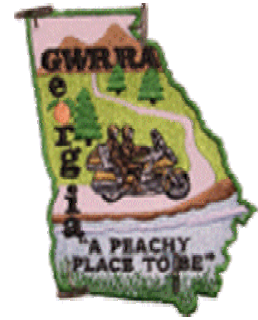




**GWRRRA
LAVONIA GA.
CHAPTER I-2**



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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Well our first meeting went well with 103 participants being present. I wouldn't have thought we would have had that kind of turn out with the weather the way it was that day. This shows the support we have with starting a new chapter here in Lavonia. Isn't it great to have this kind of support from all over the state!!

We have a lot to do in the coming months. We need to come up with a name for our wings. Some ideas are Lake Hartwell Cruisers, Interstate Cruisers, Northeast Georgia Wings. These are just a few ideas, please give me your input on a name that will do us proud.

Please let us know where you would like to ride, so we can be making plans for the spring and summer. We have listed on the calendar some events going on, if interested in going, let us know and we will plan a ride to these events. All events are 2 wheel, 3 wheel, or 4 wheel, just come and have fun!!

One event coming up in March, we need to help Chapter T from Athens, go to Rome and retrieve the Travelers plaque, for their Spring Fling on April 10. We will keep you informed on the date and time for this ride.

Don't forget our dinner ride on Friday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. at Gumlog Baroque.

If anyone needs patches or vests, let me know and we will get them for you.

Till we meet again.
Frank Brothers



Chapter I-2 Newsletter

Chapter Educator Introduction and Perspective

A number of us have already been introduced to one another in person. But, others of us have not yet met, let alone become aware of each other's perspective toward life and riding. And while we have had some contact, it's probable that few of us have been introduced to one another's bikes; clearly, an important dynamic of bike life. With those thoughts in mind I would like to take a moment to introduce myself and my perspective toward biker education and safety.

My wife Kathy and I have been married for 36 years, and we have 2 adult sons. I have been a pastor, college pastor, and for the past 13 years I've been a professor at Toccoa Falls College. My love of Wings began in the 1970's when a colleague allowed me (perhaps stupidly on his part) to take his Wing for a short ride. It was love at first ride, from that moment I wanted to have a Wing. Buying our Wing (2003 Red) three years ago was an intentional investment in us as a couple. Riding together has been incredible, whether on short rides to Starbucks, or trips to the Georgia coast or to New York State and back. However, it was not until the January 2010 chapter meeting that we became officially associated with a GWRRRA chapter. Everything that comes with a GWRRRA chapter, including the monthly newsletters, numerous forms and patches, and chapter meetings is new to me.

One of the determining factors for joining GWRRRA, however, is our commitment to rider education and safety. Although I completed the "Rider's Edge" safety program a few years ago, the GWRRRA's on-going commitment to safety and various rider education forums is a value I deeply share for personal reasons. Last summer, Kathy and I were on a much-anticipated ride to the Carolina coast, and one hour into our ride a deer ran into our bike that was fully loaded and pulling a trailer. I know that several factors enabled me to keep the bike up, but perhaps one of the most crucial factors was my rider safety program experience. Lessons learned during that week of classes passed through my mind in a millisecond, enabling me to respond calmly and intelligently. While substantial damage was done to our bike, we were able to pull over to the side with no physical injuries (we were pretty mad at Bambi, however).

So, while I'm still feeling my way around with GWRRRA, we are committed to the "Fun, Safety and Knowledge" that comes with our association. I have no idea where the road will take us, and I'm still learning about the various options dedicated for rider safety, but I am looking forward to the ride together.

Chapter I-2
Ride Educator
Phil Howard