## 2014 Ga. District "Bronze" Chapter, 2013 Ga. District "Chapter of the Year"







Gold Wing Road Riders Association Region A, GA District LAVONIA, GA gachapteri2@gmail.com

http://chapteri2.gwrra-ga.com/

## **Director's Notes**



## FRIENDS FOR FUN,

SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE

With Fall on the way it is time to get some riding in. The weather outlook for September and October is very good. The leaves in the very High mountains are starting to turn. It will be a great time for a leaf ride. Make

We had a great meeting in August with 31 members attending.

your plans and get out and see the sites .

We had a great time on our Lunch ride to Cheddars with 10 members enjoying a very good meal and a great ride to Athens and back. The weather was nice for a great afternoon ride.

Our next meeting will be Oct 17<sup>th</sup> this will be our last regular meeting of the year, were did this year go. Nov. 21 will be our end of the year party ,it will be Quincy's in Toccoa starting at 6:30 pm . Please plan on bringing a gift for a Man or Lady. I will need a count at the October meeting so we can make plans.

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> Region "A" Convention 2015, <u>LAKEPOINT STATE PARK</u> <u>RESORT LODGE</u>, Eufaula, AL.

November 14<sup>th</sup> Ga. District 2015 Wind-Down at the James E. Worrall Community, 1060 Keith Drive, Perry Ga. Hope to see you there.

Ride Safe and Enjoy Life. Frank & Melinda Brothers

Ga Chapter I-2 Senior Directors, Georgia District Ride Educators, & MEDIC First-Aid Coordinators







September 2015 Volume 6, Issue 9



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Chapter Treasurer Linda Watkins Cell: 678-316-6307 lindanwatkins@gmail.com

Chapter Educator Larry & Delores Crouse 706-757-3021 olddude600@yahoo.com

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**Chapter I-2 Mascots** Bucky & Cupcake Blacksheep



## Larry Crouse Chapter Rider Educator







## **QUICK TIPS: General Guidelines For Riding A Motorcycle Safely**

#### Be visible:

- Remember that motorists often have trouble seeing motorcycles and reacting in time.
- Make sure your headlight works and is on day and night.
- Use reflective strips or decals on your clothing and on your motorcycle.
- Be aware of the blind spots cars and trucks have.
- Flash your brake light when you are slowing down and before stopping.
- If a motorist doesn't see you, don't be afraid to use your horn.

#### **Dress for safety:**

- Wear a quality helmet and eye protection.
- Wear bright clothing and a light-colored helmet.
- Wear leather or other thick, protective clothing.
- Choose long sleeves and pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.
- Remember the only thing between you and the road is your protective gear.

#### Apply effective mental strategies:

• Constantly search the road for changing conditions. Use MSF's Search, Evaluate, Execute strategy (SEESM) to increase time and space safety margins.

- Give yourself space and time to respond to other motorists' actions.
- Give other motorists time and space to respond to you.
- Use lane positioning to be seen; ride in the part of a lane where you are most visible.
- Watch for turning vehicles.
- Signal your next move in advance.

- Avoid weaving between lanes.
- Pretend you're invisible, and ride extra defensively.
- Don't ride when you are tired or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Know and follow the rules of the road, and stick to the speed limit.

#### Know your bike and how to use it:

• Get formal training and take refresher courses.

• Call 800.446.9227 or visit www.msf-usa.org to locate the Motorcycle Safety Foundation hands-on RiderCourse<sup>SM</sup> nearest you.

• Practice. Develop your riding techniques before going into heavy traffic. Know how to handle your bike in conditions such as wet or sandy roads, high winds, and uneven surfaces.

## Remember: Give yourself space. People driving cars often just don't see motorcycles. Even when drivers do see you, chances are they've never been on a motorcycle and can't properly judge your speed.

