

CHAPTER C NEWSLETTER

February

Issue 2

Volume 14

Region H

HAPPY MARDIS GRAS



FEBRUARY EVENTS

1. Wayne Nichol's Birthday
4. Chapter C meeting
9. Bonnie Nagy's Birthday
15. David Eoff's Birthday
 Jenn Cummings Birthday
17. Billy and Trish Potter's Anniversary
19. Bonita Goodman's Birthday
21. Dinner Ride
23. Delyce Palik's Birthday
28. Frank Clark's Birthday

From your

ARKANSAS

District Directors

February 2012

Well, we hope that your New Year started well and that you are off to a running start in 2012. Your District Team is already working on the convention for May (all info is on the website) and we are scurrying to pull off our couple's luncheon on the 11th and feed our winning chapters on the 20th. After that it is off to the Region Convention in Marshall at the end of March. Is this a sign for 2012? I hope so, we would love to see 2012 be the year that all of us get back to doing what we love best, riding, meeting, and of course eating.



As I mentioned, the Convention info is on the website and we are still planning all of the events that will be at our rally in Harrison. The city reps have opened their arms and city to us and we are planning many events for your pleasure and enjoyment. Make plans early to be there and enjoy the riding in Arkansas.

As I have started to plan for the Rally season, I can already see that getting everywhere that I need to be is going to be a challenge (physically, mentally and financially), but I am ready to get the season started and looking forward to all the fun that is waiting. Again our hope is that no matter what the challenges this year, all of us will get out and do all that we can in our Associational work. We all know that there are challenges, but facing and conquering those challenges is what life is all about. Let's bring the fun back to Arkansas and all the GWRRA in 2012.

See you on the road!!!!!!

Remember,

If it looks like a good day to ride, it probably is.

Chris and Pam DePriest



Chapter Director Corner:

Here we are starting a New Year. I hope that everyone that made a New Years resolution is still hanging in there. I personally did not make one because I knew that I would slip up. Well, enough of that.

For those that are planning on attending Wing Ding in July at Fort Wayne, Indiana we have been asked for volunteers to help out for a couple of hours. This is a great honor to be a part of such a great organization and to help out in anyway we can. Information on this will come later.

Also, Chris Depriest has asked us to help out at our District Convention in Harrison, Arkansas the weekend of May 24th, 25th and 26th. Lets all at Chapter "C" step up and not only help our past Chapter Director (who started Chapter C), and is now our out going District Director, to give him a great and memorable event.

I want to thank all those that attended Chapter "L"s dinner ride this month. We enjoyed the great food plus the wonderful fun and fellowship with one of our neighboring Chapters. Our brother George Lybrand made it and he had to go to work a few hours later.

Our monthly dinner ride was great to see all those that attended. I was late getting there so when I arrived I thought that we were having one of our monthly meetings. We had a total of 25 members, one of our records at a dinner ride. I learned that Catfish is a 'hit' when it comes to a dinner ride. Wow!! We were blessed that Chris and Pam Depriest were able to attend. I know that it is hard for Chis to make it with his new job and all, but hats off to them.

CHAPTER "C" DIRECTOR ROY DELLINGER #254166

By the Book

By: Steve Cotton

Region H Trainer



The “By the Book” articles are intended to help familiarize GWRRA Volunteer Leaders and Members with the policies, procedures, and information contained in the GWRRA Officer’s Handbook (OHB). A copy of the Officer’s Handbook can be found at the following Internet website: www.gwrra.org/oconnect/officerhandbook.html

Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District, or Chapter newsletters.

Thanks to John Simonick (former Texas District Director and Texas District Trainer) for the inspiration to write this month’s article based on ideas he wrote in February 2004. Revisions have been made to keep it current.

