

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

February 2015



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Chilly Willy and the Georgia Officer's Conference

The 2015 Chilly Willy was kicked off with a BIG bang. There were 200 plus members that rode in to Buckner's Family Restaurant for the first District event of the year. Everyone seemed to be enjoying the wonderful food served up by the outstanding Buckner's Staff. They kept those good groceries loaded on those lazy-Buster's (they're just too big to be called a lazy-Susan). After lunch we all gathered outside for some announcements, door prizes and the 50/25/25 drawings.

Congratulations to Chapter A for achieving the level of Silver Chapter and being named as the 2014 Georgia District Chapter of the Year. We also want to Congratulate Georgia Chapters D and I2 for achieving the level of Bronze Chapter. We are proud of each of the Chapters. Keep up the good work!

There were 18 of the 20 Georgia Chapters represented at the Georgia Officers Conference, along with the entire Georgia District staff. Also in attendance were Region A Directors, Jim and Sue Jackson, as well as Region A Educators Chuck and Anne Reed. We would like to say a very special Thank You to all that took the

time out of their busy schedules to attend the conference. There was quite a bit of information shared and it seemed to be well received. There was some good input from the Chapter Officers, with several positive responses and good ideas shared.

For many years the Georgia District has provided \$500.00 Raffle Tickets for the Chapters to purchase for .10 cents per ticket that the Chapter can sell for one dollar each. Therefore the Chapter makes .90 cents per ticket sold to add to their treasury. We will continue to provide the tickets, however due to the increased cost of the tickets and decrease in sales it has become necessary to reduce the raffle prize amount to \$300.00 to the Winner and \$ 50.00 to the seller of the winning ticket. Remember, the sale of these tickets is for the benefit of your Chapter.

We have received several requests to bring back the Hot Potato! So, per your request, it

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TRAFFIC

Ah, traffic! To Ride or Not to Ride; that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler to suffer the weaving and darting of all forms of motorized mayhem or to simply hang it all up. (With all due apologies to Shakespeare and the Hamlet soliloquy.) We pose this real life dilemma that is truly affecting our sport/passion.

My Co-worker of the last 7 years recently sold his 2003 100th Anniversary Harley Ultra-Glide because he could suffer the fools on the road no more. To him all of the enjoyment and pleasure was taken away by the, pardon the expression, idiots we share the road with. In reality, do they really share the road with us or are they only out for themselves?

There is no doubt in anyone's mind that the highways and by-ways of our area have seen an increasing number of vehicles driven by self-centered, narcissistic imbecile's who are only out for themselves and could care less about the safety and rights of those who dare tread upon what they feel is rightfully their roads and highways! Let me tell you

how I really feel!

In reality the traffic is not suddenly going to disappear. The masses of machinery are not going to part and allow us safe sanctuary as we ride our trusty steeds. No, we must realize that traffic is a part of our riding experience. We have to accept that fact and prepare ourselves to never, for a second, let our guard down. In other words; it is not going away!

Some things we can do is plan our routes carefully, trying to avoid urban areas. We should time our travels to not coincide with rush hour or holiday traffic loads. Leave early or wait until mid-day to begin our adventures, even night time can be an option, but let's face it; even the best laid plans can go out the door in the blink of an eye.

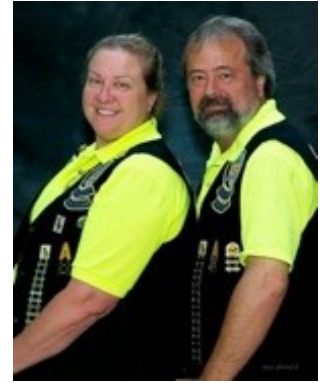
When in traffic make yourself as visible as possible. Choose the lane position—left track, center or right track—that makes you the most noticed. Hard to do, but relax! If you are squeezing the grips so tight your wrists are going to sleep, you are making it harder on yourself. Being tense is a dis-

traction and a distracted anyone, be it a trike or bike rider or truck or car driver, makes mistakes! Think about your strategy, not for the next 1,000 feet, but for the next 5 miles.....are you exiting, where are you exiting, what lane gives me the best chance of safely getting me where I intend to go. Keep your eyes on a swivel and if riding with a co-rider, trust their input. They are a part of your team! TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More)

Whether we like it or not traffic is a part of our lives. We long for and really need to appreciate those times when the road stretches out before us with not another vehicle in sight. Those possibilities are still out there, but first we are going to have to come to terms with the increasing amount of traffic and the situations it brings to our everyday lives.