www.msf-usa.org



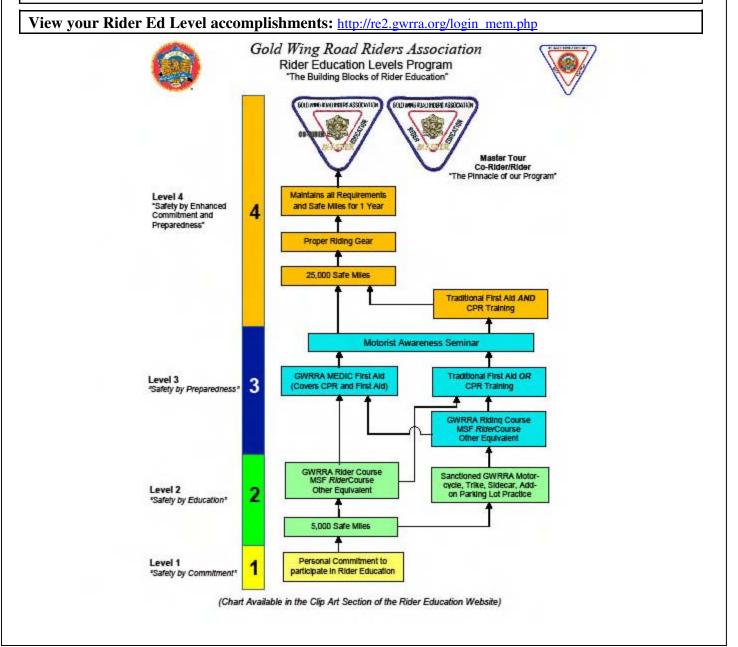
## **Rider Education**



Seminars, and classes that are available at the Chapter Level.

- 1. 1. "Level Up" PPT Presentation
- 2. 2. Co-Rider Seminar
- 3. 3. Co-Rider-Two Seminar
- 4. 4. Riding With New and/or Inexperienced Riders
- 5. 5. Motorcycling for Mature Riders
- 6. 6. Seasoned (Mature) Rider Supplement
- 7. 7. Road Captain Course
- 8. 8. Team Riding Seminar

- 9. 9. "Dealing With Different Elements"
- 10. 10. Riding in the Heat
- 11. 11. Night Riding ...
- 12. 12. Motorcycle Crash Scene Response
- 13. 13. High Side Scenarios
- 14. 14. "Going, Going, Gone"
- 15. 15. Trailering Seminar
- 16. 16. Why\_Motorist\_Awareness\_1\_2013.ppt
- 17. 17. "Think Motorcycles" ppt presentation







**Motorist Awareness** 



#### Ten Things All Car & Truck Drivers Should Know About Motorcycles



## <u>September Birthdays</u>

12th Genie Deaton14th Jeanna Phillips19th Joel Deaton



# Congratulations Couple of the Year (COY) 2015



## Congratulations to Jane & Paul Moricz for being selected as Chapter I-2's Couple of the Year 2015 (COY).



## CONCERNS

 Debbie Posey is recovering from Carpal and Cubital Tunnel Syndrome surgery on her left arm. This was outpatient surgery performed on Sept.
 2nd by Athens Orthopedic Clinic.

September Anniversaries 28th Doris & Rob Dougher

 Linda Watkins had quite a scare recently. She was diagnosed with pulmonary embolisms (clots in the lungs).



She is now on blood thinner and hopefully this will solve the problem. She says she's doing better.

- Roy Degler, former Georgia District Rider Educator, will be having minimally invasive" surgery of the abdomen at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, GA this Friday, Sept. 18th. Keep Roy, and Julie in your thoughts, and prayers, while wishing Roy a speedy recovery.
- Anne Reed, Region A Co-Senior Rider Educator, has been in the hospital since the 14th, as a result from a TIA.. A TIA is what the doctors refer to as a "minor" stroke. Tests run late afternoon yesterday the14th weren't conclusive, and she will have more, including an MRI this AM the15th. Chuck will keep us updated.





