



Gold Wing Road Riders Association Michigan Chapter H-2 Downriver Wings

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

August/September, 2017

www.gwrra-mi.org/chapter/h2/

CHAPTER H-2

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Michigan District Couple of the Year

Tim & Pam Hanson

Region D Couple of the Year

Gary & Karen Ballou

Chapter H2 Individual of the Year

Judy McKelvey

General Membership Gathering

4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Dinner at 6:30

Held at Leon's Family Dining

8787 Telegraph Rd.

Taylor, MI 48180



We meet most Sundays for Breakfast (unless noted on the calendar)

8:30 AM at Leon's Family Dining

For GWRR Membership Call 800-843-9460 or visit the web at

www.gwrra.org

FROM GARY - YOUR CHAPTER DIRECTOR

Summer makes most things seem better, riding motorcycles is no exception. I have spent the last few days riding around southern Ohio with a group of friends, that get together once or twice a year, from all over the country. This year my younger brother Tracy went with me, we had a great ride down, until we got to central Ohio. Seems they have gotten so much rain that exit were closed and road ways flooded. Several crop fields were flooded out.

Visiting with old friends, and meeting, and making new ones is always good. This is what GWRRA has as part of their motto. Much is happening with the organization, many of our rolls will be changing with the latest reorganization. We will lose all the Region level as that is being eliminated. This is changing our chapter responsibilities. These changes are to take place the first of next year. Questions will arise and I will do my best to answer, or find out the answer. The ones I've seen for our chapter seem mild. They are cutting out some of the rules and getting back to fun and safety.

Most of you know that I will be turning over the Chapter Director position to Keith and Kathy. This will happen at the September gathering. I will still be around to do 50/50 and Goodies. I know that they will do a great job, and know all members will help them, as they have me.

While on my trip in Ohio, we had a rider running in one of the groups, and he missed a curve, and found a ditch. Minor damage to the bike, but he broke his collar bone, 8 ribs, and left ankle. He stated that he missed a turn by not paying attention for only a second. That is all it takes.

The District/Region rally is coming up and many chapter rides, so check your calendars.

Gary

Some days I just wish I had the wisdom of a ninety year old,
the body of a twenty year old
and the energy of a three year old !

16 tips for group riding

By Steve Lake

The engine purrs beneath you as a string of motorcycles snakes through the hills in front of you. There might be two others with you or 20, the principle is the same. With a quick look in the mirror, you see your buddy following close behind with a smile on his face that matches yours. That's what a group ride is all about. It's an opportunity to share the open road and wonderful scenery with other like-minded people. But like most motorcycle experiences, this one is best enjoyed by following a few simple guidelines that keeps everyone safe. Here are a few tips from the country's foremost motorcycle safety experts.



1 The first thing you want to do is organize the ride. This can be done as informally as standing around in a parking lot talking, or as formally as calling a special meeting to hand out maps and cellphone numbers.

2 Remember that riding in a group does not mean you surrender ANY decision making when it comes to your safety. Ride your own ride, and don't go any faster than you feel comfortable going.

3 When picking your route and the stops you'll make along it, consider the stamina

of the group, the experience of all the riders and the limits of the motorcycles in the group. Remember, these are your friends. If it's going to be a long ride, be sure to take adequate breaks along the way.

4 You'll need to communicate while on the ride, so make sure everyone knows the hand signals you'll most commonly be using. Even on a casual ride, the lead and drag bike spots should have CB radios.

5 When creating your formation, it's wise to have your experienced riders as the

lead and drag bikes. Consider positioning the less-experienced riders immediately behind the leader. This allows the front rider to adjust the pace if necessary.

6 Ideally, the drag bike rider (or co-rider) will have a cellphone to call for help if a motorcycle is disabled, or if there has been an accident.

7 If the goal of the ride is to keep the group together (and it always should be) then the leader should only go as fast as the pace of the least-experienced rider.

FROM RON - YOUR CHAPTER EDUCATOR

8 While riding, don't fixate on the motorcycle in front of you. Instead, remember your basic training. Look well through the turn to where you want to go.

9 If the group is riding faster than you are comfortable with, let the lead/drag bike know. If you prefer, drop out to ride at your own pace. Sure you may reach your destination a few seconds behind the others, but you will get there, and that's what's important. Keep in mind, it's all about fun – and safety.

