



Goldwing Touring Association

April, 2010

The Official Newsletter of the State of Wisconsin



Region Director's Corner

Spring should be just around the corner. I have not seen a winter like this since I have been a child and I am very anxious to feel warmer weather. I am a bit of a gardener. I love to get out in the spring to plant and play in the dirt. I am not a good gardener but that does not stop me. There is just something rewarding about planting something and watching it mature and bloom.

Our chapters are not unlike a garden. Some plants like some members need more cultivating. You need to know when to fertilize and not to over water. It takes patience to get the most of your garden and out of your chapter. In my own garden I have been amazed to see the plants I expected the most out of did not flourish as well as I thought, and those that I thought would be a struggle to get to bloom were actually the easiest. Whether you garden or not is unimportant, you are part of a chapter

State Director's Corner

Wisconsin State Meeting Highlights

and it is up to all of our chapter members to get the best out of all of our members.

I would like to thank all of our members during this last month for their efforts to help save our organization. I know that some of us feel that this has ceased to be a member owned and run organization. Our members do and will always have a democratic say in how we operate. Region C on it on raised over \$5,000.00 to help save our GWTA. Nationally we did come up with over

\$25,000 and our debt has been reduced by over one third. Our members do care and do want to see us succeed. What else can we do to help our organization? This part is the neat part. Go out and have fun, wear your chapter colors and be visible.

Last week I did a talk at the Nebraska State Meeting about just this same thing. The next morning we had about 20 members sitting at a table in a restaurant waiting to eat breakfast. We all had on our Chapter, State, Regional and National colors on in one form or another. A gentleman sat next to us at another table and watched us for a short time and then finally asked if we belonged to a motorcycle group. Seems he and some friends in Hebron, NE. were thinking about starting a group in their area. He had already researched the possibility of starting a motorcycle club and had seen the challenges ahead for doing just that. We do have an awful lot to offer and recruiting new members and new chapters is not that hard. All we have to do is go out into the public and have fun. Isn't that why we joined to begin with?

GWTA Region C Directors
Rick and Kandie Hinrichs

We had the Region C Assistant Directors, Dale & Beth Ladolt at our meeting. They were introduced to all who attended the meeting. Dale took the floor to present the tentative 18 month plan for GWTA. There was good discussion around the content of the plan and a suggestion was made with it being forwarded on to the Region Director and the Board of Director Representative for Region C with regard to the yearly Chapter Charter Fee.

The Wisconsin State website is now online and will be improving as time goes forward. It's a good tool for both communication and directing people to information on GWTA both locally and beyond.

www.gwtaofwisconsin.org

It was announced at the meeting that the 'Ride for Moola' is happening. We have enough sponsors and will be kicking it off in April. Members are volunteering to set up a table at a few of the sponsors to sign people up on April 24th. We will also be selling raffle tickets for the drawing at Gold Rush.

Scott & Sue Engel have stepped up to be the Chapter Directors of Chapter Y for the short term. Thank you to Darrell Broten for his dedication to GWTA.

We have our Meet n' Greet at the Vista Royale Campground in Bancroft, WI on July

30th & 31st. Please see the attached flyer. Our Region C Director, Rick Hinrichs is planning on being there. This would be a great opportunity to meet and talk with him about the association.

Patrick & Barbara Williams
Your GWTA - WI State Directors



State Meeting

Eighteen of us gathered at the Americinn in Plover, WI, on March 13 for the annual state meeting.

We munched on snacks of pretzels and dip, homemade chocolate chip cookies and a favorite of Wisconsin-cheese and crackers.

Pat Williams started the meeting at 11:00.

Dale and Beth Landolt, Assistant State Directors attended to share what is happening on the National level.

Dale passed around a report, from Rick Hinrichs, on the tentative 18 month plan.

These plans include a scaled down newsletter on the web, hiring an Office Manager and changing the chapter charter fee to \$150.00. Based on the number of chapters in GWTA and dividing that into the premium

cost of liability insurance-that is how they came up with the \$150.00

Another way discussed to cut down costs is to eliminate giving out a patch, pins, etc. to each new member. Members can purchase these if they choose to.

Life membership has ended. It has been suggested that Life Members make a small donation.

Some suggestions made by the attendees were that a chapter pay a percentage fee according to how many members in their chapter and to sell more 1" advertising spots for Touring News instead of half and whole pages.

A big issue with members is not allowing Touring News to be printed. Members without email don't have access to Touring News and since it can't be printed, we are excluding these members from vital information of which they pay dues for.