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■ Jan 1	New Years Day Lunch Ride. "Cottage House Restaurant", 5702 Hwy 115 East, Cleveland, Georgia. Come on 2,3 or 4 wheels. We will leave Lavonia Exxon at 11:00 Am.
• Jan 24	Chapter I-2's Gathering for this month only will be the 4th Saturday vs. the 3rd Sat. at Shoney's. Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm. This change was necessary due to the "Officers Conference" on the17th.
■ Jan 17	"Chilly Willy" is back in conjunction with the GWRRA Ga. Chapter's "Officers Conference". Being held again this year at "Buckner's Family Restaurant", Jackson, Ga.
■ Feb 14	Chapter S "Sweetheart Fun Day". Midway Christian Church, 1406 Hog Mountain Road, Winder, GA.
• Feb 21	Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm. I-2 Co-Rider, and Co-Rider Plus training Seminars will be held after our monthly gathering at Line Fire Dept.
<ul> <li>Feb 28</li> </ul>	We'll deliver the District <b>Hot-Potato</b> to Chapter E-2, Pooler, Ga. We will need to leave Lavonia at 10:30 am.
<ul> <li>March 21</li> </ul>	Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm.
<ul> <li>March 24</li> </ul>	We will be visiting Chapter R, "Sidelines Grille", 147 Reinhardt College Parkway, Canton, Ga Tuesday, March 24th. We'll leave Lavonia at 3:30 pm. Hope some of you can make plans to go and visit them.
<ul> <li>March 28</li> </ul>	Chapter I-2 Lunch Ride to "Vanna Country BBQ". Meet at 10:30, leave at 11:00 am from Lavonia Exxon, or join us at "Vanna Country BBQ", Hwy 17S, Vanna, GA at 11:30am.
• April 18	We'll not have our regular Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's" this month. Instead we will visit Chapter T for their Fun-Day. Leave Lavonia Exxon at 9:00am.
<ul> <li>April 18</li> </ul>	GA Chapter T's fun-day at Blacks Creek Baptist Church 3754 Blacks Creek Church Road Commerce, GA 10am until 1pm.
<ul> <li>April 25</li> </ul>	Chapter I-2 Lunch or Dinner Ride, Location and Times to be decided.
• April 25	Visitation to GA Chapter B for their "Fun-Day" being held at Red Top Mountain State Park & Lodge, 50 Lodge Road Southeast, Cartersville, GA 30121. Some of us may go over there on Friday and spend the night let me know if you would like to make it a weekend trip.
<ul> <li>May 16</li> </ul>	Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm.
<ul> <li>May 23</li> </ul>	Memorial Day "Motorist Awareness" campaign at the "Georgia / South Carolina I-85 "Welcome Center".

#### (Continued from page 7)

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- May 23 Chapter I-2 Dinner Ride, following the "Motorist Awareness" campaign, Location T.B.A.
- June 2 Ga Chapter S visitation, and "HOT TATER" delivery.
- June 18-20 2015 Georgia District Convention; "GoldWing Dynasty Wing Fling- It's a Family Thang".
   "River Vista Mountain Village", 20 River Vista Drive, Dillard GA 30537.
- June 27 Chapter I-2 Lunch or Dinner Ride, Location and Times to be decided.
- July 9-11 "Wings Over The Smokies 32". The rally for 2015 will be held on July 9th-11th, 2015 in Cherokee, NC. It will be at the "Acquoni Expo Center", 1501 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC.
- July 10 Chapter Ride to "Wings Over The Smokies". It will be at the "Acquoni Expo Center", 1501 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, NC. We will leave Lavonia Exxon At 8:00 am. Come ready to ride.
- July 17 Chapter I-2 day-ride to SC District Rally, 2015. Civic Center of Anderson, SC. Leave Exxon at 9:00am.
- July18 Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm
- August 15 Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm.
- August 22 Chapter I-2 Lunch or Dinner Ride, Location and Times to be decided.
- Sept. 3-6 Wing Ding 37 at the "<u>VonBraun Center</u>" Huntsville, Alabama.
- Sept. 19 Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm.

Florida District Convention, Kissimmee	<b>March 19-21</b>
Alabama District Convention, Eufaula	May 14-16
South Carolina District Convention, Anderson	<b>July 16-18</b>
Georgia District Convention, Dillard	June 18-20
Wing Ding 37, Huntsville, AL	Sept. 3-6
Region "A" Convention, Eufaula, AL	October 28-31

- Sept 26 Chapter I-2 Lunch or Dinner Ride, Location and Times to be decided.
- October 17 Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's". Eat at 11am, Meeting 12-1pm.
- October 24 CPR/First-Aid Recertification, Line Fire Department, 545 Pleasant hill Cr., Martin, GA 8:30am. Our monthly Lunch-ride will follow the Class.
- October 28-31 Region "A" Convention, LAKEPOINT STATE PARK RESORT LODGE, Eufaula, AL.
- November 14 Ga District 2015 Wind Down, James E. Worrall Community Center, 1060 Keith Drive, Perry Ga.
- No Chapter I-2 Gathering at "Shoney's" for November and December.
- November 21 Chapter I-2 "End of Year 2015 Celebration". Same location and time as last year: "Quincy's of Toccoa", 605 Big A Rd, Toccoa, GA, 7:00 until 9:00.pm.