Keep Your Chapter Director “Honest”

A Chapter Director’s role is to represent the desires of Membership through the collective efforts of the Chapter Team. Who, if anybody, evaluates whether Chapter Directors are acting in the best interest of their Chapter? Could they be acting based upon their personal beliefs? Would those beliefs adequately represent the desires of the general Membership? Who could make that determination? Why YOU, of course!

To be able to determine if the Chapter Director is “on track”, you will need to have a basic understanding of the Officer’s Handbook (OHB). In this issue, I would like to present the Introduction to all GWRRA Officers provided by our Director. This is found in page A-1 of the Handbook.

Dear GWRRA Officers:

You have accepted a very important and responsible position in our Association that will challenge you to provide leadership. A position to furnish an environment for our Members to come together to experience mostly FUN and CAMARADERIE; to enjoy riding their GOLD WINGS or VALKYRIES and, most importantly, take advantage of GWRRA’s RIDER EDUCATION.

The network you now join as an Officer of GWRRA is wholly responsible for the communication link between the Association and our Members. By acceptance of this Officer’s position, all of us have agreed to support the ideals of GWRRA and to provide our Members with a relaxed, fun atmosphere... free of politics and religion. Politics and religion are a personal choice and should always be left to the individual discretion of the Members. Our sole purpose is to keep it simple, make it FUN, and say YES 99.5% of the time. The word “NO” is not in our vocabulary unless it is absolutely in the best interest of our Members’ safety.

This handbook provides you with background information about our remarkable organization. We hope you will refer to it often. If at any time you are uncertain about anything pertaining to your office, please call your appointing Officer and ask for assistance. All of us are here to support you and to help you be the best that you can be.

In conclusion, as Officers, we are here to serve our Members; they are not here to serve us. We are here to ensure their fun and entitlement as Members of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association. Congratulations and best wishes for a successful and meaningful tenure as an Officer of GWRRA.

In the Handbook, the signature of then-Director of GWRRA Melissa Eason appears after these previous paragraphs. There are a few important points I would like to emphasize here. In the first paragraph, the point is that the Officer is challenged to be a leader, make it FUN, and promote inclusiveness. Does your Chapter Director allow, promote, or participate in cliques? I would challenge that cliques are in opposition to the “coming together” principle.

In the second paragraph, the responsibility is delineated to the Officers to be the communication link between the Association and the Membership. Does the Chapter Director (CD) keep the Chapter informed of news from the Association? This can be accomplished through the newsletter, chapter gathering, website, etc. Additionally, this may be accomplished through the Chapter Team. Nevertheless, the CD is responsible for this communication.

Is there any discomfort or conflict in the Chapter that is political in nature, or dealing with religion? The statement “...free of politics and religion” in the 2nd paragraph delineates the CD’s responsibility on that front.

Does the CD respond with “no” frequently, turning down reasonable requests and nixing reasonable suggestions? See the last two sentences in the second paragraph.

Finally, does the CD act more like a boss than someone who serves? The first sentence in the last paragraph reads, “...as Officers, we are here to serve our Members, they are not here to serve us.”

If any of these concerns are perceived as real within your own Chapter, challenge your CD to re-read Section “A” of the Officer’s Handbook. With a little cooperation, your Chapter may become even more successful.

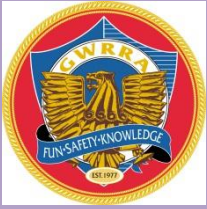
Learn Something New...Then Teach Someone!

Steve and Carolyn Cotton
Region H Trainers



Wing Wisdom Whittles

February 2012



Prepared by Steve & Carolyn Cotton, Region H Trainers



"Whittles" articles are intended to provide information that can be presented by chapter members at monthly gatherings to help promote the Leadership Training Program. The hope is that chapters will enlist members to share the information to make it a FUN and interesting new experience.

