

Home of
WING FLING
2011

Clown'n Around
Gold Wing Style

GWRRRA - Georgia

January 2011

Happy New Year!



New Year Resolutions

Every year, many of us tend to make a number of resolutions that we know we will never keep. We might resolve to exercise every day; we might resolve to eat healthy every day; we might resolve to lose xx pounds this year. Regardless, we fail at these resolutions because we don't really intend to stick to them for the entire year.

Maybe if we make a simpler resolution we can succeed. How about if we resolve to have FUN... and in particular... to have FUN with GWRRRA and our Chapter? Is this something that we can succeed at? Why not? Don't we all want to enjoy ourselves? If something is FUN, don't we want to partake?

Well, okay then. How can we do this in a method that is easy... so we can succeed? Here are a few very simple suggestions:

- Put on a "Happy Face". Yes, smile! By smiling, others will gravitate towards you... they just want to have FUN too.
- Greet each and every person at Chapter gatherings, dinner rides, and events (especially guests). Doing so will let others know that you are open, friendly, and FUN.

- Sit with guests that come to your gatherings. Get their phone number and e-mail address. Tell them about FUN times you've had as a member of GWRRRA. Then, be sure to follow up by calling them to personally invite them to your next gathering or ride.
- Get involved with a FUN Chapter activity. Different Chapters have their own unique FUN activities; if your Chapter needs some ideas, take a look at some Chapters around yours. Monthly mileage awards, monthly poker hands based on participation at Chapter activities are just a couple of FUN activities that can put FUN into your Chapter.
- Get your Chapter involved with the FUN events that will be featured at our 2011 Georgia Wing Fling in June. Check out page 3 of this newsletter for information about the "Krazy Hat" and the "Create a Chapter Clown" contests. Other FUN contests will be featured each month.

So, there it is; a simple resolution that you can succeed at... and some ideas as to how to ensure you succeed. Get in the game and have some FUN!

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GOOD THINGS TO KNOW

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 29 - Officer Conference: All Chapter Directors, Assistant Chapter Directors, Rider Educators, Treasurers, and Membership Enhancement Coordinators are requested to attend this year's Officer Conference. 9:00am to 4:30pm; Central Georgia Conference Complex, Ramada Hotel, 480 Holiday Circle, Forsyth, GA 31029.

February 12 - GA-S Sweetheart Poker Run: Midway Christian Church, 1406 Hog Mountain Rd., Winder, GA; 10am - 2:00pm. For more information contact Ken or Traci Thrasher at 706-310-1041.

March 17-19 - Florida District Convention: "Old Fashion Rendezvous"; Kissimmee, FL.

March 24-26 - GA-A2 Irish Get Away:

Sportsman Club, Dublin, GA. For more information, contact Chuck or BJ Hohman at 478-279-1678.

March 31 - April 2 - Alabama District Convention: "Tribute to American Heroes"; Huntsville, AL.

April 28-30 - South Carolina District Convention: "Fiesta of Wings"; North Charleston, SC.

May 21 - GA-A Fun Day: Details to be available shortly.

June 16-18 - Georgia District Convention & Rally: "Clown'n Around Gold Wing Style"; Marriott Hotel, Duluth, GA. Ask any District Team Member for more information or visit the District website at www.gwr-ra-ga.com.

July 6-9 - Wing Ding: Knoxville, TN.

2011 Chapter Couples of the Year

Does your Chapter have a 2011 Chapter Couple of the Year? If so, please let us know. They are special people and we'd like to recognize them for all of their contributions to your Chapter by listing them in our newsletter and our website.

Region A Wanderer

Chapter SC-F will offer the Wanderer on Saturday, January 8, 2011, at Mutt's BBQ, 1020 Powderville Rd., Easley, SC. Eat at noon, meet at 1:00pm.

GA Traveler's Plaque

Chapter GA-L will offer the plaque Saturday, January 15, 2011 at Ryan's Steakhouse at 2305 Shorter Ave. SW in Rome, GA. Eat at 1:00pm, plaque given away at 2:00pm.

Meeting Changes

Please visit the Chapter Info page of the District website to check for changes. Also, remember, it is always a good idea to call the Chapter Director to confirm their gathering particulars.

Heartfelt Sympathy To:

- Shirley Waller and family on the passing of Tommy



Among Our Sick:

- No illnesses reported this month





From your Assistant District Educators *Roy & Julie Degler*



Stroke Symptoms and Signs

A stroke results from impaired oxygen delivery to brain cells via the bloodstream. According to the U.S. National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the five major signs of stroke are the sudden onset of:

1. Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body. The loss of voluntary movement and/or sensation may be complete or partial. There may also be an associated tingling sensation in the affected area.
2. Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding. Sometimes weakness in the muscles of the face can cause drooling.
3. Trouble seeing in one or both eyes
4. Trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
5. Severe headache with no known cause

Reference: U.S. National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

What is a stroke?

