



September 2010 Newsletter

Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Region N, Virginia District, Chapter L
Chesapeake, VA
Old & New - Two Wheels & Three
Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

- CHAPTER DIRECTOR
MARTY TENGOWSKI
ASSISTANCE DIRECTOR
DAVE & LINDA HARRIS
RIDER EDUCATOR
tba
RIDER COORDINATOR
DOUG GILLIAM
TREASURER
JOHN STEFFEL
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
KATHERINE SKINNER
WEB MASTER
DAN SLIMP
MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT
COORDINATOR
SHERRY MORGAN
EVENT COORDINATOR
TRISH ADAMS
CHAPTER L WEBSITE
WWW.GWRRRAVAL.COM



www.gwrra.org



www.region-n.org



www.gwrrava.org

Newsletter Contents
Director's Letter..... 2
COY Letter..... 3
Rider Education & Safety..... 4
National, Regional, District News..... 6
Chapter Rides 8
Upcoming Rides & Events. 9
Biker Bits (Humor)..... 10
Local Chapter Gatherings.. 11
Chapter L Contact Info..... 11

Chapter Director



Martin Tengowski
Chapter Director

Now this is riding weather!

The past few weeks we've had some great riding weather, and making it to work has been a very difficult task in the morning. After 3 long months of 90 degree, humid weather, these past few weeks have been great. Early morning riding is just super, nice and cool, no humidity, just great time to be riding.

Wings Over the Smokies, Rally In the Valley, are both right around the corner and providing plenty of enjoyment, and beautiful riding. Heading out to the mountains in the fall has to provide some beautiful scenery along the way. I talked to a fellow rider at work, who took 4 days and headed to the Blue Ridge Parkway. On his 4 days of travel he made to both ends of the Parkway, while just taking his time and enjoying the scenery and people he met along the way. One area he mentioned as a great stop, was Maggie Valley, which caters towards motorcyclist, and everyone is very pleasant. He took his time riding the Tail of the Dragon, and hanging out the local establishments there, while checking out all the riders that come to that area. His 4 days on the

Parkway, just total relaxation...from work. Everyone I've talked to speak highly of Maggie Valley.

Our days are getting shorter, so with those early morning departures you may find yourself riding in the dark, as well as trying to reach your destination at the end of the day. With our touring bikes we are able to pack for a variety of conditions that we may encounter along the way. Twilight hours can make it vary difficult to see, keep you windshield clean, change your eye protects as necessary, so you don't find yourself riding with sunglasses after sunset.

Holiday season is right around the corner. The next three months will provide plenty of chances for Chapter L to get out and be noticed.

See everyone at the meeting.

Ride safe

Marty



Chapter Couple



**Sandy and Dan Slimp
COY for 2009/2010**

What an amazing trip to Wings over the Smokies!!!!

Started out with Kathy and John on Wednesday morning taking 460 to 81 to Bristol Va. Trish and Dan took route 58 to collect stamps along the way. We got together the next morning and rode the Snake route 421 once from Bristol and 3 times from Mountain City. My trike started heating up from the Bristol run and had to pull over to let it cool down. Once I caught up with John, Kathy, Dan and Trish. I explained to them they were going to slow for our trike to stay on the cool side. They thought they needed to go slower for me to keep up. J Well they let me take over the lead and that's when they found out a trike can handles curves too. They were impressed I must say.

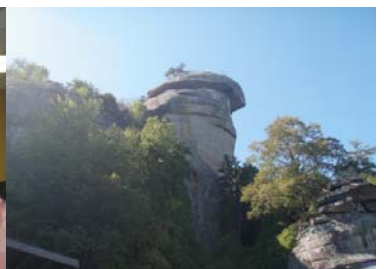
Friday we spent most of the day at the rally checking out all the vendors. Wings over the Smokies is just like going to a Wing Ding. There was over 3000 registered for this event and nearly a hundred different vendors. This was awesome and needless to say we bought more than we planned. Russell, Marsha and Kathy checked out the vendors while Steve, Sherry, John, Jeff and Carm all rode up to Deals Gap to ride the Tail of the Dragon. Trish, Dan, Doug, Glenda, Sandy and I rode to Chimney Rock. Every one had a great time. Sandy and I did have a close call with a big jacked up F350 diesel 4x4 truck. He was not paying attention to the car in his lane. The car ahead of the truck decides to stop, the truck locks his breaks up and came into my lane. Needless to say I had an immediate reaction and moved to

the right to prevent Sandy and I from getting hit. Later I was told that I did go off the rode a little because of the dust cloud. I don't recall that but I needed new boxers after that.