Remember that riding is 80 to 90 percent mental and 10 to 20 percent physical skills. We need to be on our game every time we swing a leg over the seat. Do we want to venture out impaired, not on our game? Impaired can mean

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Julie & Roy
Degler
Ride Educator

“When in traffic make yourself as visible as possible. Choose the lane position—left track, center, or right track—that makes you the most notice.”



PLANNING AHEAD

What does planning ahead mean to you? Do you plan for next week, next month, all year? Well, it can be all of these. Life is much smoother when you plan ahead, which can mean planning your rides, your meetings, and your personal responsibilities to coordinate smoothly with each other.

Let's start with planning rides. After all, riding our motorcycles is what GWRRA is about. Most of the time, one or more persons in a chapter needs advance notice to go on a ride. Maybe they need to know which weekend to take off or when not to schedule other events in their lives. It has been suggested in GWRRA that we plan our rides three months out. This does not mean that they cannot be changed or updated. However, this gives the chapter participant time to plan and organize their time so they can go on the rides. Participation should increase when people know what is ahead well in advance. Publish ahead in your newsletter and on your website. Appoint someone as your ride coordinator and have them make the schedule with

the approval of the Director. Remember, the schedule does not have to be set in stone! Put a disclaimer to check updates to the dates and events before going on a ride.

Most chapters meet on a certain day of the week on a certain week in the month. However, sometimes this can vary because of other activities such as plaque attacks, Christmas parties, fun days, training, or District and Region events. Keep abreast of what is going on with other chapters, District, and Region and plan your meetings ahead—give plenty of notice if your time or date changes.

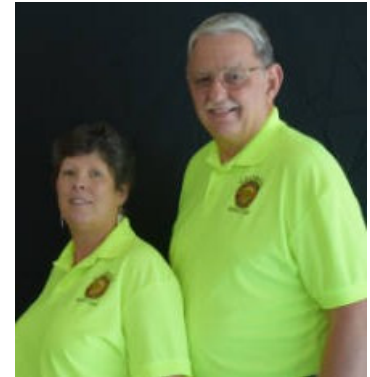
Of course, personal responsibilities cannot always be counted on to be on certain dates. All we can do there is try to make appointments so we can still enjoy GWRRA rides and activities. There will always be emergencies where we can't ride or attend a meeting, and that is understood by all of us.

Part of planning ahead is setting goals and objectives. These should be written. Does your chap-

ter set goals and objectives? Each year meet with your team leaders, or your chapter, and write down the goals for that year. For example, one of your goals might be that you want to recruit at least 8 new members. How are you going to go about doing that? The "How" part is your objectives—you are going to place 25 flyers on bulletin boards; you are going to call on 3 motorcycle dealers; you are going to set up 2 booths and talk to people. The bulletin boards, dealers, and booths are your objectives. Take action to meet your objectives and you should reach your goals. It is a proven fact that goals are more apt to be reached if they are written. The objectives are also more real and productive when written.

It is our suggestion that you and your team spend time brainstorming. Just jot down ideas to start, and then form them into your goals and objectives. Yes, it is a little work, but it may just be what your chapter needs to grow and thrive. If you need help, we are here to do just that.

Larry & Pam




**Pamela & Larry
Clemmer
Assistant
District
Directors**

"Part of planning ahead is setting goals and objectives. These should be written. Does your chapter set goals and objectives?."



FEBRUARY 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 GA-S	4	5 GA-T	6	7 GA-E, F2
8	9 GA-Q	10	11	12 GA-K, M	13	14 GA-B Sweetheart FD & Traveler Plq.
15	16 GA-O 	17	18	19 GA-D2	20	21 GA-A, C2, I2, J
22	23	24 GA-R	25	26 GA-H, L	27	28 GA-B2, E2

Lots of Chapters have had changes in meeting locations and time. Please see the District website (www.gwrra-ga.com) for time and location of Chapter Gatherings. As always, call before you visit to confirm date, time and location.

