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2006 District Couple of the Year
Sid & Donna Cohen
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Region A Director
Larry & Patti Lingo
lingwing@adelphia.net

GWRRA GEORGIA

October 2006



It's Time to Wind Down

Region A Rally a Big Hit

We had a wonderful time at the Region A Rally in Perry, Florida August 31st through September 2nd. Everyone that has expressed their opinion had nothing but great things to say about the games, events, food and hospitality provided by our Region A Directors, Larry and Patti Lingo. If you were camping, you may have had a few ants that shared your accommodations, but that did not seem to take away from the fun and friendship everyone shared. Georgia managed to capture the coveted Crowns of Glory for winning the District Directors Challenge. Other Georgia members received awards as well. Pat Whiddon, GA A-2, walked away with first place in the Goodie Contest with her sinful fudge, Jeff and Susan Pairier, GA B-2 took first place in the Valkyrie category, Pat and Clarence Taylor, GA E-2, took second place in the Best Dressed Parade category, Liz Vars, GA E-2, placed first in the under 600CC bike show category. A very sincere thank you to all the Georgia members that took the opportunity to attend the Rally and especially those that helped with the events.

Are you ready to ride?

October weekends have a variety of events to give you the opportunity to get out and enjoy the fall temperature changes. Check out the events section to see what is coming

up and get out and see some long time friends and make a few new ones while you are there.

Wind Down

Wind Down will be held on 4 November at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church auditorium in Macon. Just take exit 155 (Hartley Bridge Road) off Interstate 75 and head west. When Mount Pleasant Church Road splits with Hartley Bridge Road, take Mount Pleasant Church Road about a mile and Mount Pleasant Baptist Church will be on the right. We will start the festivities at 10:00 AM, eat about 11:30 and around 1:30 PM, we will begin the process of selecting the 2007 Georgia District Couple Of the Year. So plan on coming out to support your favorite Chapter Couple. Ladies, bring your famous desserts for all to enjoy.

Congratulations Bill

Bill Dodd, our very own R&R Coordinator has changed. No, he didn't shave his head, he has been selected as the new International R&R Coordinator. National has recognized what a fantastic job Bill has done for Georgia. so they have selected him to lead the way for R&R on an international level. We congratulate Bill and thank him for all the great things he has done for GWRRA Georgia. We are very proud to have one of our own on the National Staff.

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

2006 CHAPTER

COUPLES OF THE YEAR

- GA-A Phil & Joyce Piotrowski
 GA-A2 Kenny & Lynn Register
 GA-B2 Pete Hefele & Debra Ogle
 GA-C Buddy & Brenda Jones
 GA-C2 Larry & Teresa Urban
 GA-E Kelly & Laura Fleming
 GA-E2 Clarence & Pat Taylor
 GA-H John & Lynn Hyde
 GA-H2 Ray & Betty Kennedy
 GA-O John & Vivian Rountree
 GA-P Randy & Cindy McCaslin
 GA-Q Frank & Margie Ricigliano
 GA-S Ken & Traci Thrasher
 GA-T Mike & Linda Fields
 GA-V Charles & Loraine Holmes
 GA-X Mike & Jan Manley

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 30**—GA-A Fall Harvest Fun Day. High Falls State Park. Contact Bob or Bonnie McCroskey, 770-954-1924.
- Oct. 7**—GA-V Fun Day. Oak Grove Community House, Contact Angie Parkerson, 478-934-0584
- Oct. 12-14**—Mississippi District Rally, Biloxi, for more information check gwrri.ga.com for a link to the Mississippi Rally information
- Oct. 21**—GA-D Stew Pot Run. Rock Creek Sports Complex, Dawsonville. Contact Mike Alexander at 678-939-8822.
- Nov 4**—Wind Down—Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Macon. Contact Bill and Betty Livingston, 229-889-1705
- Nov. 18**—GA-H2 Toy Run, PoJo's Truck Stop, Hwy 301S, Statesboro. Contact Curtis Gay, 912-687-1877

October Meeting Changes

- GA-G—Meeting will be held on 14 Oct at Ryans on Manchester Expressway
- GA-V— No October meeting
- GA E-2 — Meeting will be held the 3rd Saturday

GA Traveler's Plaque

On September 5th, Chapter A, McDonough, captured the Traveler's Plaque from Chapter S. Chapter A will give the plaque away at their Fall Harvest Fun Day at High Falls State Park on 30 September. For more information call Bob and Bonnie McCroskey at 770-954-1924

Christian Sympathy is extended to....