# Chapter Classifieds Bike & Non-Bike Items

Updated: September 16, 2015

- 1. For sale 2004 Honda Goldwing with Champion Trike, 71,000 kit, CB, Diamond Seat, LED lights, driver and passenger footrest, and more. 2 Nolan Helmets. 2001 Black Escapade trailer. All, always garaged kept. \$20,000.00. See photo below. Contact Mike at (706) 202-4535.
- 2. Goldwing 1500 SE 25th anniversary edition 2000. One owner, Must sell can not ride two bikes. Asking \$7,000.00 well maintained and have the records. I have a complete list of every thing that has been added and recent prevented maintenance also pictures upon request. Contact Sid Cohen @ 706-340-5737 or E-mail cateringbycohen@gmail.com.



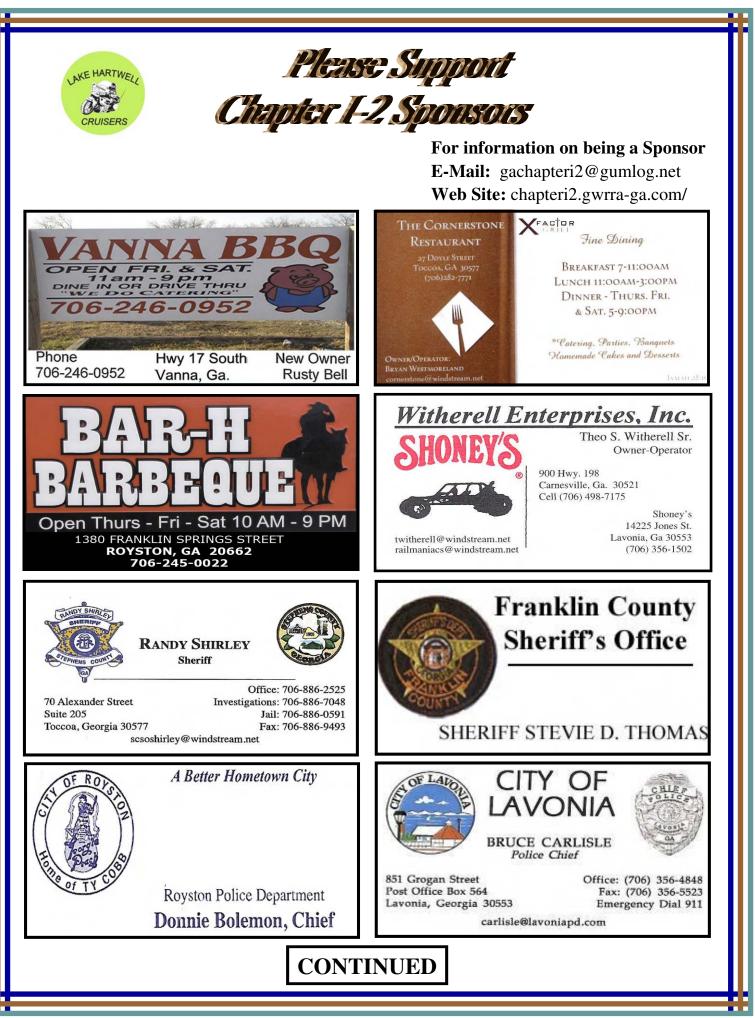
2. Since we sold my bike we don't need all those extra parts we have from Phil's bike when we converted it into a Trike. See below, Thanks, Linda.

<u>2008</u> GoldWing; Complete Back End, Swing Arm. Set of Perfect WHITE Saddle Bags. Mounted Back Wheel with New Tire, and New Front Tire. Tires are Shinko Brand. Asking \$200 for all of this. Call Phil at 770-561-3376 or email at <u>philatco@windstream.net</u>

3. Assorted Bits and pieces leftover from '02 1800 GoldWing (Illusion Blue), and '08 1800 GoldWing (Dark Red Metallic) TRIKE CONVERSIONS. These parts include, complete rear-end assemblies, brake-discs, rear-wheels, side-bags, etc. IF You need parts for repairs or just to have extra on-hand contact me. Ronnie at 706-340-7320 or EMAIL ronniev@bellsouth.net

# **MIKE'S TRIKE**









	August 2015							October 2015					
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
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	17	18	19	20	21			19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28			26	27	28	29	30	
	31												

#### Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday **Saturday GWRRA Wing Ding 37 ♦** "VonBraunCenter" Huntsville, Alabama. 31 GWRRA Wing Ding 37 ♦ "V Labor Day ♦ United States **Genie Deaton Birthday** ▶ 10:00AM - 2:00PM Ga District A FunDay (Griffin, 1() 11 GA) Jeanna Phillips Birthday Joel Deaton Birthday ▶ 11:00AM - 1:00PM Chapter I-2 Monthly Gathering (Shoney's, Lavonia, Ga.) 15 16 17 18 4 13 Chapter I-2 Lunch or... + Lo 21 22 25 24 2025 26 Doris & Rob Dougher's ... Ronnie & Karen Lewis' ...