Saturday everyone was on their own. Trish and Dan went to the Biltmore estates, Jeff and Carm checked out the Vendors, John and Kathy went to do the ERC course, Russell and Marsha had an appointment with Mountain Man for some art work. Steve and Sherry entered Sherry's bike in the bike show. Sherry got 1st place in the bike category below 1000cc. Be sure to congratulate her and Steve. Doug, Glenda, Sandy and I went to Ashville to the shoe outlet and a ski sporting store to buy BIB overalls. Once we left the outlet store we went on a multi culture ride through Ashville to get to the sporting store. We saw historic buildings, neighborhoods that appeared rather unsafe, alleys with very colorful art work with people enjoying their lunch. This ride was put on by Doug's GPS without cost. The address was correct but the route was amazing. Doug did take a photo of some artwork under an overpass. Each night we all got to together to talk about each days adventures. Only thing I can say is you should have been there.

Sunday Part of the group departed at 7 to ride back and the other group at 8. Both groups did ride in the rain that morning for about 3 or 4 hours and also got caught in the rain again once we all got to Franklin.

All in all what a great ride and good times had by all.



Rider Education & Safety



Submitted by Marty Tengowski

Safety Articles

Since I'm still waiting on paperwork to clear for our Chapter Educator, I've been providing the Safety Article for the Newsletter. Well, I've picked these two articles, since I won't be making the trip to Wing Over the Smokies and I'm not sure about Rally in the Valley.

Riding into the setting sun, which I do on a daily basis, and actually twice a day since riding east in the morning, and west in later afternoon. The sun low in the sky can make it very difficult seeing, so on these trips, be sure to give your lead rider a break, listen, and pay attention. The lead bike is not only the first bike down the road, they are trying to follow road signs, a GPS and watch for hazards for everyone in the group. The lead rider is just trying to get everyone to the destination in the same group that they started out in.

Patience and understanding goes a long way.

Marty

Animal Hazards Swerve or Panic Stop?

By: James R. Davis

It doesn't happen very often but even while traveling on a freeway you can suddenly be confronted with an animal in your path. Certainly it happens with some frequency in the country, and on city streets you must be ever concerned about usually domesticated types.

Those of us who ride in the country tend to confront five types of animals with some regularity: deer, dogs, cattle, birds and horses in roughly that order of frequency. On surface streets

there are usually just two varieties: dogs and children (both an animal and wildlife in my book.) Dogs on a freeway are usually road kill before you get to them.

If you see an animal in your path, given plenty of warning, the obvious best move is to slow down and give it as wide a clearance as possible. However, in the case of an animal that 'was in front of me out of nowhere' situations, you have an immediate decision to make - to swerve and try to avoid it, or to panic stop.

That is a false choice to make! If you think that you can figure out where a deer is going to be in the next 5 seconds, you are dead wrong! But more than that, if you think that you can, in a panic, swerve your motorcycle and retain control of it - not run into oncoming traffic, or the side of the mountain, or off the road, or oversteer it into a crash after avoiding the animal, or swerve right into the animal which has jumped into your new path, then you are probably also of the opinion that it can't happen to you in any event.

If you hit a cement truck at 5 mph you will probably walk away from it. If you hit ANYTHING while traveling at 50 mph or faster, you probably will not. The difference is your speed. Swerving does not reduce your speed. What it will do is give away some control.

Your best move is almost always to try a CONTROLLED panic stop. Do not lose control of your bike. Minimize the speed of impact. If you are good, and practiced, you might not hit anything at all. Even if luck is against you you will probably still walk away from it.

I can hear it now: "Even if it's a child?" Absolutely! If that child decides to make a dash for his/her life and chooses (like you) the wrong direction to run in, then you will hit that child with a greater (faster) impact swerving to avoid him/her than if you try to stop the bike.

Of course you aren't doing 50 mph or greater on city streets, right? You are covering your front brake while riding on city streets, right?

Play the odds in your head before you get into the situation. Condition yourself - bias yourself - panic stops are not a bad thing.

Rider Education & Safety



Fewer Daylight Hours Don't go down with the sun

By: Cash Anthony

A number of area riders had the experience recently of having to ride for quite a few miles directly into a setting sun. The glare was not only a strain on tired eyes but also a very real safety issue, as it effectively blocked all visual detail in the landscape and made scanning for hazards almost impossible. Our lead bike saved several riders a bad spill by warning us of a large dog in the road: our thanks to him was heartfelt, because although the dog was roughly the size and shape of an adult Wolfhound (not a small critter!) and came completely into the lane, it was in shadow and couldn't be seen against the brilliant sun until we were all but on top of it.