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-S captured the Georgia Traveler's Plaque from GA-O! It will be given away at GA-S' Sweetheart Fun Day, February 14th at Midway Christian Church, 1406 Hog Mountain Rd. Sign in will be from 10:00 AM till 12:30 PM.

Region A Wanderer: The Region A Wanderer has been recalled and will be in-active for the rest of 2015.

Schedule of Events

- February 9—Why We Ride, Rome
- February 14—GA-S Sweetheart Fun Day, Winder
- March 7—University Trainer Development Program, Warner Robbins
- March 8—Why We Ride, Rome
- March 19-21—Florida Convention/Rally, Kissimmee
- April 4—Chapter Leadership Program, Fayetteville
- April 23—Why We Ride, Rome
- April 25—GA-B's 30 Year Anniversary, Red Top Mountain State Park
- May 2—Officer Certification Program, Austell
- May 14-16, 2015—Alabama District Convention/Rally, Eufaula
- June 18-20, 2015—Georgia District Convention/Rally—Gold Wing Dynasty
- July 16-18, 2015—South Carolina District Convention/Rally, Anderson
- July 25-26—Horizon Program, Marietta
- September 3-6—Wing Ding, Huntsville, AL
- October 15-17—Mississippi District Convention/Rally, Gulfport
- October , 29-30, 2015—Region "A" Convention/Rally, Eufaula, AL

Hope your making plans to "Wing It" to the Georgia District's Convention/Rally in June at River Vista Mountain Village in Dillard. Your District Team is pulling out all its feathers to make sure that you have a great time!



miss that!

As always there will be a talent show that will make your heart sing, cause a giggle and be proud to be a GWRRRA member. (Hey,

are going to be duck races in the creek? You don't want to

did you hear the one about...? Well just come to the talent show and find out!

Again, and we can't stress this enough, you must be *pre-registered* to be treated to the full dinner on Thursday evening. So send in those registrations so you won't be left out!

Looking forward to seeing



**GOLDWING
DYNASTY
DILLARD, GA**



**Tommy & Vicky
Martin
District Director**

Chilly Willy and the Georgia Officer's Conference

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was announced that the Hot Potato will be returning and, with the applause of the crowd, we can only assume that everyone was happy to hear that it is coming back. It is under construction at this time and should be ready for travel around the first week of February. One Chapter will be drawn from all the Georgia

Chapters to start the Hot Potato. It will be delivered to that Chapter by District Staff. So, watch for the Hot Potato it may be coming your way soon.

The District Travelers Plaque was kicked off on its journey Saturday, January 24th by Chapter O and they had a great turnout for their special gathering to give the plaque away. There were several Chapters in the

running; however Chapter S was the capturing Chapter that took the plaque home. Chapter S will have the District Travelers Plaque available for capture at their Sweet Heart Fun Day on February 14th.

We hope to see you on the road,

Tommy & Vicky



**LOOK TWICE - SAVE A LIFE
MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE**

TRAFFIC

(Continued from page 2)

tired; angry, medicated (legally and not legally), the list can be extensive, but you know the point we are trying to get across. So the answer is a resounding—NO! Look at it this way; would you want your airline flight to be in the hands of an air traffic con-

troller at 90%? Again, we think not. 100% focused on the task at hand every single moment is what we are striving for. Everyone needs a goal; that is the goal.

Ultimately leaving the sport is one way of dealing with the situation, but it is an extreme example. We

believe that there is a way to coexist and thrive while exploring the highways and by-ways of our great country!

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

Roy & Julie

Congratulating Our 2015 Couples of the Year!

International —Tommy & Gayle Wilson

GA-B—Paul Loeser & Geraldine Duenas

GA-I2—Paul & Jane Moricz

Region A—Dewey & Alice Cole

GA-B2—Dick & Gail Cross

GA-S—Craig & Pat Whitehouse

GA-A—Gary & Juanita Rackley

GA-D—Joel & Jenny Reasons

GA-T—Tommy & Vicky Martin



Recognizing Georgia's 2014 Chapter of the Year— Chapter A!