Region C generously donated \$4,342 to keep GWTA active.

Nationally, members donated \$45,043.75.

Because of everyone's financial support, many changes are being considered to keep GWTA in our lives.

Thank you to all who donated.

Letter from the Editor

Welcome back to all the snowbirds.

Allot has happened since you were gone.

Thanks to all the generous, caring members of GWTA, we will survive to grow and meet new friends.

Scott and Sue Engels are the new Chapter Director's of Chapter Y until a replacement can be found and Jon and Lyn Lovlein are the new Chapter Director's of Chapter GB.

Pat and Barb Williams are the State Directors.

We wish all of you the best and already see the great changes in place.

Thanks to former Chapter Director's Darrell Broten and Pat Williams, and former State Director's Jim and Mary Rose Clark for your service to GWTA.

Winter is behind us and I am sure we are all thinking about getting out riding if you haven't done so already due to a few nice days. The T-clock inspection list is at the end of this newsletter. Take the time to prepare your bike for all the riding you will do this summer. We want you to make it home safely.

Pat and I have put together a ride called "Ride for Moola". It is a way to gain new members, put money in the state coffers and give to the charity we support and have some fun visiting places you never heard of. Any bike or vehicle can participate. See flyer at the end. and tell your friends.

Kick off is April 24th at Team Motorsports, Team WinnebagoLand, Stock's Harley in Manitowoc and on April 17, Vetesnik's of Richland Center. Thanks to all the members that will be working the tables getting people signed up.

Chapter Director's Corner

Chapter Y

Hello everyone. We stepped up to help lead our Chapter Y group until a permanent replacement can be found. We live quite a distance from the majority of the members but do not want to lose our group, so we will do our best to keep our chapter going.

State shirts

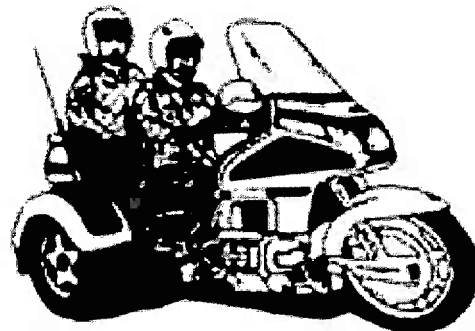
If anyone wants to purchase a neon green state shirt, let Scott and I know.

You can choose from a t-shirt, sweatshirt or a polo shirt. I need a minimum of 12 items to place an order and I have 4 so far.

Email or call us with your order.

If anyone has questions or concerns at any time, please email engels09@hotmail.com or call Scott @ 715-570-5842 or Sue @ 715-570-9588.

Scott and Sue





Safety Corner

Safety Educator

Well Spring is here, at least for the time being. I'm sure most of us have had the bikes out for at least some short rides. It felt really good to be up on two wheels again. It was a long winter, as I get older winter seems to last longer each year. Perhaps some day I will be able to join the "Southern division "Chapter GB for some of the winter.

Now I hope you checked over that bike before you took that first ride. Tire pressures can change with the sudden change in temperatures. In this newsletter you will find a copy of the T-Clock inspection form. This is a guide to walk you around the bike checking the tires, brakes, etc. Now that the motorcycle is ready, how about you? Time to get the old body back in riding condition. After the body is ready, how about your head?? Motorcycling is as

much mental as it is physical. So make sure you are mentally prepared to concentrate on the ride. If your skills are a bit rusty from the winter layoff find an empty school or church or Park parking lot and practice your slow speed maneuvers, starting, stopping, turns & weaves. You don't have to spend hours on this, just 15-20 minutes a couple of times a week.

I am finalizing plans for a Skilled Rider Course for this spring. There will be one for 2 wheels, and one for trikes and sidecars. They will be on different days. More to come in the next couple of weeks. Until then, **BE CAREFUL**. The roads have lots of sand in the corners, and the deer are moving around. Welcome to Wisconsin in the spring. Until next time ride safe.

Marcus

Controlling Your Lane Two wheels are enough to own a lane

By: James R. Davis

Lane position should be chosen, base among other things, on establishing escape routes, making yourself visible to others, staying out of the blind spots of other vehicles, and road conditions. What is often overlooked, in my opinion, is the concept of 'controlling your lane'.

For example, assume you are riding on surface streets in a city and are stopped at a traffic light preparing to make a right turn. Logic suggests that you should be in the right track of your lane, but it is safer, I suggest, being closer to the left track.