Buck and Dianne Harden, GA- X on the loss of Buck's Mother

The family and friends in the loss of Emmit Rigby of GA-X

Glenn Gibson and the family and friends in the loss of Patti Gibson, GA-A



If you know of anyone that is ill, had surgery, or lost a loved one, please contact Bill and Betty Livingston.

Among Our Sick:

Earnest Nelson, Chapter H
 Randy McCaslin, Chapter P
 Dan Duffy, Chapter D
 Anne Reed





From your District Senior Ride Educators *Chuck and Anne Reed*



Just A Few Thoughts

I had the occasion to be in the mountains (Fletcher, NC and area) for a day recently, and I couldn't help but look at the mountains, and wonder when the leaves will begin their change to fall colors. Now, I know there will be a WHOLE lot of Wingers, and other bikers as well, cruising the mountains, enjoying the colors, so I decided this might be a good time to remind you about something.

As you are enjoying the mountain riding and the fall colors, remember you are also riding your motorcycle. Don't get so intrigued with looking for the colors, you forget, there is a sharp curve just ahead. And since we don't have x-ray vision, we aren't sure what is in the road around that curve. Loose gravel? Large rock? Animals? Fallen tree? Maybe nothing. But until we keep our eye on the road and through the curve, we won't know. Just be aware of where you are and what you are doing, enjoy the mountain colors, enjoy your ride, and enjoy returning home safely.

And as always, always be watchful for the unwatchful.

RSHF,

Chuck and Anne Reed

Georgia Senior District Educators

From the New International R&R Coordinator **Bill Dodd**

It is with some mixed feelings that I step down after many years on the Georgia District Staff. I have been asked and have accepted a position on National's Membership Enhancement Division as the International Recruitment and Retention Coordinator. Kit Lyman and Marty Zakrajsek have step down and left some very large shoes to fill. After careful and thoughtful consideration, I have asked Karla Greer to take over as the District R&R Coordinator. With her sincere enthusiasm and members concern's close to heart, I am confident that she will perform the job in an outstanding manner. I look forward to working with every District as I have with Georgia. I feel a positive change is in the air for GWRRA and its memberships. I am not moving to Phoenix so many of you will still see Dolly and me at many of the events and rallies within Region A. I would like to thank you all for allowing me to work with such a great District. It has been a great experience and honor.

Bill Dodd

International R&R Coordinator

678-230-9800



Georgia District Treasurers *John and Sheila Andrews*



Greetings to all the Chapter Treasurers. Due to a recent change in policies, we need to have all charter fees by 1 December each year. So I need your help by ensuring I have your fees by mid November. You may send them at anytime to us or Bill and Betty Livingston. We will be at Wind Down, so that would be the perfect time to bring your check and take care of it at that time. If anyone has any question or problems, please feel free to e-mail or call. If you have any comments or suggestions on improvements send them to me. Just a couple reminders: 1. The annual financial reports are due no later than 30 Jan each year. This allows me time to do the verifications and submit required reports. Beginning this January, copies of bank statements are no longer required to be submitted with annual financial reports; 2. Chapters must send Bill Livingston bank signature cards as a change in District Directors. My E-Mail is andrewsj@mchsi.com or Phone 229-889-8738, mailing address 3201 Pinyon Dr., Albany GA. 31721.

