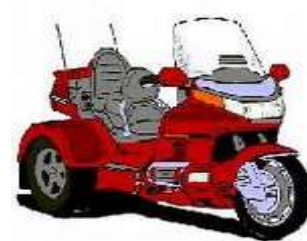


CHAPTER K NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2016



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CD CORNER

Well, we had several events going in the month of March, the first being our annual Coffee Break off I-95 for Daytona Bike Week. We had 14 that showed up to assist, including Barry Moody and Boogie Beasley. It was good to see them. We had 178 sign our book and we had plenty of goodies and coffee for everyone and we appreciate all the goodies that were donated. We had our motorist awareness brochures set up for viewing and distribution. The motorist and bikers appreciated the effort we put forth of making them aware of each other. We broke down around 3:00 and we headed to Darien, GA to Skippers Restaurant for our Saturday Dinner Ride. It was located off the river and the food was awesome.

The following morning, 5 of us headed to Daytona, with Joe Yother leading the way. Several of us were on a mission, a few just for the ride. We visited several locations with many exhibits and had a great riding and fellowship.

For our March meeting Brenda received a call that we were going to have visitors. That was exciting news, as we don't get too many visitors in our part of the state. Brenda told me that B-2 was going to visit. I knew that they would be bearing gifts, the Hot Potato. B-2 had 8 riders with them, plus the Hot Potato under Woody's arm, with a big smile.

At the business part of our meeting we discussed old business and finalizing the details for Wing Fling.



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Nine days later we visited C-2 in Hinesville for their monthly meeting to return the favor and deliver the Hot Potato. I called to verify their meeting time and place. Like us, they were glad to hear that we were coming. Seven of us attended bringing our little buddy, the Hot Potato, under my arm. We arrived a little early and I hid the Hot Potato, behind the TV. We ate and had fellowship and the meeting began. They asked if we had anything to say and I brought out the Hot Potato. They didn't know we would be bearing gifts, as the state didn't have time to put it out that we had the Hot Potato. They quickly began setting up another ride to pass off the Hot Potato, which I see they did. Larry Clemmer called it the Hot, Hot, Hot Potato, because was moving faster than the state team could post it.



I would like to thank all my Team and members of our Chapter for all their help and assistance in making our Chapter successful. I have a good Team that helps me look good, but I give the credit to my Team, because I couldn't do it without them and I want to say a big THANK YOU.

TEAM RIDING RESPONSIBILITIES

In GWRRA we are always doing things in groups. We meet our fellow chapter members and ride together for a weekly dinner run. Or we join each other for a weekend breakfast before going on a run. Or we make an ice cream run together on a weekly basis. Most chapters have this kind of camaraderie and fellowship in one form or another. Then there are the monthly Gatherings where we meet and eat and have fun. And the rides to visit other chapters and support them at their Fun Run or Anniversary Party or Pig Out, and various other events that chapters put on. Much of the time we ride together in groups traveling to and from our various destinations.

Whenever we ride in groups, someone is in the Lead position. Hopefully, it is one of our GWRRA-trained Road Captains. In our chapter, it is someone whom we trust, respect and have confidence in. Someone with good judgment who is prepared to lead the group from the starting point all the way to our destination. Someone who has a planned route and shares it with all who join the ride. S/He holds pre-ride meetings with all participants to tell us the route, advise us of any stops along the way, and discuss our speed on the road. Our Lead may ask questions about who is on medication, who may need to stop at shorter intervals (perhaps due to a smaller gas tank), who has a CB radio and who does not, etc. Our Road Captain covers hand signals for riders that are new to our group, too. Our Road Captain has been leading our rides for a few years now. We don't think twice about following him/her because s/he never lets us down. We always arrive safely when we follow our Road Captain. We are very fortunate to have such a capable Road Captain in the Lead!

We also have another Road Captain, trained in the GWRRA way, to bring up the rear of the group. This is our Drag bike, or Tail Gunner. These two (Lead & Drag) work together like Lennon and McCartney. The Drag seems to know what the Lead is thinking, securing the lane almost as the thought passes through the mind of our Lead. They communicate well with each other and with the rest of the *team*. They let the group know what is going on around us. They inform us about things, like telling us we will be turning – in advance of the turn; when a car is attempting to pass the group on a 2-lane road; or when a car is passing on the right when we are on the highway. Our Lead and Drag always keep us aware of hazards on the road and all around us. We know they are looking out for the safety of the group. With Road Captains of this caliber, we feel very safe. We know we can enjoy the ride and watch the scenery with these two in charge.

Wait! Stop right there! We *all* need to remember that even those of us in the middle of the formation have responsibilities. We are responsible to pass on the hand signals from the Lead, such as for single file, stagger formation, pointing out potholes and road kill, sand in the corners, and other hazards, etc. We need to be aware who we are riding with, too. The burden is not all on the Road Captains. We cannot sleep because we ride in the middle of the pack. We need to maintain safe spacing with the other bikes around us. And most importantly, we need to ride our own ride. We *must* stay alert. Hazards don't always appear in front of the Lead bike. Sometimes they come at the riders in the middle of the group. We need to be aware of our surroundings and always be prepared to react to the unexpected at all times. We must remember that, just because our Road Captain is leading us, we are not excused from thinking for ourselves and riding our own ride. We are *all* responsible for our own safety at *all* times. *Never* give that responsibility away. It is nice to have someone willing to help look out for your safety, but ultimately, it is your life. Guard it wisely! Be sure to ride your own ride, even while Team Riding!



APRIL
13TH CHAD MCCRACKEN
29TH REGGIE WALTERS



APRIL
NONE

UPCOMING EVENTS

NO APRIL MEETING
21 April – [WING FLING](#), Dalton GA
26 April - TIRE KICKER

CLASSIFIEDS