Here's a thought about seasonal trip planning. During our long summer days, a group of motorcyclists can make good time and cover plenty of miles by getting an early start, when the temperatures are still cool. Even after taking a break in the hottest part of the day, many summer riders are already checked into their night's lodging and enjoying the pool by sunset. By the time the sun drops to the horizon and starts causing problems with visibility, their bikes are put to bed. As the daylight hours grow shorter, however, it becomes normal or even necessary to keep riding until twilight in order to make the day's destination.

Those who are planning rides can save themselves and their riding buddies headaches (literally) and worse by giving some thought to the sun's position relative to routing. If you're riding eastward, try to do so in the afternoon or evening so that the sun will be behind you. If westward bound, set off in the morning and keep the sun to your back. If neither of these sce-

narios is possible on your route, plan to take the north or south legs of a trip late in the afternoon, and do your east-west travel according to the sun's positioning earlier in the day.

While all of us who tour become familiar with riding toward the sun and that "tipped head" position it can take (to permit a helmet edge, visor, or sunglasses frame to block the brightest light), this should be an occasional remedy and not one regularly used. It shouldn't be done for miles on top of miles, either, as this adds considerably to a rider's fatigue and stress. When it's become too painful or really impossible to see where you're going and what's on the road, the best choice is not to ride. Take a break, wait for the glare to diminish, and then go on. Otherwise you may be taking a chance that tearful admonitions to "Go to the Light!" will be the last thing you hear!



National/Regional/District News



Time to Say Thank You

I am directing this article at everyone who has provided instruction, guidance or encouragement to another Member this year when it comes to safe riding. While most of these guardians of our safety have the title of "Educator", there are those who do so merely because they care.

All of us have experienced the individual who seems to always be there when it matters most. Betty and I have known many of these fine people, who go above and beyond to help their fellow motorcyclist. Whether it is a jump start, crafty explanation of why something works or doesn't, or simply sharing from their experience

a tidbit of knowledge to make someone's riding skills safer.

Not everyone can serve in the position of Educator, as family, work and life demands can be taxing at times. However, all of us can give a little to make someone else's riding experience more safe and enjoyable.

How can we do that? The first thing you can do is be a good example. Do you T Clock your ride? Do you hold/participate in Road Captain talks before every ride? Do you wear Proper Riding Gear? These are just some of the things that you can do to provide a "Peer Example" to others.

If you noticed someone's tires are getting worn or low on air, would you just ignore it, or say something. How would you feel if that tire blew later causing an injury to your Chapter friend? The same could be asked when you see someone getting on a bike without a helmet. While it is their right to wear one or not, (if state law does not require it), I feel it is the right thing, to at least mention the dangers of riding without one.

Opportunities to be a positive influence are presented to us all of the time. It is up to us to make that difference as so many of our Members do. My hat is off to everyone that took the time to help, listen or be that "guardian angel".

Remember, it is never too late to do the right thing!

Ride Safe, Ride Often

Gene Knutson

International Director, Rider Education Program

FULL GEAR VS FOOL'S GEAR

HELMET

Most important piece of protective gear a rider can use. Protects against head injury, windblast, cold and flying objects. Full faced helmet recommended.

FACE SHIELD

Saves face! Any rider who's been hit in the face by stones, insects or debris can tell you the benefits.

GLOVES

Keep hands comfortable, functional and protected. Come in infinite variety for all seasons.

JACKET & PANTS

Long sleeves and trousers resist abrasion and protect against sunburn, windburn, dehydration or hypothermia. Light colors or reflectives increase a rider's visibility.

BOOTS

Provide protection against foot and ankle injuries and give you a good grip on footpegs or road surfaces.

BOTTOM LINE

Proper riding gear protects in the event of an accident and minimized injuries, when allowing you to enjoy the sport in comfort.

HEAD

Considered precious by knowledgeable riders and never exposed by the pros. When fully in view, allows immediate identification of untrained person not using his. Hand out rider education info on site!

EYES, EARS & FACE

Known to experienced riders as "bug and garbage collectors." Common "bare-face" symptoms include windblast-deafening and deformed, narrow-sit, watery eyes.

HANDS

au naturale (not for long). Known to seize into curled position when exposed to cold; not genetically evolved to withstand abrasion.