10 All riders are responsible for making sure their motorcycles are mechanically up to the task. Before you even meet up with the group, make sure you've got plenty of fuel in the tank, and that you've taken care that your own personal "tank" has been emptied in the nearest bathroom. If you are aware of maintenance issues on your bike, make sure those are addressed BEFORE you hit the road. Not sure what to check? Use T-CLOCS. You really don't want to be the reason for stopping the entire group for something mechanical – or a bathroom break – that you could have prevented.

11 If it's going to be a large group, consider dividing the group into smaller five to seven rider packs. That way, if something goes wrong, you don't have 25 motorcycles sitting on the side of a busy highway. Also, smaller groups can more easily navigate through city streets, and it's easier for other vehicles to pass your strings, especially on two-lane roads.

12 On the road, motorcyclists should have at least a two second cushion in front and behind them. Ride in a staggered formation. Leave enough room per lane so each rider can maneuver side-to-side if need be. NEVER ride in

side-by-side formations as they shrink your space cushion. Once you pick a lane – stay in it!

13 As turns get sharper, or as visibility decreases, move back to a single file formation and increase your two-second spacing by a second or so. You'll also want to use single file when entering or exiting a highway, at tollbooths, or when roads have a rough or questionable surface.


14 At intersections when you're coming to a stop at a red light, tighten the formation to side-by-side to take up less space. As the light turns green the bike on the left proceeds through the intersection first. Don't dawdle. When your turn comes, get through the intersection quickly. Otherwise, those behind you may not make it through before the light changes again.

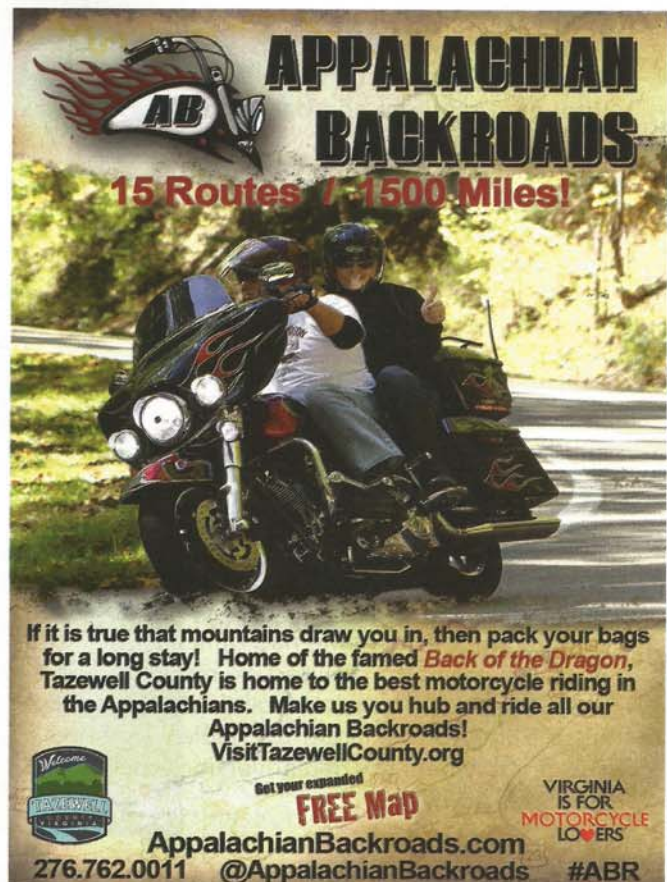
15 Remember we share the road with many other vehicles, and it's against the law to block an intersection, or attempt to have two or three bikes go through an intersection together that is regulated by a stop sign.

16 When parking, the lead bike should try to get the group off the roadway as quickly as possible. If you can, arrange in advance to have pull-through parking at your

destination. At the very least, make sure there is ample parking for your size group. Park together if at all possible. When hitting the road again, it's easier to resume your position in the pack.

I know you've all heard this before, but I figured this was information we should all hear again. The American Motorcycle Association is a resource I research often as a source of good safety related issues to pass on. Sometimes as I've said before, "I just couldn't say it any better myself."

Steve Lake, GWRRA #336732 since 2012, is a veteran of the U.S. Navy. Lake's service in the Vietnam Conflict was from 1967-1971. He rides a GL1800 with a Champion Trike kit. He and his wife are active in Chapter O in O'Fallon, Missouri, and Lake is a Senior University Trainer (Instructor # SI-1894). 



