



Goldwing Touring Association

October, 2009

The Official Newsletter of the State of Wisconsin



State Director's Corner

Please keep Mary Rose Clark in your thoughts and prayers as she recuperates in the hospital from a stroke.

Jimmy has been faithfully by her side to give her encouragement and strength.

If you want to send her a card, here is the address:

Mary Rose Clark
3065 Inverness Ln
New Franken, WI 54229

A note from our former State Directors:

THANK YOU!!!! from the Vonderheids!!

We want to thank everyone who helped out at the Region C Tailgate Party in Chippewa Falls! As I am sure you have all heard already how successful the party was and how much fun our out of state friends had. All the success and fun was due to all those who volunteered and helped out. Please give yourselves all a big pat on the back because you all deserve it. We also want to thank you all for the wonderful gift card that we were presented at Meet N Greet. I can't wait to use it!!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!! May God Bless Each and Everyone of You!

Jeryl, Sherri & Carlee Jo Vonderheid
Your Past State Directors

Region Director's Corner

What a month! I have been on the road every weekend since Sept. 4. I spent a weekend with Chapter W in the Black Hills of South Dakota the first weekend of September and had a blast with a trip up to Spearfish to chat with Tom and Sharon about the upcoming Region C Rally. Chapter W showed me a great time complete with a cream can supper. The next weekend was spent in Grand Island, Nebraska attending the Nebraska Friendship Campout. I have always enjoyed this event as it gives the opportunity to sit and talk with good friends. The third weekend found me enjoying the

company of the Illinois members in Litchfield, IL at their Golden Wheels Campout. What a great time we had. Have you been able to spend time with your GWTA Friends? The goal of this organization is to create an avenue for you to get out and meet new friends and to enjoy yourself with old friends. The old saying is you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink. We can open the doors and invite you to join but unless you get involved yourself we are just spinning our wheels. We have so much to offer all of our members if only they would become more involved with their chapters

Rick and Kandie Hinrichs
Region C Directors

Region C Recruiting program

As most of you know by now we have been steadily losing members for the last several months. GWTA has so much to offer the members in our chapters. I am very proud to say that I represent all of our members in Region C and the individuality of our chapters. I would love to see our Region grow by 100 members in the next six months from the first of Sept. 2009. I can not do this alone. Your Region and your GWTA needs your help.

Starting on September 1, 2009 until March 1, 2010 Region C will be promoting a special recruiting push. The State or Province in Region C that recruits the most members in that 6 month period will be eligible for a \$500.00 cash prize. Now here is the kicker. In order to win that prize you must keep those new members and they

must renew a year later so the prize will not be awarded until March 30, 2011.

Do you know the best and the easiest way to recruit new members? You have to have fun in your own chapter and you have to invite others to join in the fun. Good luck to all the Region C members and may the best State or Province win.

Letter from the Editor

Hello, everyone. Welcome to fall.

Now that the cold weather is settling in, let's not forget GWTA, all the friends we made this summer and what the organization has given us. Maybe you won a raffle prize, 50/50, enjoyed a meal put on by the Chapter or maybe it gave you someone to ride with. Did you enjoy the scenic rides at the Region Rally? Maybe you have benefited from Helping Hands in the past or will have need of them in the future.

People volunteer their time so that you can enjoy all the activities and events...and they don't mind because they are dedicated to GWTA and making it better and beneficial for all.

What can you do to get involved to make GWTA better? What ideas do you have to share? Every organization needs support and people, at every level, to thrive or what we take for granted can go away.

If you don't know how you can give back, email your Chapter Director, Region C Director or Executive Director on how you can help.

We look forward next year to Gold Rush in Billings, MT and the Region C Rally in Spearfish, SD.

If you can't stay for the whole rally, plan your vacation around them and drop in for a day or two.

Thank you,
Barb

Chapter Director's Corner



October 2009

We had a fast and busy July, August and September. Some of us went to Gold Rush in Lexington, KY. Then there were the Wednesday night dinner rides and the Van Abel's ride. We had the Ride for Kids' and the Pot Luck at Carl & Joyous Bowen's home. It's been pretty busy and the time went by really fast.

For many of these activities you can go to our website and see all of pictures of these events. Following are some highlights of each.

Wednesday dinner nights: We went to different locations every other week for food, conversation and ice cream. The average ride was 45 minutes long as we keep our ride portion of the evening to no more than an hour. The last ride of the season

was a little shorter and ended at the Chapter Director's home. There we had hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, potato chips and ice cream with an assortment of toppings. This is the third year we have done this and it seems to go over really well.

Gold Rush: Held in the horse and bourbon capital, Lexington, KY. Quite a few vendors to buy all that safety stuff for you and the bike. The 'Parade of Breeds' at Kentucky Horse Park along with some great back roads to see many of the beautiful horse farms around Lexington. Check our chapter website for allot of great pictures.

