

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

April 2014



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Perfect Attendance

Vicky and I just arrived home from the Florida District Rally and I must say we had a great time. The weather was perfect for the ride there and back and all through the rally. Florida District Directors Bill and Gina Berry along with their District Team once again put on a fantastic Rally. The Georgia District was very well represented and received a certificate at closing ceremonies for the Largest Visiting District outside of Florida. **Congratulations** are also in order for Georgia Chapter S on receiving a Certificate for being the Largest Visiting Chapter from outside the Florida District. We want to say a special "Thank You" to all that attended and for your support.

"Perfect Attendance"

A few weeks ago I received an email from Georgia Chapter A Directors Larry and Pam Clemmer, asking if I could present a special award to one of their Chapter participants at their March Chapter Gathering, as I read

further into the email it explained what the award was for. Boy was I surprised to learn that the award was for an accomplishment that I have not heard of before. The award was to recognize a member that had not missed a regular monthly Chapter Gathering in the past ten years. YES that's right—10 YEARS perfect attendance! WOW what a milestone to claim! So Needless to say, I was truly honored to present to GWRRA Member James (Jim) Thomas #195847 the well deserved Perfect Attendance Award. Jim will be 77 years young on the 19th of June, 2014 and loves to ride his GL1500.

Jim joined GWRRA on 04/28/04 and has been a Chapter A Participant every since. As I was talking to Jim after the presentation it was very apparent that Jim has truly experienced and believes in the benefits of the GWRRA Motto (FRIENDS for FUN, SAFETY and KNOWLEDGE). To say that Jim is

(Continued on page 4)



IT'S THAT WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR—AGAIN!

Ah, Daylight Savings Time—that wonderful time of the year where we “spring” ahead an hour (translation; you lose an hour of your life) in order to experience more daylight at the end of the day. Studies show that the Monday following this change over report an increase in accidents (all kinds) and productivity at work suffers greatly because it messes with our bodies biorhythms. Making us tired, out of sorts, etc. At least that is the argument

It also means that it is now darker in the morning when commuting to work or school. This darkness in connection with out or sort biorhythms leads to what we consider unsafe practices. Case in point: The other day, when commuting to work, I approached a “T” intersection where I had the stop sign. While some lightness was just occurring on the horizon, I would actually still call it dark. I wanted to turn right onto this road. Oncoming traffic has no restrictions. I looked left and saw nothing. I then looked right and saw nothing. Fortunately I believe in “Look Twice, Save a Life”, so I looked left again and made out a

black pick-up truck barreling up the road just barely visible running with no lights on. If I had not looked a second time I would have pulled out right in front of it. Speed limit on this stretch of road is 45 mph. (In other words 60 mph in the Atlanta area) Bottom line; it would not have been pretty!

My first reaction was anger. How could someone blatantly drive in the dark with no lights on—too lazy to turn on the headlight switch? I figured they had to be breaking the law so I went to a Georgia DMV site (DMV.org) that simplifies the motor vehicle code and discovered this:

Headlight Laws: *Headlights must be on a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise. Headlights must also be on when it is raining and when visibility is reduced to under 500 feet.*

Are you kidding me? Headlights are only required a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise! What has happened to common sense? One would think they not only want to see where they are going, but be seen as well. Visibility prevents accidents! What are our legislators thinking?

So what we need to learn from this is that we always need to be on top of our game, especially when faced with changes. Whether it is an illness, stressful time in our life, change in the time standards or simply a change in routine, we need to always increase our focus on task and perform everything we do with due diligence.

Life, as well as riding a Motorcycle or Trike, is filled with risk. If we identify the risk, accept that it exists and do all we can to minimize that risk it can lead to a long, happy and safe journey. Additionally, if you do not subscribe to the “Look Twice, Save a Life” philosophy, please do so!

A while back we attended a Chapter Q gathering and their Educator, Paul Vrahiotes, ended his presentation with something like, “Ride Paranoid, because they are out to get you!” It seems to us that there is a lot of sense in that statement because it makes us increase our “Situational Awareness”. I think we can all agree that philosophy can make the difference between a bad day and a good day!

Be Safe—We'll See You On The Road!

Roy & Julie






**Julie & Roy
Degler
Ride Educator**

“If we identify the risk, accept that it exists and do all we can to minimize that risk it can lead to a long, happy and safe journey.”



APRIL 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		1 GA-S	2	3	4	5 GA-E, F2	
		Alabama District Convention/Rally					
6	7	8	9	10 GA-K, M	11	12 GA-B, D, P	
13	14 GA-Q, T	15  Passover begins	16	17 GA-D2	18	19 GA-A, C2, I2, J	
20  Easter	21 GA-O	22 GA-R	23	24 GA-H, L	25  Labor Day	26 GA-B2, E2	
27	28	29	30				

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-B2 retained possession of the Georgia Traveler's plaque. Details on the date, location and time it will be made available for capture will be posted soon on the District website at www.gwrra-ga.com—so stay tuned!

