

OFFICERS & STAFF

Georgia District Directors
Bill and Betty Livingston
georgiadd@gmail.com
(229) 889-1705
Cell: (229) 344-6484

Assistant District Directors
2009 District Couple of the Year

Newsletter Editors
Webmasters
Carlos & Dee Lozano
cmlozano@bellsouth.net
(770) 932-4007

Asst. District Directors
Rally Vendor Coordinators
Ron & Susan Larsen
goldwing1@cox.net
(478) 971-4291

Asst. District Directors
COY Coordinators
JJ & Marcia Etzle
JJEtzle@comcast.net
(912) 826-0912

Asst. District Directors
Public Relations
Sherrel & Kay Davis
silvertrike@gwrra-ga.com
(770) 314-8938

Asst. District Directors
Asst. Vendor Coordinators
Alan & Denise Head
alanhead@bellsouth.com
(770) 257-7721

District Senior Rider Educators
Chuck & Anne Reed
zuggawing@comcast.net
(706) 790-1626

District Leadership Trainers
Dave & Sharon Aikens
aikensdl@cox.net
(478) 953-4886

Membership Enhancement
Coordinators
Sid & Donna Cohen
randrga@yahoo.com
(706) 340-5737

Event Coordinators
Vicki & Ken Watkins
vsw@alltel.net
(706) 648-6571

Georgia District Treasurers
John & Sheila Andrews
andrewsj@mchsi.com
(229) 889-8738

MAD Coordinators
Asst. District Ride Educators
Dave & Betty Andrade
dsa91539@juno.com

Region A Directors
Bob & Nan Shrader
RegionDirector@gwrra-
regiona.org



GWRRRA Georgia

January 2009



Chilly Willy is coming soon!

Chilly Willy

With the hustle and bustle of the holidays behind us, we now begin to look to the upcoming year. For some Chapters, there are new officers in place who will surely bring fun, as well as new and exciting ideas into the Chapters. The efforts put forth by the outgoing officers are greatly appreciated and we thank them for their hard work and dedication to our members. We now look to the future for our new volunteer officers to add new and innovative ideas to put fun into the Chapters. We will begin the new year with Chilly Willy which will be held at the Warner Robins Conference Center in Warner Robins on January 10th. The new Chapter officers are invited to arrive around 9:00 to give you the opportunity to set down with Dave Aikens, your District Trainer, to go over some of the important aspects of being a Chapter officer. The general session will begin at 10:00 with members of your District Staff providing information about various programs available to all members. Lunch will be served at 11:30 and then around 12:30, the Chapter Educators and Treasurers will meet with the District Educator and District Treasurer while the Chapter Directors and Assistant Chapter Directors will meet with the rest of the District Staff. These sessions will provide updates to paperwork and programs put out by

the home office. All Chapter Directors, Assistant Chapter Directors, Educators, and Treasurers should attend. If your Chapter Director cannot attend, please ensure that a representative is present to gather and then pass along the information provided. Chilly Willy is the annual Officer Training, so expenses incurred by Chapter Officers may be reimbursed depending on the status of the Chapter treasury. We will also hand out the \$500 cash prize tickets you ordered.

Officer Changes

If new officers have been appointed in your Chapter, required paperwork will need to be completed and forwarded to the GWRRRA National Office. We will have all required paperwork at Chilly Willy and we will assist you in the preparation of this paperwork if needed or answer any questions that you may have.

Chapter Financial Reports

Chapter financial reports are due in January. We are asking, if at all possible, that you bring the financial report, cover sheet, equipment list and December bank statement to Chilly Willy. These items can also be mailed to John Andrews, your District Treasurer; but, they must arrive no later than January 16th. If you have any questions regarding the financial report, please contact John at andrewsj@mchsi.com.

GOOD THINGS TO KNOW

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 10 - Chilly Willy: Warner Robins Conference Center, 308 N. Davis Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31093. Activities begin at 10:00am. For more information, contact any District staff member or visit the Georgia District Website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com. ***** NEW Location *****

January 17-18 - Horizon Leadership Training Program: Commerce, GA; Visit the District Website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com for more information or contact Dave Aikens at 478-953-4886.

February 7-8 - Horizon Leadership Training Program: Pooler, GA; Visit the District Website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com for more information or contact Dave Aikens at 478-953-4886.

February 14 - GA-S Sweetheart Poker Run: 10am to 2pm; Midway Christian Church, 1406 Hog Mountain Road (Hwy 53), Winder, GA, 30680. For more information, contact Ken & Traci Thrasher at 706-310-1041. ***** New Location *****

February 28 - Chapter Skills Training Program: Dawsonville, GA; Visit the District Website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com for more information or contact Dave Aikens at 478-953-4886.

