



Chapter C Newsletter

January 2012

Issue 2

Volume 13

Region H



JANUARY HAPPENINGS

JAN 1-----	George and Catherine Lybrand's Anniversary
JAN 7-----	Chapter C monthly meeting District Paperwork-Morrilton
JAN 9-----	Karen Young's Birthday
JAN10-----	Tim and Bonnie Nagy's Anniversary
JAN 17-----	Dinner ride
JAN 18-----	Roy and Georgia Dellinger's Anniversary
JAN 20-----	Pam DePriest's Birthday
JAN 24-----	Candace Shepard's Birthday
JAN 25-----	Chris DePriest's Birthday
JAN 27-----	Larry Paine's Birthday
JAN 29-----	Sierra Goodman's Birthday

From your

ARKANSAS

January 2012

District Directors



Yes, the date at the top of this newsletter is 2012. I know I can't believe it either. I have always been told that time passes by much faster as you get older and I am not saying that I am getting old, but time sure is flying by.

I am ready for the New Year, there are great things happening in our District and our Region and I am looking forward to getting started and looking to 2013 to see how far we come. There are new positions that are taking shape as we approach the new year, we will have new Region Directors come March, Bill and Dea Ann Gray, and new Oklahoma Director, Larry Cowan. Yes, Arkansas will have a new Director come May and I hope to be able to make an official announcement on that soon.

So it is here, and we need to get started and that happens with our business meeting in Morrilton at the college on January 7th. We will be meeting in the Auditorium this year. I will send a campus map out to all the Directors following this letter with all the info in it. Then our Rally season begins in March, so it is time to get geared up for all the fun to be had in 2012.

Pam and I wish all of you a Happy New Year and ask that as you usher the new year in, that you begin to plan your participation in all GWRRA functions now, and then put it to action as the year unfolds. We would love to see a surge in the number of folks getting out and visiting.

Oh, one last note of something coming up in February our couples luncheon is being planned and we will have invitations out soon. Also, congratulations to Chapter's C and H, they tied in the spirit stick award and we (the District Team) will be feeding them in February as well. The 2012 spirit Stick is already in play and we are looking forward to see who will win next year.

Well that is it for now, be safe and careful as you bring in the New Year, we will see you soon.

Remember,

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

Chris and Pam DePriest

Wing



Wisdom Whittles

January 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.

Tips for Leaders

Leadership is, above all else, a service. If you do not fulfill the needs of the Members you lead, then it is difficult to be an effective leader regardless of your title.

That service might be passing on information, presenting activities to the Members, facilitating gatherings, etc. These are obvious and visible services. Equally important are the invisible services like instilling Teamwork, a sense of cooperation, creating a sense of accomplishment, and giving your Team a sense of “ownership” in their duties as Team Members. In short, a really good leader understands that their most important job is helping the Team Members and Chapter participants be successful.

Here are four ideas that may be of assistance to you in your endeavors:

1. **Ask Questions** – A good leader can often lead without being obvious. Ask the right questions, in the right context for the audience, and have someone else share the stage.
2. **Don't Be The Boss** – Include folks in the process and use their talents. People by nature want to be included and recognized as being good at what they do. When you show a connection between the various talents available, and tie those talents together, people will be more willing to work very hard toward the common goal.
3. **Polish Those Egos** – One of the most flattering things you can do is to ask a person for their help or their opinion. If you need help or ideas, say so and say why. Be sincere in your request and include an appropriate compliment. One on one conversations are often the best. Nothing is more insulting to an ego than an insincere request for assistance or ideas.
4. **Share The Glory** – NEVER FORGET – your success is only a reflection of the hard work put out by your Team. Be sure to mention those who helped and contributed to the goal that has been met. Credit and praise multiply the more you spread it around.

Ride often, and Ride Safe – we will see you down the road.

Steve and Carolyn Cotton

Region H Trainers



Chapter Director's Corner

Well, here it is again, the end of another year. I hope everyone had a great year and a fabulous Christmas. Georgia and I had a wonderful time this season.

For those that were not able to make the trip to the Children's Hospital we had a great turn out, a lot of children were very happy once again to see the Goldwings come through the front doors. Our Christmas party at Browns in Benton was a great time also. It seems that everyone that participated in the Dirty Santa really enjoyed themselves. There were a lot of nice gifts that was exchanged.

I still need to know how many people would like to go to the Horizon class that Larry Penepent wants to try and combine with some of the Louisiana Chapters. If at all possible he would like to incorporate Arkansas and Louisiana together. He does not have a date as of yet until we know how many members would like to attend. So please let me or one of the other staff members know that you are interested.

Larry Fulbright will hold our meeting in January due to the paper work meeting that our staff will have to attend. So don't forget that our meeting will be held on the 7th of January at our same time.