Simple Ideas for Living a Significant and Happy Life

Most people are happy with their lives, but many are not as happy as they could be. Remind yourself that *you are here to live above average and ordinary.* When you make meaningful choices, you will live a meaningful life! There is no secret to doing this; it is just a matter of striving to do your best. Here are some tips that may help:

- Be nice.
- Be Honest.
- Keep a proactive, right and healthy attitude.
- Value relationships with respect, love and encouragement.
- Choose to make a difference with your heart, actions, and gifts - make your life count.
- Don't let fear, rejection, failure and criticism keep you from going forward.
- Go after your dreams with purpose and passion - never give up.
- If things aren't working - change.

- Have a sense of humor - lighten up.
- This is your time - make it count!

It all seems to boil down to essentially what **you choose to do**. When you get up in the morning, it is **you** that determines what type of day you will have. *Choose to make it a good day*, and it more than likely will be. Nothing is ever perfect, but how it affects you is your choice. Especially if you are in a Leadership position, your attitude and actions have a tremendous influence on others around you - Project a Positive Influence! Be a difference-maker in your life, and in the lives of others. Remember how valuable your life is!



Chapter C; February Safety Notebook

With all the mild weather we've been fortunate to have, it's hard to believe that February is upon us. But for anyone who knows Arkansas weather all you have to do is wait and something is bound to change. With the mild winter weather, those who ride haven't put their bikes up and are still enjoying an extended riding season. Unfortunately other vehicle operators may not be aware of this and have possibly become complacent in watching out for motorcycles. As riders we can never let our guard down no matter the season. One area for riders that has presented recent deadly results is intersections. For this month's Newsletter I'll review safety at intersections.

In potential high-risk areas, such as intersections, shopping areas and school and construction zones cover the clutch and both brakes to reduce the time you need to react.

The greatest potential for conflict between you and other traffic is at intersections. An intersection can be in the middle of an urban area or at a driveway on a residential street — anywhere traffic may cross your path of travel. Over one-half of motorcycle/car crashes are caused by drivers entering a rider's right-of-way. Cars that turn left in front of you, including cars turning left from the lane to your right, and cars on side streets that pull into your lane, are the biggest dangers. Your use of SEE (**S**earch, **E**valuate, **E**xecute) at intersections is critical. There are no guarantees that

others see you. Never count on "eye contact" as a sign that a driver will yield. Too often, a driver looks right at a motorcyclist and still fails to "see" him or her, just ask the Chapter Director. The only eyes that you can count on are your own. If a car can enter your path, assume that it will. Good riders are always "looking for trouble" — not to get into it, but to stay out of it.

Increase your chances of being seen at intersections. Ride with your headlight modulator on and in a lane position that provides the best view of oncoming traffic. Provide a space cushion around the motorcycle that permits you to take evasive action. When approaching an intersection where a vehicle driver is preparing to cross your path, slow down and select a lane position to increase your visibility to that driver. As you enter the intersection, move away from the vehicle. Do not change speed or position radically, as drivers might think you are preparing to turn. Be prepared to brake hard and hold your position if an oncoming vehicle turns in front of you.

Blind Intersections: If you approach a blind intersection, move to the portion of the lane that will bring you into another driver's field of vision at the earliest possible moment. Remember, the key is to see as much as possible and remain visible to others while protecting your space. If you have a stop sign or stop line, stop there first. Then edge forward and stop again, just short of where the cross-traffic lane meets your lane. From that position, lean your body forward and look around buildings, parked cars or bushes to see if anything is coming. Just make sure your front wheel stays out of the cross lane of travel while you're looking.

Old Business; 2001-2010 GL1800 Secondary Rear Brake Master Cylinder Recall

New Business: Kuryakyn Transformer Passenger floorboards. For parts manufactured or sold from 9/15/2008 – 12/01/2011.

April Rider Education weekend for 2012 – canceled.

ARC, CPR/FA classes & Seminars to be held at District Convention in May

Ride Safe,

Russ Whaley

Educator, AR-C

**Portions of the above article taken from the ASP Motorcycle Handbook and MSF*