# September 2015



September 2015							N	over	nbe	r 20	15		
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
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	7	8	9	10	11			9	10	11	12	13	
	14	15	16	17	18			16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	23	24	25			23	24	25	26	27	
	28	29	30					30					

# October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	Ronnie & Karen Lewis'	2	3
4	5	Linda Palmer Birthday	7	Cynthia Callahan's Birt	Larry & Delores Crouse Melinda Brothers Birth	10
11	Columbus Day  United Stat Arthur Seavey's Birthday	Phil & Linda Palmer An	Arthur & Lucy Seavey's	<u>Miss</u>	issippi District Rally ♦ Gulfport,	MS 11:00AM - 1:00PM Chapter I-2 Monthly Gathering (Shoney's, Lavonia, Ga.) 4:00PM - 7:00PM Ronnie & Debbie's Wedding Day! (STAGHORN CHAPEL, Nichelson,GA, and Redd
18	19	Larry Crouses' Birthday	21	22	23	Chapter I-2 Lunch or ♦ Lc 8:30AM - 12:00PM CPR/ First-Aid Recertification (Line Fire Department, 545 Pleasant hill Cr., Martin, GA)
25	26	27	28	Region "A" Convention 2	LAKEPOINT STATE PARK	RESORT LODGE, Eufaul Halloween ♦ United States



# Goldwing Road Riders Association GEORGIA DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

September 2015

## **District Team**

**District Directors** 

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Asst. District Directors East Garland & Charleen Dennis ga\_webmaster@yahoo.com 321.363.6337

Asst. District Directors West/ Couple of the Year Coordinators *Vance & Fern Oakes* goldwingnut@windstream.net 678.219.0257

Membership Enhancement Coordinators *Norman & Wendy Morton* norwen@att.net 404.761.3775

District Treasurer/Event Coordinator *Lawana Woodard* lawanag@hotmail.com 770.310.8280

Ride Educators/Medic First Aid Frank & Melinda Brothers gadistrictridered@gmail.com 706.356.4966

Leadership Trainer/Newsletter Editor Jim & Dee Allen galtptrainers@gmail.com 404.435.7527

## **Region A Directors**

Jim & Sue Jackson regiondirector@gwrra-regiona.org

## Do You Know Why We Have A District Team?

Yellow shirts! Oh no! The District is visiting—what did we do! No, that is not what you should think when District Team members visit. Yes, we sometimes are asking your chapter to do things. We sell tickets, tell you about the rallies, encourage you to visit, but we really are there to assist and encourage your chapters to flourish and grow.

The District Rally is probably the biggest thing that takes up our time. It is a lot of work, takes a lot of money to present, and takes a lot of the Team's time. We do it for you--so you can have a fun time each year! This year's rally is in Dalton, Georgia at the Dalton Convention Center, and we have a lot of fun planned. We have planned games, 50/25/25, riding poker runs, mountain rides, escorted and unescorted, prizes, lots of vendors, a fun corner so you don't get bored, and Rapunzel's tower so you can lock up your friends, not to mention the Rider Education and Leadership Training going on lead by Frank and Melinda Brothers, our new District Rider Educators, and our District Leadership Trainers, Jim and Dee Allen. Yes, we do this to raise funds for the rally. The cost is a whole lot more than you would ever dream and we do appreciate your support.

We also rent a center in Perry, Georgia and put on Wind Down in November. This is where we select our District Couple of the Year. Come on down for free lunch, games and 50/25/25. Come and support our couples please.

Our next major event is Chilly Willy in January. Chapter B2 has Chilly Willy, who goes to the largest chapter in attendance. Come get him! We will have dinner at Buckner's again and the Officers Conference follows the Chilly Willy, so be there and learn what is going on with your District.