Meet n' Greet: It was held at a new location this year with Jim & Mary Rose Clark having their first official function as our GWTA State Directors. It was held at the Vista Royale Campground in Bancroft, WI. What a great facility to have the summer get together for the state. The pavilion was huge with plenty of room for all and the campground had many things for the kids and grandchildren to do. The campground facilities were excellent and the campground was only an hour and 45 minutes from Green Bay. The Meet n' Greet will be held at the same place next. Mike & Lucy Hubert found a spectacular place for the future of our states summer gathering. A nice group of people with allot to talk about and more food and ice cream to boot. We had a large number of people there from Chapter GB. We also collected most of the raffle prizes and 50/50 winnings. No names to be mentioned.

Ride for Kid's: A few of us went to Middleton, WI to participate in the ride.

The ride was wonderful but the program after with the kids which have been or are being helped was something to experience. It's hard to describe but all I can say is it really touched our hearts. This was Barb's and my second year participating and its well worth the time to go.

Van Abel's Ride: A scenic ride from Green Bay on the back roads by way of Stangelville, Manitowoc, St. Nazianz and Elkhart Lake ending up in Hollandtown at Van Abel's for family style broasted chicken.

Pot Luck at the Bowen's: Food was the order of the day and their definitely wasn't any disappointment. We had allot of people show up and nobody left hungry.

This is what our chapter is all about. Good conversation, making friends, riding with a destination where food and ice cream seeming to be at the end of the ride. Go figure.

Now it's getting close to the time for some of us to put the bike away for the winter. Where did the summer go? Some of the more fortunate retirees are heading for warmer climates to continue their unending season for riding their bike(s).

We have our annual Chili Dump at Dean & Elaine Belanger's house on October 3rd starting at 3 PM and then the Color Ride on October 4th. The Color Ride led by Dean & Elaine Belanger is going to Door County. They will leave from the Shell station at Hwy. 41 and Cty. D near Abrams at 10 AM and then go to Fleet Farm east to pick up

the rest of the group at 10:30 AM and start the actual ride from there.

On November 15th our social will be at the Townline Sports Bar & Grill for a Sunday Brunch. That's also a home Packer game that weekend however it's for Milwaukee ticket holders and it starts at 3:15 PM. We will have the back room. Please let Jon & Lynn Lovlien know by November 9th if you are planning to attend. We will be sitting down to eat at 9:30 AM with the meeting to follow at 10:30 AM. This one is especially important because we will be taking nominations and electing a Chapter Director for next year.

Our Christmas Gathering (Party) is at the Woods on December 13th from Noon to 4 PM with food being served at 1 PM. Broasted chicken and beef tips with all the fixins'.

All of these activities are on our calendar on the website along with more to come.

Pat & Barb Williams
Your GWTA - WI Chapter GB Directors



CHAPTER Y SUMMER RIDES AND MEETINGS

During the "meat" of the summer, the River Valley Riders settled into their riding

routine of Ice Cream Rides and monthly club day rides.

On July 8 Jeryl Vonderheid led Dave/Gigi Jansen, guest Steve Olson/Judy Hurt, Larry Small, John Harper, and Bob Johnson/Ginny Zittel from the Corner Store on Hwy. 93 on a ride for ice cream in Mondovi. It was a beautiful evening for a ride. Vonderheid, the Jansens, Bob and Ginny, and Darrell Broten took a direct way back to Eau Claire, while the rest followed Cty. H north, then east back to Eau Claire. Thank you, Jeryl, for heading up another nice Ice Cream Ride! Summer time up north here is always a busy time, and makes victims of certain events when people are drawn in different directions. One such victim was the Engels' Farmyard Campout near Arpin July 18-20, as only one club member unit—Bob and Linda Kruger—was able to stay with Scott and Sue Engel that weekend. A variety of conflicts (reunions, anniversaries, work, etc) kept Chapter Y's turnout low, but the Campout went on, nevertheless. The Krugers were actually able to sleep indoors in Engels' house and it was a good thing they did. Temperatures hit a record all-time low daytime high Friday and Saturday was grey and chilly. But Saturday new member Randy Perkins and Darrell Broten rode over to the Engel farmstead for quick lunch by Sue, an informal club meeting, some visiting, and a ride around Petenwell Lake of the Wisconsin River. During the informal meeting, Broten raised one topic for discussion: chapter shirts. He noted that Chapter Y does not have a shirt that has "Chapter Y" on it. The consensus was that our regular chapter shirt is the safety green Wisconsin shirt, but he noted that it doesn't indicate our chapter.

Everyone present agreed we should think more about this in terms of what color, graphics, type, and design of the shirts should be. Low turnout or not, Chapter Y thanks Scott and Sue Engel for hosting us, for Saturday lunch on a short notice, and for all their planning. Mucho Gracias, Sue and Scott!