John and Sheila Andrews

Georgia District Treasurers

From Your District Leadership Trainers

Dave and Sharon Aikens

A Renewed Emphasis on Training

In the corporate world, training is paramount to maintaining a successful infrastructure. Employees are required to complete a set number of training hours per year to maintain certification in their respective areas. Failure to maintain these certification hours means loss of pay until all the training requirements are brought up to date. That's just fine for the big business and manufacturing world, but what about an all volunteer organization like GWRRA that cannot provide the financial incentives that the big boys can? How are we supposed to cope, especially with all the changes that we have seen in our organization over the last couple of years? The answer is a simple one: training.

A special thanks needs to be extended to the big corporations that have provided essential training to a large number of people who also like to ride motorcycles; those people who have accepted the challenge to step up and take on a leadership role in one of our GWRRA chapters. It is really great that our organization can take advantage of the training that has been provided by these companies and businesses. Unfortunately, our membership isn't made up of just business types that have had training opportunities. Our membership consists of people from all walks of life with a vast variety of work backgrounds, most of which don't usually provide the type of training that lends itself to our organizational needs. Our need is chapter leaders; those members with the desire and ability to step up and guide our chapters in a manner befitting our organization's motto; Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge.

All of our current Chapter Directors are doing a great job. Some have had the appropriate training, some have not. Those that haven't received sufficient training have been successful because of their enthusiasm and desire to do a good job for the benefit of their members. The difficulty arises when it's time to step down and have someone else take over. I think the term 'difficulty' may be an understatement in some cases. Here is where a good training program comes into play. In order to ensure a smooth transition between chapter directors, we need to have a good training program in place to assist the new CD by providing the tools and knowledge required to have a successful chapter. Unlike the corporate world, we cannot provide the financial incentives to ensure the success of our program. We have to rely on the members that want to step up and take on the challenge just because there is a need, and because they want to be an integral part of their chapter's growth and welfare - and they want to be able to have fun doing it.

The role of every good leader is, first and foremost, find their replacement. With that said, let me be the first to invite you, all current Chapter Directors, to encourage your members to sign up for our next scheduled Horizons Program. This is a good starting point with which to enlighten our members about what it takes to be a successful chapter leader. **Our next Horizons Program will be presented on January 20-21, 2007, at the Comfort Inn, 1602 Sam Nunn Blvd., Perry, GA.**

This class will be limited to 40 members. Should there be sufficient interest and we exceed the 40 member cutoff, an additional class will be scheduled for February 10-11, 2007, at the same location. The cost to attend a Horizons Program is \$10 per member. This money will defray the cost of the classroom and materials. Look for the class registration form on the GA web site. Print it, fill it out and forward (with check or cash) to Dave Aikens, 228 Sentry Oaks Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31093. Registration forms for the Jan 20-21 class must be received no later than Jan 5, 2007.

Membership Enhancement Coordinators

JJ and Marcia Etzle

The most recognized program in the Membership Enhancement Division is the Couple of the Year Program. This program is designed to recognize a Chapter Couple for their dedication, commitment and involvement in GWRRA. It is recognition, not a job. The only requirements for selection are that they be one male and one female, have a full membership in GWRRA and have been with the Chapter for one year. Often times when we select a couple to serve as the Couple of the Year, the response is they are too busy or do not want it. The program is not designed for a yes or no answer. The couple is selected, not asked to be recognized. The couple selected is not required to do anything. They are being recognized for their past involvement, not for what is expected of them as the Couple of the Year. With the year coming to a close and holidays rapidly approaching, most Chapters will be having Christmas parties or get togethers. This would be an excellent time to announce the next Chapter Couple of the Year. So now would be the time to start considering recognizing that special couple that has gone above and beyond the call to help in any way they can to support the Chapter and to volunteer to help no matter what the task. The selection process is explained in the Couple of the Year Guide, and can be as simple as discussing recommendations with the Chapter Staff, and choosing a couple or if there are several candidates, you can form a panel to conduct interviews and review participation and make recommendations. Remember, the selection is a reward, recognition for past participation, so there is no "yes" or "no" responses needed.