We will also be having our New Year's party at Jim Goodman's mother-in-law's house this year. So if you haven't already made plans to be at another function then come on out and join the fun, there will be plenty to eat and a lot of fun, and fellowship.

Let's not forget that all Goldwings for 2001 to 2012 have been recalled due to the secondary master brake cylinders. You need to make an appointment with your nearest Honda cycle shop and have this looked at. This will only take about 30 minutes of your time. Out of all the Goldwings that have been checked so far, there hasn't been one to be fixed so far.

CHAPTER "C" DIRECTOR

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Rider Education Notes

Another year has come and gone. Our 2012 resolution or goal for Rider Education this coming year should be to mirror 2011. We finished the year without a major injury accident or loss of life in Chapter C. I think you owe yourselves a pat on the back and a scoop of ice cream on your next ride. ATGATT, safe riding practices and making sound riding decisions helped us reach this goal. Keep all those in mind as we approach our 2012 riding events. The following safe riding information is presented as refresher information and good practices each time you're out on you Wing.

Passing and Being Passed

Passing and being passed by another vehicle is not much different than with a car. However, visibility is more critical. Be sure other drivers see you, and that you see potential hazards.

Passing;

1. Ride in the left portion of the lane at a safe following distance to increase your line of sight and make you more visible. Signal and check for oncoming traffic. Use your mirrors and turn your head to look for traffic behind.
2. When safe, move into the left lane and accelerate. Select a lane position that doesn't crowd the car you are passing and provide space to avoid hazards in your lane. When safe ride through the blind spot as quickly as possible.
3. Signal again and complete mirror and head-checks before returning to your original lane and then cancel the signal.

Passing Parked Cars;

When passing parked cars, stay toward the left of your lane. You can avoid problems caused by doors opening, drivers getting out of cars or people stepping from between cars. If oncoming traffic is present, it is usually best to remain in the center lane position. In parking lots ride slowly and keep scanning left, right and ahead. Always expect the unexpected.

Being Passed;

When you are being passed from behind or by an oncoming vehicle, stay in the center portion of your lane. Riding any closer to them could put you in a hazardous situation. Something to be aware of when a vehicle is passing are things like mirrors, some drivers may forget that their mirrors hang out farther than

their fenders. If the passing vehicle is pulling a trailer, be prepared to react if the vehicle enters your lane and doesn't provide enough clearance. One more thing to consider is vehicle size – the wind blast from larger vehicles, especially 18 wheeler's can affect your control. You have more room for lane correction if you are in the middle portion of the lane.

Ride Safe,

Russ Whaley

Rider Educator, AR-C

Portions of the above article provided by the Arkansas State Police motorcycle handbook



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 www.gwrro.org - Click on the Officer Connection tab at the bottom of the page; then select Officer’s Handbook in the upper right hand corner. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District, or Chapter newsletters.

Thanks to Eddie Mauterer (former Region H Trainer) for the inspiration to write this month’s article based on ideas he wrote in May 2001. Revisions have been made to keep it current.

Me and Mine

Me and Mine – Yes, there actually is a section in the Officer’s Handbook (page F-1) that is titled “Me and Mine”. And for a section that is only one paragraph long, it is one of the most important sections for Chapter Directors. Unfortunately, even though many will read this section, most will totally miss the real understanding of this section. This one paragraph lays out the essence of what a Chapter Director’s job really is.

This is one time that I must quote sections of the actual text in the Officer’s Handbook. It actually says it best:

“Remember that you are providing a service for the Members of GWRRA. Selfish and possessive attitudes have absolutely no place in this environment. While it is not a grievous error to refer to the Chapter as “Mine”, it is the first step down a path of many pitfalls.”

The primary obstacle you will encounter on this path is one of possession. Your concern for the participants becomes clouded by the “Me and Mine” syndrome.

“The only way to avoid this dilemma is to keep the convenience of the Member first, and foremost, in your mind. Your role is to serve the Membership.”

As a Chapter Director, your actual role should be one of a “coordinator”, and not a “director”. Your primary function is to coordinate activities for the Chapter participants. Don’t lose focus that this is a hobby. People want to enjoy activities that involve riding their motorcycles with their friends.

Too often Chapter Directors and their Teams get caught up in working on activities that they want to do, and not what the Members are interested in doing. They end up planning activities that the Chapter participants may not have a desire to do. Eventually, the Chapter participants become disinterested, and attendance at gatherings and activities begins to decline.

This may be a bit of a reality check, but please take a moment to think about it. Are you doing what the Members want, or are you trying to impose what you want to do on the Chapter?

So, in conclusion – listen carefully to the Members, and seek their input for the activities regarding the Chapter. The Member is what our Association is all about.

Learn Something New... Then Teach Someone!

Steve and Carolyn Cotton

Region H Trainers