For our Wednesday July 22 Ice Cream Ride 4 bikes met at Mega Fuels on Melby Street. The Vonderheids arrived first, then Terri Kernan. Guest Gary Axness pulled in on his VTX to join the ride, too. He's one of Jeryl's bosses but no one held that against him. Dave and Gigi Jansen then rounded out the quartet, who left to pick up ride leader Bob and Linda Kruger. Chilly sprinkles near Menomonie forced them to cut off the planned route, so they instead headed directly to Culvers. Bob "Git-er-done" Johnson and Ginny then arrived by car. His bike is in the shop getting a minor tune-up after the 3,000 mile trip to Florida and prior to the 4,000 mile trip to California in a couple of weeks. After the rain passed it was a quick trip back to Eau Claire.

Larry Small, Jerrie Powers, Fran and Darrell Broten, and Terry and Jan Kernan enjoyed a near perfect day for riding during their August 22 River Valley Riders club ride to Boyceville, Downsville, and Menomonie. Small led the gang, which included the Kernans' much talked-about \$8500 2001 yellow 13,000 mile Gold Wing, from the Craig Road Mega Fuels through Shawtown to Elk Mound, then used county roads to get to Boyceville from the south. There was a town celebration going on at the time, but the crew dodged barbecue chicken to get to Fat

Boys, a charming biker bar known for ribs one block from the action. After lunch and a brief meeting held partly while walking back to the bikes, the four motorcycles followed more back roads—some we've never been on—over Knapp Hill to Highway 72 and Downsville, then back to Menomonie. All day the skies were blue, the wind light, and the temperatures ideal. Small, Powers, the Brotens, and the Kernans had a terrific ride. Thank you, Larry, for leading us! You did a great job.

On September 9 Ice Cream King Jeryl Vonderheid led Dave/Sally Goetsch and Terry Kernan over state and county roads nearly to Durand, and then back to Eau Claire on Highway 85. Provider of the dairy treats this time was the Menomonie Street Dairy Queen. The night also happened to be the 42nd wedding anniversary for the Goetsches, who celebrated with two orders of French fries instead of just one. Congratulations, Goetsches!

For the September 19 club ride, Dave/Gigi Jansen rode an almost perfect replay of last year's club ride. Like Darrell Broten the year before, the Jansens were joined by no one, but decided to ride their own ride. Like Darrell in 2008, they rode south to Highway 35 to Nelson. And, just the same as the year before, they bumped into all the motorcycles participating in the fall Flood Run. Tradition might be nice, but this is too much. Let's think about something different in 2010. We all still thank Dave and Gigi for putting a ride together and volunteering to lead it.

Aside from that activity, we mention that several Chapter Y members attended the always-fun Davis Rally in New Hampton, Iowa. Jerrie Powers showed up at the Beemer Rally in Wisconsin Dells that same weekend. Topping all of that are the Florida and California tours Bob Johnson and Ginny Zittel completed in August. More on their adventures later.

Ride Safely and Stay Happy!

Darrell



Safety Educator

Hi everyone, I hope everybody had a "funfilled" and safe summer riding season.

My summer trips included the Region C Rally, Gold Rush, the Wisconsin Meet & Greet, & the Ride for Kids in Madison, WI. While at Gold Rush, I took the SRC course & the First Aid & CPR class. Both were very good, but poorly attended. I don't know if we do not promote these classes enough, or if people do not want to take the time out of their Rally schedule, or maybe some think they have to pre-register for them. This is

not the case. They are available on a first come first serve basis. Folks the skills you will learn in these classes could potentially save your life or the lives of others. The SRC class will make you a better driver whether you just got your bike, or have been riding for 20 years. The rider Education program is changing so that you can do any level at any time. In other words you can attain a level II before you do a level 1 etc. Any questions on this please feel free to contact me or your local Chapter Educator.

If you can, please view the DVD, Ride like a Pro III by Jerry Paladino. It is very good. After several of our Chapter members saw it, it prompted them to go to a parking lot and practice the low speed maneuvers that every ride starts & end with. Contact Don Coons, National Rider Educator as he has the DVD and could "loan" it to your Chapter to view at a social.

As I'm writing this the weather guy said sunset is now at 7:01 PM. That means any late afternoon or evening ride will have you riding home in darkness. I know we all have lots of lights on our bikes, but when you can think about adding some reflective gear or reflective materials to your bike. Reflective tape added to the radio antennas or rear of the bike can really catch the headlights of other vehicles and make your bike stand out as the antennas move during the ride. By pointing out some of these ideas, I don't want you to fear riding a motorcycle. I just want you to be as safe as possible so the friendships we gained as part of GWTA "Destination Friendship" can continue on for many, many years.