Brain cell function requires a constant delivery of oxygen and glucose from the bloodstream. A stroke, or cerebrovascular accident (CVA), occurs when blood

supply to part of the brain is disrupted, causing brain cells to die. Blood flow can be compromised by a variety of mechanisms.

Risk factors for narrowed blood vessels in the brain are the same as those that cause narrowing blood vessels in the heart and heart attack (myocardial infarction). These risk factors include:

- high blood pressure,
- high cholesterol,
- smoking,
- diabetes and
- Increasing age.

The above information is courtesy of: Medicine-Net.com

- It is imperative that treatment for a stroke begins immediately. The longer you delay the more chance of permanent damage occurs and the window of opportunity for some treatments must begin within the first few hours of stroke onset or it cannot be utilized.
- Realize that sometimes the stroke victim does not realize there is a problem and will resist seeking assistance. Error on the side of safety and do not hesitate to call 911. Remember: Every Minute Counts!

From your District Event Coordinators *Phillip & Terri Kozlowski*

Happy New Year! Wing Fling is only a 166 days away which means you need to prepare for all the FUN competitions we will have for you. This year we have 2 NEW contests: the Crazy Clown Hat and the Create a Chapter Clown competitions.

The Crazy Hat contest is held each year at Wing Ding and with Wing Ding so close, you can prepare one hat and enter it into two competitions. There are 2 categories for the Crazy Hat; individual and chapter. Rules are simple; the hat may be any style the entrant chooses. Judging will be based on having the following in each category: GWRRA, Chapter, District and Region designation, themed to the rally, how well it depicts the GWRRA motto of "Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge", creativity, originality and overall appeal. Be sure to have FUN with your design.

The Create a Chapter Clown contest is about showing off your chapter's creativity and have more FUN. Rules for this contest are simple as well; the chapter clown can be any size and can be made from any material like paper Mache, balloons, cans, clay pots, whatever your imagination can craft. Judging criteria is based on showing the GWRRA, Region, District and Chapter designation, originality and having FUN with your clown.

All 15 different and FUN competitions and their associated rules that will be held at the 2011 Georgia Wing Fling on June 16-18th will be distributed at the District Officer's meeting on Saturday, January 29th. So be certain to be in attendance so you don't miss out on any of the FUN!

2011 Chapter of the Year Program

By Guest Contributor - Sheri Harley

I already know what you're thinking – “ Ah geez, we're not interested in that” – or, “Our Chapter's not big enough to win Chapter of the Year”, or even, “Too much paperwork” or “we just don't have time” and of course “we just want to ride and have fun”. GREAT! That's all you have to do to participate and possibly win the 2011 Chapter of the Year for Georgia! It doesn't take a big chapter or a small Chapter, it doesn't take a new chapter or an old Chapter to participate and possibly win – it just takes YOUR CHAPTER! For 2011, the guidelines have been simplified, the “qualifications” made easier, the paperwork has been lessened, and most of all – it's been geared towards leveling the playing field for all Chapters, huge, large, small, or even tiny. This program is a wonderful way to get YOUR CHAPTER the recognition it deserves, and your Chapter Participants the honor they've earned. More information is going to be available at the Officer's Conference on January 29, so take a few moments prior to the Conference and check out the information available on the Region A website about this valuable program available to your Chapter. At the conference, you will have an opportunity to get any questions answered you may have about this fantastic program for your Chapter to participate in.

From your Assistant District Directors and COY Coordinators
Dave & Betty Andrade

Starting the New Year with a Great Attitude.

What could be better than to recognize a special couple who has exemplified support to their Chapter than to honor them with the Chapter Couple of the Year Award.

This is a new year, a new day and a new opportunity to TELL that couple “Thank You” for all they have done and meant to the Chapter and because of their contributions and support, name them as YOUR 2011 Couple of the Year. 2010 had wonderful representation from our Chapters. Eighteen of our best looking Couples experienced a fellowship exclusive to that program.

There is no easier position in a Chapter than that of Couple of the Year. All a couple needs to do is be themselves.

Recognition is the best form of flattery. We hope all Chapters will recognize a special couple. Think of it; 100% of our Chapters with a 2011 Chapter Couple of the Year? **LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

HAPPY NEW YEAR