Okay, we have the Rally, Wind Down, and Chilly Willy. Well, that is not all. Our Assistant District Directors signed an MOU saying they would visit their respective chapters twice a year. Some do more. That takes a lot of time and effort, not to mention funds. Please support their efforts. They do this to support you, the Chapters,



Larry & Pamela Clemmer Georgia District Directors

and find out what you may need to help support your chapter. If you have a visitor from District, let them know what you need. We can help.

As the District Directors, we have plans to increase recruitment. We think this is important if GWRRA is to survive. We have a good team and hope to work with our chapters to come up with great ideas, which I know you have out there, to increase participation and membership. Yes, we need you to sell our tickets, go to our rally, come to Perry and Buckner's, but most of all we need to work together to keep GWRRA vital and be able to continue to improve our events year after year.

Please let your District Team member know what you need and give them your ideas. We can work together. Hope this gives you an idea of what you District Team does. Thank you for your support,

> Larry and Pamela Clemmer Georgia District Directors

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT WING DING IN HUNTSVILLE, AL.

## Keep Yourself Hydrated In The Hotter Fall Months

Well everyone, here is August and the weather is not letting us down. They say August is the hottest month, and they sure got that right.

I know you all have heard over and over that when the heat is up, you need to hydrate. Well, this is very true, because dehydration can sneak up on you before you know it. It's really hard to get back to being hydrated again. So please, when you are out there riding, be careful and watch out for your friends.

> Have fun, ride safe and learn. Jim and Kay Elrod Assistant District Directors North



Jim & Kay Elrod Asst. District Directors North

## Volunteer! Volunteer! Volunteer!

I would like to thank everyone for their support during our first month as District Membership Enhancement Coordinators. Many thanks to Dick Hopkins for making sure I had all of what I needed to get me off to a successful start.

Having served as Chapter MEC for several years, I realize the importance of the position. Being a Chapter Director, I realized that a chapter needs this position filled.

There are several chapters that do not have an MEC, and it would be great if a chapter member would volunteer to take on this task. Chapter Directors already have a big job, and must take on the duties of the MEC if no member volunteers. Therefore, I am encouraging members to step up and volunteer for the MEC position if your chapter does not have one.

You may ask "What do I get out of volunteering for the MEC position for the chapter?". Well, for starters, you get to talk about your favorite past time, motorcycling. Second, you may be the first contact a new or prospective member has with GWRRA, so a new friendship is formed. As a seasoned member of GWRRA, you get to show off your knowledge and promote the fun your



Norman & Wendy Morton Membership Enhancement Coordinators



chapter has. With that being said, VOLUN-TEER! VOLUNTEER! VOLUNTEER!

#### Norman & Wendy Morton



You're invited to attend a large cruise event called WINGERS-N-WAVES. The GWRRA Georgia District is a sponsor of WINGERS-N-WAVES and 17 states joined the 2015 event. The official website is http:// www.wingersnwaves.com. Read testimonials and see full event details.

## **BUILDNG LEADERS**

Leadership is learned behavior that becomes automatic over time. For example, leaders can make several important decisions about an issue in the time it takes others to understand the question. The most successful leaders are instinctual decision makers. Having done it so many times throughout their careers, they become immune to the pressure associated with decision making and extremely intuitive about the process of making the most strategic and best decisions. This is why most leaders will tell you they depend strongly upon their "gut-feelings" when making difficult decisions at a moment's notice.

Here are a few things you can do to be a successful leader:

1. Make Others Feel Safe to Speak-Up

Many times leaders intimidate members with their title and when they walk into a room. Successful leaders deflect attention away from themselves and encourage others to voice their opinions. They make it easy for others to feel safe to speak-up and confidently share their perspectives and points of view.

#### 2. Make Decisions

Successful leaders are decision makers. They focus on "making things happen" at all times – decision making activities that sustain progress.

#### 3. Communicate Expectations

Successful leaders are good communicators. They remind their members of the chapters goals– ensuring that their vision produces the desired endpoint. I had a boss that managed the office by reminding us of the expectations that she had for us. She made it easy for us to stay focused and on track. By clearly communicating expectations we were able to buy in to the situation and produce the desireable result.

#### 4. Challenge People to Think

The most successful leaders understand their members mindsets. They challenge their members to think and stretch them to reach for more.

#### 7. Measure & Reward Performance

Great leaders are active in acknowledging hard work and efforts (no matter the result). Successful leaders never take their members for granted and are mindful of rewarding them.

