

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

August 2013



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ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?

Vicky and I have been having a blast ever since we joined GWRRA back in August of 1999. We attended our first GWRRA meeting in September, 1999 and received a warm welcome into the chapter family of GA-T and began participating with our new chapter friends. Since that first chapter meeting, we have ridden thousands of miles with our GWRRA friends and family. We have shared lots of laughs and some tears along the way. The more we participate, the more friends we meet, the more we learn about GWRRA, the more FUN we have and it keeps getting better.

Are you having as much FUN as you would like with GWRRA? If not, have you considered why not? Of course Vicky and I can only speak for ourselves, but we enjoy participating with our GWRRA friends and family, whether it's at a dinner ride, chapter gathering, training class, riding course, fun day or an overnight trip to a GWRRA event, team meeting, etc. We just like to have FUN!

There are so many FUN things to do throughout this organization; all you have to do is participate in them. Do you participate with your local chapter? Do you get involved and share your

ideas and make suggestions for rides and activities that may be fun for the chapter? We truly believe the more you get involved and participate with your chapter the more FUN you will have. Give it a try you may find it to be rewarding and FUN.

Georgia was very well represented at Wing Ding 35 by the Georgia members. We had an opportunity to visit with several of you while at Wing Ding and everyone that I talked with said that they were really having an enjoyable time. Georgia was responsible for the ticket sales and poker run booth on Thursday July 4th and we would like to say a special "thank you" to all that helped at the ticket and poker run booth. We had a lot of FUN selling those tickets and checking poker hands while visiting with members from all around the country. You were great and we could not have done it without you.

We were contacted by a couple from Australia (Greg & Donna), they were planning to attend Wind Ding 35. Sid Cohen and I met them at the Atlanta airport on Friday before the week of Wing Ding. We drove them to WOW Motorcycles on Cobb

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KEEP YOUR GUARD UP...

Well, here it is August already. We are not exactly sure where the time is going, but it certainly is moving fast! Mother Nature has also been busy and has rained on many of our parades so to speak. Consider it an inconvenience because we really did need the rain after so many years of drought.

Personally riding in the rain is not terrible; it is the cleaning of the bike or trike afterwards that takes the fun out of it. I do not know about your situation, but I can never seem to find my Co-Rider when it comes to that cleaning part! Anyway, we consider this a part of being a motorcycle/trike rider/enthusiast in the south.

Lately there have been a rash of motorcycle accidents and unfortunately fatalities. Just last Friday a motorcyclist was killed in Clayton County. There is not much information other than it occurred at an intersection and at 5 am which means it was still dark.

Trying to locate Georgia statistics for the current year can be difficult at best. In 2012, there were 133 motorcycle fatalities in the state of Georgia. This number was down slightly from 2011. The highest number of fatalities occurred within Ful-

ton County. DeKalb County showed a significant increase.

Nationally motorcycle fatalities rose 9% to more than 5,000. "This is greater than the overall traffic fatality increase projected by the federal government and would be the 14th out of the last 15 years in which motorcyclist deaths increased. Notably, this level of deaths closes in on an all-time high, and motorcyclists remain one of the few roadway user groups where no progress can be shown over the last decade." – reported by the GSHA

As for my personal experiences, every time I believe it cannot get any worse, I am once again proved wrong. Is it just me or has the driving public lost their collective minds? It appears that everyone is out for themselves with no regard to other individuals on the road. It is all about them. When did driving stop being a privilege and treated like a right? Rolling stop signs, pulling out in front of me, weaving all over the road, stopping for green lights, tailgating, speeding, obvious signs of texting and driving, talking on cell phones, crossing center lines, displaying a basic disregard and lack of

courtesy for others that they *Share the Road* with. The list could go on and on. Now add your experiences to the list!

Based on our experiences and looking at this latest fatality in Clayton County can we possibly draw some conclusions? Distracted driving? Did not see them? What else? Obviously we are speculating without knowing the facts, but based on everyday interactions with the motoring public they are easy ones to reach. We truly wish they were not!

As the weather appears to be getting better and more of us swing a leg over our seats for the next great adventure let us take a few moments to prepare ourselves and our machines. Complete a T-CLOCS or Trike Check Form for our trusty steeds. Make sure that we are physically prepared for the trip; well rested, hydrated and healthy being high priorities. Most importantly make sure we are mentally in the game! Believe it or not; 80 to 90% of what we do when we ride is mental. If we are not at our best we could potentially be setting ourselves up for a bad day. None of us wants that!

In conclusion we want you all to enjoy this great lifestyle we have chosen to
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**Julie & Roy
Degler
Ride Educator**

"Is it just me or has the driving public lost their collective minds? ...When did driving stop being a privilege and treated like a right?"