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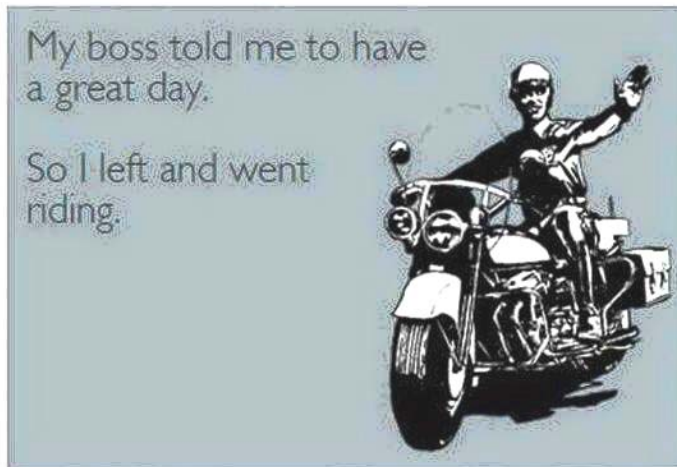
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JUST FOR FUN



ADS & SALES

CHAPTER SALES

The chapter has several different things available for purchase.
All Sweatshirts and Tee's include the Chapter Logo at no additional cost.

Contact Gary Lawrence
313-388-8299 nuferdog@yahoo.com

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Golf Shirts with Pocket S-M-L-XL \$31.00 2XL-3XL \$35.00</p> <p>Sweatshirts S-M-L-XL \$31.00 2XL & 3XL \$33.00</p> <p>Hooded Sweatshirts \$30.00</p> | <p>Short Sleeve Tees w/ Pocket S thru 2XL \$19.00 3XL \$20.00</p> <p>Long Sleeve Tees S-M-L-XL \$21.00 2XL-3XL \$22.00</p> | <p>Chapter Jackets 6 Jacket minimum order</p> <p>Chapter Baseball Caps \$15.00</p> <p>Chapter Antenna Flags \$5.00</p> |
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UPCOMING EVENTS

August

10-12 Region D/MI District Rally

Aug 29-Sept 2 Wing Ding

September

9 C2 Fun Run

10 W Toy Run

10 K2 Anniversary Party

30 F2 Anniversary Party

October

14 V Anniversary Party



CHAPTER MI H-2 DOWNRIVER WINGS

All rides leave from Leon's back parking lot unless otherwise noted



August 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|----|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 8:30 Breakfast | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | Region D/Michigan Rally | | |
| 13 8:30 Breakfast | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 8:30 Breakfast | 21 | 22 7:30 Gen Meeting Come early for dinner | 23 | 24 6:30 Ice Cream Run | 25 | 26 |
| 27 8:30 Breakfast | 28 | 29 | 30 6:30 Dinner Run | 31 | | |
| | | Wing Ding August 29th-September 2 | | | | |

24th Ice Cream Run Blue Sky 15155 S Huron River Dr Romulus (Corner of Eureka) Leave Leon's at 6:30
 30th Dinner Run Baldo's 20051 Telegraph Rd Brownstown (South of Sibley) Leave Leon's at 6:30

BIRTHDAYS

5th Shelby Calhoun
 8th Steve Abed
 15th Kathy Calhoun
 29th Cody Calhoun
 30th Charles Calhoun

ANNIVERSARIES

24th Steve & Judy Abed



CHAPTER MI H-2 DOWNRIVER WINGS

All rides leave from Leon's back parking lot unless otherwise noted



September 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|----|-----------------------|----|----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | Wing Ding August 29th-September 2 | | | | |
| 3 8:30 Breakfast | 4 Labor Day | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 8:30 Breakfast Ch W Toy Run | 11 | 12 7:30 Team Mtg | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 8:30 Breakfast | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 6:30 Dinner Run | 22 | 23 |
| 24 8:30 Breakfast | 25 | 26 7:30 Gen Meeting Come early for dinner | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

10th Chapter W Toy Run and Ice Cream Run Adrian Leave Leon's after breakfast about 10 AM
 21st Dinner Run Champion's Sport Bar 22112 Sibley Rd Brownstown (West of I-75) Leave Leon's at 6:30

BIRTHDAYS

16th Ron Lacharite
 21st Gary Lawrence
 23rd Little John Witalec
 24th Duke LeDuc

ANNIVERSARIES

3rd Keith & Kathy Calhoun
 18th Tom & Shelly Rushman