Region A Wanderer: The Wanderer was offered for capture on March 30th by FL2-D, who captured it from FL2-A. As this happened after our newsletter publication deadline, please check the Region website (www.gwrra-regiona.org) for the latest information on location, date and time.

Have we got some exciting news to share! It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce that our shirts for this years Gold Wing Rodeo are now available for pre-order!

For those already registered, pre-order forms are available on our website; click on the "2014 Georgia Rally" link at www.gwrra-ga.com.

If your not yet registered, you can order your shirts along with your Rally registration. See the new

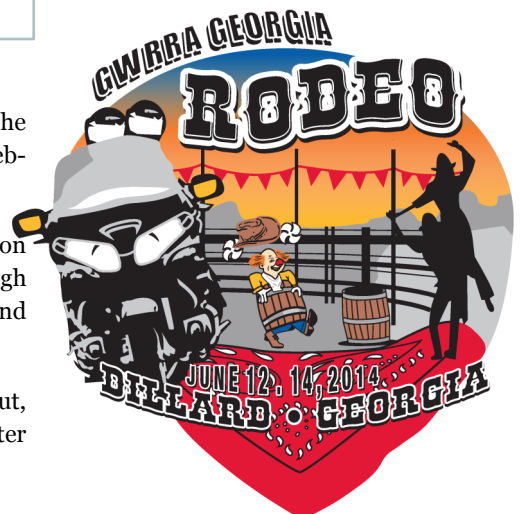
Wing Fling Flyer at the same location on our website.

Shirts will be available on site, but at a slightly high cost, so order early and **SAVE!**

You wont want to miss out, so don't delay, register today!

Schedule of Events

- April 3-5—Alabama District Convention/Rally, Mobile.
- May 1-3—Southe Carolina Convention/Rally, Florence
- May 10—GA-T Fun Day
- May 17—GA-R Fun Day Proctor landing, Acworth
- May 31—Chapter Leadership Program, Leesburg
- June 12-14—Wing Fling, Georgia Convention/Rally, Dillard
- June 26—Chapter Life Program, Forsyth
- July 2-5—Wing Ding, Madison, WI
- August 29 & 31—Weekend at the Opry, Nashville, TN
- September 11-13—Region A Convention/Rally, Eufaula, AL
- October 16-18—Mississippi Convention/Rally, Gulfport





**Tommy & Vicky
Martin
District Director**

“As we are out riding and enjoying the weather, lets us be mindful of the children who are also out enjoying the warmer weather—and not paying much attention to what is going on around them..”



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



(Continued from page 1)

dedicated to GWRRA and Chapter A might be putting it mildly. You see, Jim’s only means of transportation is his Gold Wing and he hasn’t missed a Chapter Gathering in TEN YEARS. So that means that he rides rain or shine, day or night and his fellow members say they have never heard him complain about a sore butt, bad back or hungry stom-

ach! However, Jim is a Gold Winger so we know he likes to eat. We congratulate Jim on his accomplishment and wish him many years of continued participation to come.

Spring has sprung and riding season is here. Don’t forget about the many Chapter and District Events that are coming up in the near future. April 3-5 we will be "Roman" The Bay at the

Alabama District Rally in Mobile, AL. Also the District Travelers Plaque and will up for grabs again soon. So make you plans and go capture it. Remember, it’s about the Ride, Friends, Fellowship, Knowledge and Fun. You can’t experience it, if you don’t participate!

We hope to see you on the road soon!

Tommy & Vicky

**Congratulations to our 2014
Couples of the Year!**

International—Tommy & Gayle Wilson

Region A—Buddy & Kim Summer

Georgia District—Vance and Fern Oates

GA-A—Don & Sharon Jenkins

GA-B2—Walter & Linda Wiggs

GA-D—Mike & Nancy Lynbery

GA-H—Jeff & Maud Verner

GA-I2—Larry & Linda Watkins

GA-J—Mike & Peg Jones

GA-S—Glenn & Sherry Wisdom

HAPPY EASTER!

Believe it or not March is gone and now here we are at Easter time. As we are out riding and enjoying the weather, lets us be mindful of the children who are also out enjoying the warmer weather—and not paying much attention to what is going on around them. This is a good idea to do year round.

In April we have our sec-

ond Rally in Region A. Alabama will be having their Rally the April 3rd through the 5th. If you did not make the Florida Rally maybe you can make this one. They are always allot of fun and you get to meet a lot of nice folks with one thing in common—GOLD WINGS.

Also, let us also remember the true meaning of East-

er. This a time for joy and peace for man kind. Well that will do for this month, so lets get out there and ride! And don't forget to have fun, be safe and remember all the seminars that GWRRA offers to improve your knowledge.

Jim & Kay

Among our sick

Donald Taylor, GA-D
Debra Roberts, GA-D
Erin Cohen, daughter-in

law and Noah Cohen, grandson of Sid & Donna Cohen, GA Team & GA-S

In Memory

Kim daughter of Bruce & Joanna Self, GA-S
Randy Perkinson, TN-O