March 7 - Chapter Skills Training Program: Perry, GA; Visit the District Website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com for more information or contact Dave Aikens at 478-953-4886

March 12-14 - Florida District Rally: "Under the Sea"; Kissimmee, FL

March 20-21 - GA-A2 Irish Getaway: Civitan Club Fairgrounds, 2503 Hwy 257, Dublin, GA, 310210. For more information, contact Gene & Pat Whiddon at 478-986-5678.

March 26-28 - Alabama District Rally: "Southern Hospitality Alabama Style"; Pelham, AL

March 28 - GA-X Cherry Blossom Pedal: Doors open at 10am, Tours start at 1pm. Howard Community Club, 5645 Forsyth Rd., Macon, GA 31210. For more information call John Zimmer at 478-474-8821.

April 4 - GA-T Spring Fling: Tuckston United Methodist Church, 4175 Lexington Road, Athens, GA; 10am - 2pm. For more information, contact Tommy Martin at 678-725-1632.

April 30 - May 2 - South Carolina District Rally: "Masquerade"; Myrtle Beach, SC

June 11-13 - Georgia Wing Fling: A Journey Thru Time to the Old West - "Goldwing Style"; Hiawassee, GA. Visit the Georgia website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com for more information, or, ask any member of the Georgia District Staff.



Region A Wanderer

FL1-R is in possession of the Region A Wanderer. The plaque will be available for capture on Saturday, January 3, at 12 PM, at the Sonic Drive In, 11351 N. Williams St., Dunnellon, FL 34432.

GA Traveler's Plaque

Chapter GA-B2 will offer the Traveler's Plaque on January 24, 2009 at the Golden Corral on Douglas Blvd. in Douglasville. They will eat at 9:00am and meet at 10:00am.

Meeting Changes

- **GA-T:** Meeting date and location is changing. Now meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Piccadilly Cafeteria at 3700 Athens Highway; Athens, GA (Georgia Square Mall). Still eat at 6p and meet at 7p.
- **GA-D2:** No meeting in January
- **GA-D:** January meeting will be on the 1st Saturday to allow the Chapter to attend Chilly Willy.
- **GA-I:** No meeting in January

Among Our Sick:

- Sandy Hatfield - Broken Leg
- Gary Verhulst - Pneumonia
- Billy Morris - Surgery
- Greg Bailey - Knee Replacement



Heartfelt Sympathy To:

- Janet & Danny Mackey and Martha Lucas on the loss of Robert "Sonny" Lucas (Janet's Dad)



From your District Leadership Trainers *Dave & Sharon Aikens*

Happy New Year!

It's that time again when we reflect back to the previous year and wonder if we did all we could for our members. Now is the time and the opportunity to get a fresh start on keeping your members happy and wanting to return for more. There are several tools available to you to use at your monthly chapter gatherings to keep the fun and social environment alive and well.

The first of these tools is the Fun Activities Guide that the Member Enhancement Division puts out. It is available on the National MED web site; just download it, print it, and bring it to your next monthly gathering. It is full of fun things to do at your gatherings and other chapter activities.

Another useful tool is your monthly ride schedule. Put some adventure back into your riding; after all, that is the reason GWRRA was formed – to ride and to enjoy our motorcycles. If you're at a restaurant on a dinner ride, collect everyone's current membership card, put them in a hat and have your waitress draw one out. The winner gets his/her dinner paid for. If they don't have their membership card – bummer! This will encourage them to remember it next time. This is also a good time to check expiration dates.

There are other tools and things you can do to liven up your chapter. Come participate in one of the training opportunities being offered to find out what they are.

- Horizon Program (Commerce GA) Jan 17-18, 2009
- Horizon Program (Pooler GA – Savannah area) Feb 7-8, 2009
- Chapter Skills Program North (Ryan's, Dawsonville GA) Feb 28, 2009
- Chapter Skills Program South (Priester's, Perry GA) March 7, 2009
- Intermediate Leadership Skills Program North (Dawsonville) August 1, 2009
- Intermediate Leadership Skills Program South (Perry) August 15, 2009
- Advanced Leadership Skills Program (Location TBD) August 29, 2009

Registration forms are available on the GA District web site, or email me at aikensdl@cox.net – all classes are free except for a small charge of \$10 per person for Horizon. Many different things are discussed and talked about at our Horizon classes. This is also a good time to learn what other chapters are doing to keep the fun and enjoyment in their chapter gatherings. There is still time to get your registration forms filled out and sent in for the January 17-18 Horizon Program. One of the couples that will be attending this class is coming all the way from Colorado. Word is spreading about how much fun we have at our training sessions, so come on out and let these folks know what southern hospitality really is.