Until next time, Ride Safe,
Marcus Baudhuin, Educator

Public Relations

Hello there old and new members!!!!

This is the season to transfer your membership folders to your car for the winter. Keep in mind you can recruit members in the winter too. Don't store your vest or shirts away for the winter either; wear them when you can. Keep in contact with your friends. Join them for ice cream or other socials. Everything tastes better with friends.

While you are with them make some plans for some rides for next year. Talk about how we can get some new members and keep the old ones. Visit your bike dealers see what is new; like a new bike or some chrome to keep your interest up.

Until our next social (HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE).

Enjoy your life and health.

Wis. Public Relations Officer
Dean & Elaine Belanger
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Safety Corner

Distracted Driving

Driver inattention is a leading cause of traffic crashes, responsible for about 80 percent of all collisions, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Considering crashes are the number-one cause of accidental death in the U.S., it is important to pay close attention to our driving habits and those of other drivers.

- Drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to be in a crash while using a cell phone. (1997 *New England Journal of Medicine* examination of hospital records and 2005 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety study linking crashes to cell phone records).
- Cell phone use contributes to an estimated 6 percent of all crashes, which equates to 636,000 crashes, 330,000 injuries, 12,000 serious injuries and 2,600 deaths each year. (Harvard Center)
- 80 percent of crashes are related to driver inattention. There are certain activities that may be more dangerous than talking on a cell phone. However, cell phone use occurs more frequently and for longer durations than other, riskier behaviors. Thus, the #1 source of driver inattention is cell phones. (Virginia Tech 100-car study for NHTSA)

- A new [study](#) in the National Safety Council's Journal of Safety Research concludes there is little difference between the driving safety risk of using hands-free cell phones and using handheld phones. The study confirms that any form of cell phone use is a distraction that detracts from the brain's ability to focus on safe driving.

„,from the National Safety Council



Quotes from Vince Lombardi

- Leaders aren't born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that's the price we'll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal."
- Dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. Hard work is the price we must pay for success. I think you can accomplish anything if you're willing to pay the price."
- The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual."
- The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have."
- "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up."
- "Football is like life -- it requires perseverance, self-denial, hard work, sacrifice, dedication and respect for authority."
- "Confidence is contagious; so is lack of confidence"
- "The greatest accomplishment is in never falling, but in rising again after you fall."
- "Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."



- A mechanic was removing a cylinder-head from the motor of a Harley motorcycle when he spotted a well-known cardiologist in his shop. The cardiologist was there waiting for the service manager to come take a look at his bike when the mechanic shouted across the garage "Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?"

The cardiologist, a bit surprised, walked over to where the mechanic was working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and said, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take the valves out, repair any damage, and then put them back in, and when I finish, it works just like new.

So how come I make \$39,675 a year, a pretty small salary and you get the really big bucks (\$1,695,759) when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The cardiologist paused, smiled and leaned over, then whispered to the mechanic.

"Try doing it with the engine running."

- Two guys were roaring down the road on a motorcycle when the driver slowed up and pulled over. His leather jacket had a broken zipper, and he told his friend, "I can't drive anymore

with the air hitting me in the chest like that." "Just put the jacket on backwards." His friend advised. They continued down the road but around the next bend, they lost control and wiped out. A nearby farmer came upon the accident and ran to call the police. They asked him, "Are they showing any signs of life?" "Well," the farmer explained, "the driver was until I turned his head around the right way!"

... from motorroads.com



Motorcycle wisdom of the road

- Midnight bugs taste best.
- Saddlebags can never hold everything you want, but they CAN hold everything you need.
- Home is where your bike sits still long enough to leave a few drops of oil on the ground.
- The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rearview mirror.
- Bikes don't leak oil, they mark their territory.
- Never mistake horsepower for staying power.
- If you don't ride in the rain - you don't ride.
- A bike on the road is worth two in the shed.
- Young riders pick a destination and go. . . Old riders pick a direction and go.
- A good mechanic will let you watch without charging you for it.
- Sometimes the fastest way to get there is to stop for the night.
- Winter is Nature's way of telling you to polish your bike.
- Well-trained reflexes are quicker than luck.
- The best alarm clock is sunshine on chrome.
- A friend is someone who'll get out of bed at 2 am to drive his pickup to the middle of nowhere.
- There's something ugly about a NEW bike on a trailer.
- Never be ashamed to unlearn an old habit
- Maintenance is as much art as it is science.
- If you ride like there's no tomorrow - there won't be.
- Gray-haired riders don't get that way from pure luck

• No matter what marquee you ride, it's all the same wind.

• Only a biker knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window.

... from motorroads.com

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Charities WI Supports

Ride for Kids

<http://www.pbtfus.org/rideforkids/>

Salvation Army

<http://sagreenbay.org/>

Helping Hands

http://www.gwta.org/online_store/helpinghands.htm