefit when GWTA offices and positions are rotated to someone else every so often. I know that Barb will do a great job as our editor."

The best way to welcome Barb Williams as editor is to send her your motorcycling or human interest items, whatever the length. She can decide best how to present them in the newsletter so all of us can enjoy them. Contact her at msgldwing@new.rr.com or 2293 Marco Ct, Green Bay, WI 54311 or 920-327-1958.

Miscellaneous

If you have a computer, take a few minutes and check out the GWTA message boards for the national and regional sites. Try www.gwta.org and click on "message board" to have your voice heard. It's a lot of fun!

Be sure to include a few GWTA enrollment forms (tri-folds) with your motorcycle gear. Give them to fellow riders and suggest they read it. That's a very low-key way to get the word about GWTA out to fellow motorcyclists.

Contact Sue Engel at 715-570-9588 or engels09@hotmail.com to order your state shirt. Let's try to have everyone wearing a Wisconsin GWTA shirt.

July 18 is Ride Your Motorcycle To Work Day. So if you're in the habit of taking the jalopy to work, pick that day to ride your way to work. You just might get into the habit of motorcycling to work most every day.



Dates to Remember

July 16-19—GWTA Gold Rush. Sioux Falls, South Dakota. 800-960-4982.

July 22—Ride For Kids. St. Paul, Minnesota. 800-253-6530/www.rideforkids.org

Aug. 3-5—GWTA Wisconsin Meet 'n' Greet. Necedah and Friendship, Wisconsin. 715-839-9986.

Aug. 5—Ride For Kids. Madison, Wisconsin. 800-253-6530/www.rideforkids.org

Sept 7-9—Camp Wing Tyme. Tillamook, Oregon. 800-960-4982.

Feedback

Let us know what you think of GWTA things by contacting the State Director (threewingers@sbcglobal.net/3668 Oakhill Place, Eau Claire WI 54703/715-839-9986). There are no dumb questions and no bad ideas. We need your input and we don't mean maybe! Thank you.