GWRRA provides modules for Leadership Training that would cost thousands if presented by a business. Presenting these modules for you, at no cost, encourages participants in the Chapters to step forward and use the skills they possess to help others succeed. With that in mind, we challenge you, chapters and participants alike, to call or email and let us know if we can provide classes for you.

*Jim and Dee Allen* District Leadership Trainers

Page 2 - GWRRA Motto—"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge"

## 11 Georgia Laws Drivers Don't Know Exist

#### By Lauren McDonald | Morris News Service • Savannahnow.com

ATLANTA -- Sometimes, drivers in Georgia get pulled over because they were breaking a law they just didn't know about.

Police understand that drivers are less aware of certain laws, as those are the ones they see broken often.

Here are a few laws that police say many drivers seem not to know exist:

## **1.** You can be pulled over for going the speed limit.

Last year, Georgia passed the "Slowpoke Law," which requires that drivers in the left lane on a Georgia highway, interstate or expressway must move over if a faster car approaches them. Slow drivers cannot linger in the left lane, even if doing the speed limit.

#### 2. You must move over one lane not just for police cars, but also for assistance vehicles and garbage trucks.

Under Georgia's "*Move-Over Law*," drive rs must move-over for emergency vehicles stopped on the side of the highway. This includes police vehicles, Department of Transportation Highway Emergency Response Operator vans and garbage trucks.

"People have been moving over for the blue lights, but not for amber lights," said Cpl. Guy Fedak, with the Savannah-Chatham police. "The law applies to all emergency vehicles and HERO wrecker services with the yellow lights."

Georgia passed the law in the aftermath of growing numbers of police, emergency technicians and DOT workers being killed during routine traffic stops, crash responses and highway constructions projects across the nation. More than 30 states have moveover laws.

If heavy traffic will not allow you to move over, the law says you should slow down to 10 miles per hour below the speed limit.

And this year, Georgia added to the law, requiring drivers to move over for garbage trucks as well.

"The whole idea is try to let everybody move over one lane, so no one's having to worry about their safety," said Guy Young, vice president of the Georgia Motor Trucking Association.

## 3. It's illegal to use the center lane to merge into traffic.

The center lane cannot be legally used for any purposes besides making a left turn. Drivers should not enter the center lane before they are 300 feet from the location where they will turn left, per Georgia law.

"Drivers often will use the center lane to merge into traffic, or they will enter it well before they legally can," Fedak said. "The laws says that it only be used to make left turns, and you can't be in the center lane more than 300 feet. You can't use it as a merge lane."

## 4. You can legally drive without wearing shoes. But you cannot wear headphones.

Waits said many Georgians believe the law forbids driving without shoes on. That's false.

"The law that most people think exists about driving barefoot - it never has existed in Georgia," said Vidalia Police Chief Frank Waits.

It is, however, illegal to drive with headphones in both of your ears.

"You can wear in one ear, but not in both ears," Waits said.

## 5. Neither the driver nor the passenger can have an open alcoholic beverage.

"People do not know it's illegal to drive with an open beer or drink," Waits said. "The driver knows they know can't, but the passenger doesn't know they can't either."

## 6. No part of your tag can be obstructed from view.

Drivers will often cover their tags with illegal frames or covers, often in an attempt to foil cameras designed to catch running red lights and speeding.

Fedak said before you buy a tag frame or cover, check that it will not illegally obstruct the view of the tag.

In Georgia, the entire tag must be clear and unobstructed, a law he said is unique to Georgia.

#### 7. A bicycle classifies as a vehicle.

"A lot of people don't realize that a bicycle under the Georgia law is considered a vehicle, and the law requires that bicyclists follow the same laws a vehicle do," Fedak said.

This includes stopping at red lights and riding on the correct side of the road.

# 8. You have to turn your headlights on in the rain (and shouldn't rely on your auto-lights).

Georgia law requires car headlights to be turned on when it's raining. But often people will rely on their automatic lights, which do not turn on the rear lights as well.

"You still have to turn your headlights on because it illuminates your front and rear lights," Fedak said. "Even though you have daytime driving lights, you have nothing on in the back."

#### 9. If all the traffic lights go out at an intersection, the law requires drivers to treat it as a four-way stop.

When the traffic lights are not working at an intersection, drivers must treat it as a four-way stop. Meaning right-of-way goes to whoever comes to the stop first.

