

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

January 2014



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2014 District Couple of the Year
Vance & Fern Oakes

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Looking Forward to the Coming Year

As I sit down to write this article, it is only a few days before Ole St. Nick will be making his rounds. Vicky and I hope that you all made Santa's good list and that you received all that you have asked for.



Looking forward, it will be only a few more

days until we will be bringing in a New Year. Several Chapters have planned Years Day Rides and/or Gatherings to share this special occasion with their GWRRR friends and family.

We hope that you all have marked your calendars and plan to join us for **Chilly Willy** on January 18th,



2014 for some good food, fellowship, fun and prizes at Buckner's Family Restaurant. Located at 1168 Bucksnot Road, Jackson, GA 30233, they will start serving lunch at 10:45am and it is only \$13.25 per person including Tax and Gratuity (**CASH ONLY/ NO CREDIT CARDS**). Remember Chilly Willy will be followed by the Officers Conference and all Georgia Chapter Officers are encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Tommy & Vicky



We are looking forward to seeing you at the
**Georgia District Convention/Rally for a
Gold Wing Rodeo!**
Join us next June in Dillard!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

Now that the holidays are in our rear view mirror we hope that they were safe, happy and healthy for all of you! 2014 is here and it stretches before us unblemished with all of its adventures, hopes and dreams awaiting us to make some choices!

So, what are you going to do with it? Our hope is that you will take advantage of all the "World

Class" educational programs that make up GWRRA Rider Education! The Levels Program, riding courses, seminars, MEDIC First Aid and CPR plus Motorist Awareness all await you to participate and unlock the resources that will make us all Safer, Smarter and ultimately leading to the maximum enjoyment that only someone who swings a leg over the seat can truly

know.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Buckner's for the 1st Official Georgia District event of 2014; Chilly Willy and Georgia District Officers Conference on January 18th.

Until next time, *Be Safe—
We'll See You On The Road!*

Roy & Julie



**Julie & Roy
Degler
Ride Educator**

A BUSY YEAR AHEAD

I hope this finds everyone starting the New Year well and happy. While trying to figure out where 2013 went, I came to the conclusion that riding the Gold Wing and spending time with good GWRRA friends can cause the year to go by quickly. I will be glad to do it again in 2014.

You might want to mark your calendars for these upcoming activities. The first event is Chilly Willy at Buckner's Restaurant on January 18, 2014 in Jackson, GA. Then on

February 15, off to Winder, GA for the GA-S Sweetheart Fun Day. The Florida District Convention in Kissimmee, Florida is scheduled for March 20-22. After Florida, we will be off to the Alabama District Convention on April 3-5 in Mobile, AL. On May 1-3 the South Carolina District Convention will be held in Florence, SC. In June we will be back to Dillard, GA on June 12-14 for Wing Fling. Bring your cowboy gear for the rodeo theme. Expect to have a great time!

We will skip a couple of months so you can visit your friends or do some riding in your local area. In September we will have the Southeast "Region A" Convention in Eufala, Alabama. October will be the last convention held on Oct. 16-18 in Gulfport, Mississippi.

Now you can understand how the year goes by so fast. So get out there, ride safe, have fun and if you get a chance, take the classes that GWRRA offers.

Jim & Kay

"Our hope is that you will take advantage of all the 'World Class' educational programs that make up GWRRA Rider Education!"



**Jim & Kay Elrod
Assistant
District Director
Vendor Coordinator**

CHAPTER FINANCIAL PAPERWORK

Chapter Directors and Chapter Treasurers: In preparation for your attendance at the 2014 Chilly Willy & Officer's Conference on January 18th,



here is a list of the items you should plan on bringing with you to turn in at the conference:

- Your 2013 December

- bank statement
- Your completed Financial Report Cover Sheet
- Your completed Financial Report

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JAUNUARY 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 GA-E 	2	3	4 GA-F2, G
5	6	7 GA-S	8	9 GA-K, M	10	11 GA-D, P
						Travelers
12	13 GA-Q, T	14	15	16 GA-D2	17	18 GA-A, C2, I2, J
Wanderer						Chilly Willy & Officers Conf.
19	20 GA-O 	21	22	23 GA-H, L	24	25 GA-B2, E2
26	27	28	29	30	31	

See website for time and location of Chapter Gatherings. Please call before you visit to confirm date, time and location.