BARE LIMBS

A phenomenon seen only on riders deemed impervious to any unavoidable accident or inclement weather. Subject to ridicule in riding circles.

FLIP FLOPS

Terminology for what sandals, toes and feet do upon contact with road surfaces, shift lever, brake pedal, footpegs, or windblasts.

BOTTOM LINE

Fool's gear identifies an untrained rider. Learn how to avoid embarrassment, ridicule and injury, while gaining skills and knowledge by contacting the Rider Course nearest you.



THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE BETTER IT GETS.

National/Regional/District News



2010 Chapter of the Year Nominations Due Soon!

By Virginia Chapter of the Year Coordinators, Rick and Elsie Baker

By now, you've seen our articles every month discussing the Chapter of the Year program and how you can recognize your Chapter's participants and program and collect some money along with the award. Now, another opportunity is coming your way to get smart! For all Chapter Directors and their Assistants, the Virginia Assistant District Directors, and interested members, the Membership Enhancement Program (MEP) will present a briefing at the October Virginia Rally in the Valley™ (RITV) on the Chapter of the Year program.

This year, the Virginia District Director will call for Chapter nominations on or about 15 October, with those packages due by 1 December to the Virginia Chapter of the Year Coordinators, us. We will validate the packages with your Virginia Assistant District Director and ask for any clarifications. Afterward, we will give the District Director the completed nominations for District Director selection of the Virginia Chapter of the Year for 2010.

Don't you owe it to our GWRRA members in your chapter to recognize them for their participation and accomplishments? Is your chapter treasury going to leave award money on the banquet table, again this year?

RECRUITMENT

What can we do to entice more motorcyclists to join GWRRA and our Chapter?

This is a question that is asked more than you can imagine. As Officers of GWRRA, we want our Chapters to continue and thrive, so that we may enjoy the fruits of our labor. To do this, we must continue to recruit new, energetic people into GWRRA. How do we do this you ask? There are many ways, none of which are effortless, but they don't have to be drudgery either.

PR days are a great way to introduce GWRRA to the general public. It can be as easy as setting up in a Walmart parking lot, or at a local motorcycle shop. Parks and malls are also great places to spread the word. It doesn't have to be an all day affair. A couple of hours, a pop up, table and some information and of course some bikes, are all that it takes. You would be surprised at the results.

Down the road a bit is Rally in the Valley. I for one have been to 17 of them and I can say I have "been there and done that". I don't say that in a negative way, or to get out of going, but as a fact. I have enjoyed each and every one. Each and every one has been different in a way. Each one to come will be different. Angie and I have enjoyed many adventures on our way to, or at RIV, like the time I blew the mufflers off the motor home on the way there, or when we as CD's of VAU accepted the Largest Chapter by Percentage Award, or when I first met CR & Diane Griffin of VAR and she thought my Billy Bob Teeth were real. There have been a lot of wonderful memories made in Salem and we look forward to many more "been there and done that's" in the future. Join us for some fun.....

Mike & Angie Mitchell

ADD-East



Rides

WAGONS, WHEELS, AND WINGS!!

Hello Fellow Riders! Chapter L's had a wonderful trip to The North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer, N.C on the weekend of August 20th, 21st, and 22nd. We all started out by meeting at Hardy's at our usual place in Chesapeake @ 7:30am and had Breakfast and Coffee before we headed out @ 8:30am.

Those in our group included Doug, who arranged accommodations and kept us posted about plans, Dan and Sandy, Ron, Dave and Linda, Jeff and Carm, and Bob Perkins of Chapter B.

For Friday night, we basically relaxed. We got to our hotel at around 5PM and unpacked and of course had dinner after we had some pool time to cool off after the long ride.

Bright and early the next morning, after breakfast, we left for the Museum. When we got there, we lined up our Bikes for the Bike show. They had a moderate turnout. We first met with Chapter M of N.C and signed in. Some of us checked out their tables and then bought our 50/50 tickets. We then went to catch the 25 minute narrated train ride which took us around the grounds and we saw part of town, too. There was a choice of which car we wanted to take our ride in. Air conditioned or No air conditioning. Guess what we all chose? Clue: It was a very warm day. We had the option of getting off by the museums or back to the beginning.

We went back to the beginning to check out the N.C Drill team. Unfortunately, no one in Chapter L won the 50/50. Bob Perkins of Chap. B didn't either. After all that, Chapter M was all



ready packed up and ready to go. The museums were next.