AUGUST 2013

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

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

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-F2, captured the plaque from GA-Q. The plaque will be given away on August 3rd at Ryan's, 3034 Peach Orchard Road, Augusta, GA 30906. Eat at 11:00 AM; meet at 12:00 Noon.

Region A Wanderer: Chapter SC-M captured the Wanderer from SC-I. It will be given away on August 10th at Ryan's Stake House, 1703 By-Pass 72 N, Greenwood, SC 29649. Eat at Noon; meet at 1:00 PM.

Schedule of Events

- August 10, 2013—GA-R's Spring Picnic, Acworth
- August 17 & 18, 2013—Horizons, Fayetteville
- September 7, 2013—Officer Certification Program (OCP), Warner Robins
- September 21, 2013—GA-D's Annual MAD Event, Cumming
- September 28, 2013—GA-A's 'Teerific' Fun Day, Forsyth
- October 5, 2013—GA-Q's Desert Auction, Warner Robins
- October 6, 2013—Officer Certification Program (OCP), Buford
- November 9, 2013—Wind Down, Dublin Civitan Club.

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Parkway—by way of the Marietta Diner for a nice breakfast of course—where they had rented a GL1800 to ride to Wing Ding. We also visited with Greg and Donna at different times during Wing Ding; they are a great couple and our new Friends courtesy of GWRRA. Isn't it awesome the benefits we receive

through this organization!

Talking about FUN! We just happen to have some fun events coming up soon and remember participation is the key to having FUN. (Planning and Communication = Participation).

Chapter F2 has the District Plaque and will be giving it away on Aug. 3rd

Chapter R is having their Annual Picnic on Aug. 10th.

Aug. 17th & 18th Horizons Class, Fayetteville, GA

Sept. 12th -14th Region A Rally, Eufaula, AL

We hope to see you soon,

Tommy & Vicki





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

***“Your District
Couple of the Year,
Larry and Pamela
Clemmer from
Chapter A is in the
selection process
for the next Region
A Couple of the
Year.”***



SUPPORTING GEORGIA’S COUPLE OF THE YEAR

July is over and August is here. That means only 14 more weeks until Wind Down and the selection for the next Georgia District Couple of the Year. So far three chapter Couples of the Year are planning to submit a resume for the District Couple of the Year selection. Do you know who they are? I’ll talk about them in next months newsletter article. Chapter Membership Enhancement Coordinator’s and Chapter Directors Talk to your Chapter Couple. If they have not contacted me about entering the selection process, it is not to late to let me know.

Don’t let this slip by. September 12, 13th and 14 is the Region A rally in

beautiful Eufaula, Alabama. Your District Couple of the Year, Larry and Pamela Clemmer from Chapter A, are in the selection process for the next Region A Couple of their Year. If you haven’t made plans for that weekend how about coming on down and supporting Georgia and Larry and Pamela. They both have worked hard this year as our ambassadors.

I’m sure you will have a wonderful time In Eufaula. Remember a rally is not all about venders. Sometimes it is a reason just to get away and do some different riding. Take in a training lesson or just relax with some friends.

Donna, Dave & Pat Salum and I represented Georgia at the 6th annual Big Burger Run in Trenton Georgia on the July 27th. The food looked great. The service was fast; I did not see a line at all. The weather was perfect, not a rain drop in sight. It appeared everyone who attended was having a fun time. Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee each gave away 2 free registrations for their next rally. After the event we took some time and visited some of the smaller towns in Tennessee and Alabama before heading home.

Ride safe and often,

Sid & Donna

Congratulations to Our 2013 Couples of the Year!

International—Greg & Renee Dempsey

Region A—Dana & Joe Voight

Georgia District—Larry & Pamela Clemmer

GA-A—Bryan & Nina Douglas

GA-B2—Dean & Candace Watts

GA-D—Buddy & Debbie Bertram

GA-E2 Clarence and Pat Taylor

GA-H—John & Lynn Hyde

GA-I2—Ronnie & Margaret Vaughn

GA-J—Nick George & Sandy Smith

GA-L—Scott & Jackie Whitener

GA-S—Vance & Fern Oakes

GA-T—Ralph & Debbie Stewart

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pursue; the road, the friends, the laughter, the places, the food! It is not just about the destina-

tion, it is about getting there! Keep your guard up, head on a swivel and keep making those memories!

Until next time: Be Safe—We’ll see you on the road!

Roy & Julie

Among our sick

Larry Clemmer, GA-A
John Tabor, GA-O
Dee Lozano, GA-S

George Roman, GA-S
Gary Lewis, GA-T
Bill Dodd, GA-B

In Memory

Uncle of Bill Hatfield, GA-S