"They think because they're on the main



Frank & Melinda Brothers Rider Educators/ Medic First Aid



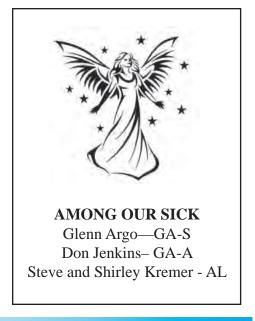
highway, they have the right-of-way," Fedak said. "But the law says you have to treat it as a four way stop."

## **10.** It's illegal to text in a car - even if the car is stopped.

It's illegal to text while driving in Georgia. And because the law does not specify if the vehicle must be moving, then drivers should also refrain from texting when stopped at a traffic light or stop sign.

11. It's also illegal for drivers under the age of 18 to use a cell phone at all.

Frank & Melinda Brothers Rider Educators/Medic First Aid



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### Assistant Region Directors Appointed

I'm pleased to announce that Tommy and Vicky Martin, Former Georgia District Directors, have accepted the position of Southeast Region 'A' Assistant Region Directors....pending documentation. Yep, Tommy and Vicky will be part of the Region 'A' Staff and will assistant in many facets of running the Region. Because of their vast experience and knowledge as Former District Directors, they will be available not only to the Operations side of the Region, but available to assist Rider Education, Membership Enhancement, Leadership Training and/or any Division in the Region. Their first assignment will be to assist in managing the Ticket and Poker Run Stations during Wing Ding which is coming around the corner like a

freight-train coming down a long grade without brakes! Of course they will be very involved at the SE Region 'A' Rally in October as well. Please join me in welcoming Tommy and Vicky and congratulating them for accepting this very important position. Of course if you have ever had the pleasure of tasting one of Vicky's very large (7-Layer) "home-made" cakes or her "home-made" jelly you would completely understand this appointment...just messing with you Vicky. We are excited to have ya'll on the Region 'A' Staff.

> Jim Jackson Region "A" Director

#### MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW!

WIND DOWN - Nov. 14, 2015 Opening at 10:00AM Perry Parks and Recreation Building James E. Worrall Community Center 1060 Keith Drive, Perry, Georgia 31069 CHILLY WILLY - Jan. 16, 2016 Regstration 10:00AM • Meal at 11:00AM Officers Conference 1PM Buckner's Family Restaurant 1168 Bucksnort Rd, Jackson, GA 30233

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!** Newton and Trisha Landrum

have been appointmented as Chapter B Directors. Newton and Trisha conducted their first gathering on August 8th.

Buddy and Brenda Jones are also taking over as Chapter Directors for Chapter K and have already assumed their duties.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COUPLES OF THE YEAR!

International — Jon & Barb Pons

Region A— Dewey & Alice Cole

GA-A—Gary & Juanita Rackley GA-B—Paul Loeser & Geraldine Duenas GA-B2—Dick & Gail Cross GA-D—Joel & Jenny Reasons GA-F2—Randy & Georgia Moore GA-I2—Paul & Jane Moricz GA-J—Dave & Judy Hurd GA-L—Murry & Dawn Cail GA-O–Barry & Barbara Owens GA-S—Craig & Pat Whitehouse GA-T—Tommy & Vicky Martin

# **SEPTEMBER 2015**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 GA-S	2	3 GA-T	4	5 GA-F2
6	7	8	9	10 GA-K,M	11	12 GA-B,D
13	14 GA-Q	15	16	17 GA-D2	18	19 GA-A, C2, I2, J
20	21 GA-0	22	23	24 GA-H, L, R	25	26 GA-B2, E2
27	28	29	30			

Georgia Traveler's Plaque:

Chapter GA-A captured the Georgia Traveler's Plaque from GA-T! It will be given away at their Fun Day on September 12th. See their website for more information!

#### The Georgia Hot

**Potato**—Was last seen with at Georgia Q in Warner Robins. Look out for the Hot Potato! You could be the next in line!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS Wing Ding** September 3rd – 6th, 2015

Chapter A Treerific Fun Day

September 12th, 2015

**Chapter Q's Dessert Auction** October 3rd , 2015

**Mississippi Rally** October 15th-17th, 2015

**Region A Rally** October 29th - 31th, 2015

Wind Down November 14th, 2015

Chapters frequently have had changes in meeting locations and time. The District website (www.gwrra-ga.com) also posts times and locations of Chapter Gatherings. As always, call before you visit to confirm date, time and location.

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