This is where we saw the Wagons, Wheels, and Wings. (Old Carriages, Vintage Cars, Bikes, motorized bikes, and a Vintage Aquatic plane in one part of the Museum). And the other parts what they call The Robert Julian Roundhouse which housed Vintage trains of the past along with a fully functioning Roundtable. Saw some families taking rides on the turntable. It was cool. I had read from their brochures that the Museum is still a work in progress. I am hoping that maybe a few years from now Jeff and I and whoever else would like to go or go back to see what they have added or to see the finished works. We found a small café for our Lunch before we headed back to our Hotel. Anyone heard of Cheerwine? It is a N.C brand of Soda. Haven't seen it here. It was pretty good. Reminds me of Dr. Pepper, though. Ha, Ha, Ha.....Well, we all relaxed by the pool. Had a late dinner and turned in early so we could get on the road early the next morning.

So that's a recap of this trip.....When's the next one? LOL

Carm Stobie



Editor's Note: You can find Cheerwine in 2L bottles at Foodlion

Upcoming Events & Rides

Month	Day	Type	Event	Chapter/Sponsor
September	23-25	R	Wings Over the Smokies - Fletcher, NC	NC District
October	2	P	Poker Run - Richmond	VA-D
	2	S	Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup, Hanbury Road, Chesapeake	VA-L
	7-9	V	Rally in the Valley®, Salem Civic Ctr, Salem	VA District
	23	P	Fall Colors Ride - Leesburg	VA-Y
	29-31	V	Officer Certification (OCP) - Central / Western Virginia	VA District
November	6	P	Goldwing Celebration - World of Sports, South Boston	VA-J
	6	-	28th Annual Children's Hospital Teddy Bear Run, Colonial Harley-Davidson, Colonial Heights	Blue Knights VA-III
December	11	V	Leadership Training (LTD) Instructor Development / Certification - Roanoke / Salem	VA District

Event Type Designations -- (P) Chapter Primary Event, (R) Rally, (S) Chapter Secondary Event, (V) VA District Event



Featured Businesses

Know of a business that went above and beyond? Let us know! We'll feature them in the next newsletter.



1111 W. Ehringhaus St. | Elizabeth City, NC 27909 | Phone: 252.335.5489 | Fax: 252.335.2453

Biker Bits



One Sunday an old biker walks into church and sits down in the front row. As the preacher is beginning his sermon, the devil suddenly appears at the altar. The members of the congregation, including the preacher himself, flee the church in terror, all except for this one old biker in the front row.

The devil notices this one biker still in the church and walks down from the altar to confront him. He roars at the man, "Do you know who I am?"

"Why of course I know who you are," the man calmly replies. "You're Satan."

"And you're not afraid of me like the others?" the devil asks somewhat miffed.

To which the biker replies, "No. Why should I be? I've been married to your sister for the last 25 years."

*Is this so you can
ride a motorcycle
from a wheelchair??*



Monthly Gatherings

CHAPTER L

4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Zino's Cafe

850 Old George Washington Highway
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 485-1468
www.zinoscafe.com

Please come and join us!

Social (meet, greet & eat) starts at 6 pm and
meeting starts at 7:00.



Other Local Chapters

Chapter B—Virginia Beach

2nd Wednesday each month, 7pm

New Location

Village Inn
Independence Blvd
Virginia Beach, VA
(Pembroke Mall area)

Chapter C—Hampton/ Newport News

2nd Sunday each month, 7pm

Angelo's Steak & Pancake House
755 J. Clyde Morris Blvd
Newport News, VA

Chapter O—Williamsburg

4th Sunday each month, 5pm

Belgian Waffle & Steakhouse
14700 Warwick Blvd
Newport News, VA

Contact Information

CHAPTER DIRECTOR

MARTY TENGOWSKI

martin.tengowski@navy.mil

ASSISTANCE DIRECTORS

DAVE & LINDA HARRIS

davenat@aol.com
lindashj@aol.com

RIDER EDUCATOR

TBA

COUPLE OF THE YEAR

DAN & SANDY SLIMP

dwssjs@verizon.net

RIDER COORDINATOR

DOUG GILLIAM

jgilliam1@cox.net

TREASURER

JOHN STEFFEL

ChesapeakeGoldwing@cox.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

KATHERINE SKINNER

kathy@jds corner.com

WEBMASTER

DAN SLIMP

Chesapeake-L@live.com

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT
COORDINATOR

SHERRY MORGAN

smorgan1701d@cox.net

EVENT COORDINATOR

TRISH ADAMS

onebchnut@charter.net

Spelling and grammar errors are purposely added to this newsletter for those who enjoy finding and pointing them out.