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-D, captured the plaque from GA-T. The plaque will be given away on January 11th at their regular meeting at the Golden Corral, 2025 Market Place Blvd, Cumming, GA 30041. Eat at 10:00 AM, Meet at 11:00 AM

Region A Wanderer: Chapter GA-A captured the Region plaque from AL-Y. It will be given away on January 12th at Mike's Hamburger, 402 Hwy 155 N. McDonough, GA. Lunch 11:30 AM—1:00 PM. Plaque Registration 12 Noon—1:00 PM. Awarded at 1:30 PM.

Schedule of Events

- January 18, 2014—Chilly Willy and Officer's Conference, Buckner's Restaurant, Jackson, GA
- February 1, 2014—Officer Training, Forcyth, GA
- February 15, 2014—GA-S Sweetheart Fun Day, Winder, GA
- March 20-22—Florida District Convention/Rally, Kissimmee
- April 3-5—Alabama District Convention/Rally, Mobile.



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- Your completed Equipment List – if your chapter does not own equipment (totes, tubs, chairs, tables, etc.) please still sign/date, and write “NA” on the equipment form and turn it in with your other paperwork.

The Financial Report Cover Sheet, Financial Report (that you can now fill in on line and save to your computer) and the Equipment List form are all located on

the Region website at:

www.gwr-ra-regiona.org/officerpaperwork.shtml

As you know, all chapters have to file a 990n form with the Urban Institute annually. In the past, I have done these at the officer's conference for any chapters who requested it. To save time, I won't be doing them onsite this year, but I will be happy to still file your chapter's 990n for you. I need to hear from you specifically

whether you will be filing it or if you want me to so we don't duplicate effort. Also, if you are going to file for your chapter, you must email me a copy of the confirmation you receive from the Urban Institute that shows they have accepted your filing.

That's all for now. Have a Blessed New Year and I look forward to seeing you all in January at Buckner's!

Traci



Traci & Ken Thrasher
Treasurer/
Newsletter Editor



Sid and Donna Cohen
Assistant District
Director/
Couple of the Year
Coordinator

DOES YOUR CHAPTER HAVE A SPECIAL COUPLE?

As we start 2014, we hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season and enjoyed many social events. With the New Year, we also hope that each chapter has selected a special couple as their Couple of the Year for 2014. Remember when selecting a Couple, **both** members need to be a current GWRRA Member. A mistake some new members make is when they join GWRRA they think or assume that their partner or co-rider is automatically signed

up as a member; if they don't check the family box, it won't happen. Another key point for your special couple to know is, being the Couple of the Year is not a position or responsibility; "it's an honor," an award for a job well done. As such, nothing really is expected of them in return. Just continue doing what they do for their chapter. We would like to have a current picture of each chapter couple of the year for the district website. It can be sent to

the District Webmaster at: webmaster@gwr-ra-ga.com

We will see you at Buckner's restaurant in Jackson, GA on January 18th for our annual Chilly Willy ride and officers conference.

Ride safe and often,

Sid & Donna

INTRODUCING GEORGIA'S 2014 COUPLE OF THE YEAR VANCE AND FERN OAKES!



**Georgia's 2014
Couple Of The
Year**
Vance & Fern Oakes

Vance is a retired Mechanical/Electrical Engineer and holds a Professional Engineer license in several states. He served in the Air Force from 1968 to 1975, and attained the rank of Staff Sgt (E-5). He has a daughter who lives near Atlanta and a step-son from a previous marriage who lives in Texas.

Fern is an accountant and Enrolled Agent. She retired in 2012 and does part time bookkeeping. She has 2 sons, one in

Tampa, and one in the San Francisco area.

Vance and Fern were married in 1996, and Fern joined GWRRA soon after that. They have 3 granddaughters and one grandson, ages 5 to 20.

Vance started riding motorcycles over 45 years ago, bought his first Gold Wing in 1989, and they are now riding their fourth one, a blue 2012.

Vance & Fern are members of the Community

Emergency Response Team in the county they live in. Vance is the Training Officer, and Fern is the Event Coordinator.

Vance & Fern have served in just about every capacity at the chapter level except for Chapter Director. They are now the Assistant Chapter Directors and the Newsletter Editors for Chapter S, who they now ride with after moving to Georgia from Texas in 2011.



Among our sick

Roy Degler's Mother, GA-A & District
Team

Joanna Self, GA-S

In Memory

Margaret Vaughn, GA-I2

Billy Hammock, Brother of Marsha McElhannon, GA-T

Kay Yuell's Mother