From your Assistant District Directors / COY Coordinators *J.J. & Marcia Etzle*

Couple Of the Year Update

The new District Couple have been selected and we are proud to offer our congratulations to **Carlos and Dee Lozano** from Chapter S! They will be an awesome District Couple. Congratulations also go out to our other couples, Patrick and Beverly Schell of Chapter Q and James Cochran and Mary Christopher of Chapter V, who went through the selection process for District Couple of the Year as well. You all did a great job and we appreciate your participation in such a worthwhile program!

We want to extend our thanks to Dave and Betty Andrade for the great job they did as District Couple of the Year for 2008. You made a real difference and helped the Couple of the Year Program immensely.

Now is the time to select your Couple of the Year for 2009. The Chapter Director should consider all of the members and select the one couple who has participated and been the most active in the Chapter for the past year. Some of the criteria you might want to look for are: have they attended Chapter meetings, have they gone on dinner runs or scheduled rides, do they visit other Chapters and participate in their fun days, do they attend District Rally's and functions? These are all good questions to ask yourself prior to making your selection.

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The couple you choose can make a real difference in the life of the Chapter. It is wonderful to see the couples as they progress through the year, visiting Chapters and talking about their Couple of the Year experiences. We look forward to working with the new couples for 2009. This is a very rewarding program of recognition and we hope you will take full advantage of it in your Chapter.

We will have copies of the Couple of the Year Manual available at Chilly Willy for each Chapter Director. Please use the forms in the manual to provide the information on your new Couple and send it to us. We would like to have the information as soon as possible so we can recognize your Chapter Couple of the Year at Chilly Willy.

Let's make this the best year yet for Georgia's Couple of the Year Program! We had 17 couples this past year and we would love to see that number increase for 2009.

We look forward to seeing you at Chapter Meetings, Fun Days, Toy Runs, Poker Runs, Rally's, etc. Enjoy yourselves and RIDE SAFE!!



From your Senior District Ride Educators
Chuck and Anne Reed



Announcing Changes To The Parking Lot Program AND Introducing The New GWRRA "Advanced Rider Course"

As has been previously announced, there are some changes in the Parking Lot Program (PLP). With the introduction of the GWRRA Advanced Rider Course (ARC), the terms of the PLP as it has applied to the Rider Education Level Program are changing. Effective immediately, a PLP, sanctioned by the Region Educator, will now be good for one (1) year and can only be used to advance from Level 1 to Level 2. A PLP cannot be used to advance to Level 3 or Level 4. However, a sanctioned PLP can be used as a one (1) year extension for the riding requirement for any level. The District Educator can, with the Region Educators approval, conduct PLP's using the new PLP Facilitator Program. The Facilitator Program will be administrated by the District Educator. The individuals in the Facilitator Program will be selected and trained by the District Educator through the use of the GWRRA PLP Facilitator Certification Program. All PLP's must be approved by the District Educator. The District Educator will assign a Facilitator to conduct the PLP. The requirements for obtaining a sanctioned PLP will be the same as previously used. The Chapter Educator will get a date from the District Educator, submit a chapter Activity Request and have the PLP announced in their chapter at least 30 days prior to the actual PLP.

As for the newly introduced GWRRA Advanced Rider Course; this course is NOT for new or inexperienced riders. It is for, as the name states, "Advanced" Riders. This past October, in Biloxi, MS, I successfully completed a 4 day certification course presented by the National RE Staff, and I am currently the only Certified GWRRA Advanced Rider Course Instructor in Georgia. The GWRRA ARC (or an MSF IRC or ERC) will now be required to advance to Level 3 and Level 4. As soon as an established ARC range can be obtained and laid out (I am currently looking at suitable sites in middle Georgia), further information will be sent out. Will there be a cost? Yes. How much is yet to be determined, but it is expected to be \$50.00 or less. If you successfully complete this course, can you get a Georgia motorcycle endorsement on your drivers license? No. So, just what does this mean to you? It means that very soon, you will be offered, at a very reasonable cost, a full day (3 hours in classroom, 4-5 hours on the riding range) course that will truly test your riding knowledge (classroom) and riding skills (range), presented by certified instructors. (I will, for the time being, have certified instructor help from either Florida, Alabama or Mississippi.)

So, there you have it. The latest changes to the PLP and the new GWRRA Advanced Rider Course. It is all new and exciting and it is hoped that all Georgia GWRRA members will take advantage of what the GWRRA Rider Ed Program is offering. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I am still learning about and getting use to these changes, so I may not be able to answer your question immediately. But I sure know where and how to get an answer for you. Thanks, and I hope to see you all soon.

And, as always, always be watchful for the unwatchful . . .

Chuck & Anne Reed
Georgia Senior District Educators