



G.W.R.R.A.
MI - Chapter O
Lakeshore Wings
Holland MI
Region D
JUNE 2011



Kortman Kaleidoscope

Glenn & Becky Kortman

The earth is coming to life with vibrant colors; crimson, azure, ginger, lilac, golden and jade. Just in a kaleidoscope you spin to see different color patterns, so are the rides on a motorcycle during this season. Yesterday before the rains the apple trees on Fruitridge were so ashen, abundant and aromatic; after the rain today the pedals have fallen to the ground and left a hue of jade across the fields.



This weekend we played a round of mini-golf. Laughter and cheer abounded as we putted in the greens. Bruce had a blue golf-ball that was full of magic; for it was able with help make not one but two holes in one. Glenn had a green golf-ball, Gwenn had a pink golf-ball and Becky had a yellow golf-ball; which didn't work as well as Bruce's. Next time they will all be playing blue golf-balls.

Over the last month we have taken many rides with Chapter O. We stopped at a restaurant in Lowell, MI. The owner came out to look at our bikes. She said "...looking at your bikes is like looking at a box full of jewels." I have to agree with her. We have some of the most colorful bikes; yellow, blue, navy, white, pearl, red, wine berry, titanium, pewter, black, tan, and many, many more.

Every ride is full of colors, come and be part of a Kaleidoscope Ride with Chapter O?

WHO ARE WE?

Bernie VanTuinen

After almost a Half of Century of marriage they are still close friends, they have a quirky sense of humor, He likes Country Music and she likes Rock and Roll. He loves anything to do with Sports, and the only Sports she likes are NASCAR and Motorcycling. Becoming Life Time members this past year, their Motorcycle travels have taken them to 43 States. WOW with a Guardian Angel at their side, this is a proven fact, because they are still with us. They have owned 4 Bikes. Hobbies they share are motorcycling and camping. He enjoys any of the fishing and hunting sports. Her hobbies are; crocheting sewing, swimming. She loves spending her time with family. They raised 5 children and have 9 maybe 10 by now grandkids. Sitting by them is always a hoot, as they have many stories to share. They always make new folks feel welcome, thanks for being Who U ARE!!!!

GOOD LUCK!

Email or call Glenn or Becky for your reward.

May's couple was Scott & Deb

A Tale to Tell ~a tale of mystery

Dick Wynsma

At our February Chapter O gathering, we were given a mystery tour book. It was created by Gina and Mindy. I know that they have invested a lot of time into making this book, because I know that Jean has a lot of time into solving the 129 mystery spots that are in the book. THANKS GINA & MINDY for the time and effort that you both put in to this book! This is a great way to see Michigan. The way Jean & I are going about this is first, all the mystery clues must be



solved by knowing a lot about Michigan or looking each one up on Google. Once Jean had that part done, I marked them all on a map. Now when we take a day or week-end trip, we review our map and we try to visit as many mystery spots as possible. To date we have went to Port Huron to visit Jeans uncle,



to Michigan Chrome to buy new arm rests, to Mackinaw for the week-end and a few afternoon rides. Some of the places are not new to us, but a lot of them are. Here are some of the good ones, Cops & Doughnuts, The Eiffel Tower, Wellington Zoo, Pickle Barrel Museum as well as many historical places. We are having a great time with this mystery book and if you have started I'm sure that you are having a

fun time as well. If you need some hints on how to solve these mysteries on your computer, ask Jean for some pointers.

Whose Job Is It?

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

~unknown

Chapter O has amazing people who step-up, step-forward, step-into moving this chapter forward into more fun. Thank you all for being great friends!

CHAPTER O – CARE CORNER

Bruce H. – Cancer

Bernie – caring for his mom whose is dealing with COPD

Kathleen – on the mend

Joan Z. – knee replacement recovery

Luke – Bruce B's 13 month old great grandson in need of a new heart

Jacqueline – Jack & Gina's 2 month old granddaughter has infection

Iva's daughter – car accident

Steve – knee replacement

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Bernie:

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Joe and Pam:

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June 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 RIDE Jim & Laurie V. Hank VK B-day	2	3 Joan Z. B-day	4 Merritt B-day
5	6 RIDE John K. B-day	7 Barb & Steve Anniversary	8 RIDE OPEN	9	10	11 9AM CHAPTER GATHERING Main St. Pub – Allendale
12	13 RIDE	14 Herm & Lori Anniversary	15 RIDE George – Marn E Walker	16 Steve S. B- day	17	18 9 AM ride leaves from Allendale High Central Motor Sports MOTORCYCLE OLYMPICS
19 Happy Father's Day!	20 RIDE Tom & Gayan Anniversary	21 Mike B B-day	22 RIDE OPEN Tom G. B-day	23	24 Newsletter deadline	25
26 Ken & Kathleen Anniversary	27 RIDE Bob & Jan Anniversary B-days – Ken George	28	29 <i>Brown Bag</i> RIDE Dick – Newaygo Riverfront Park	30		

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DAY RIDES– We meet at 10 AM at Community Restaurant in Zeeland.

DINNER RIDES – Meet at Allendale High School, rides leave at 6:30 PM. Most rides average about 1 hour ride to a restaurant. June, July and August we will have Brown Bag Suppers (we will ride to a park).

UPCOMING

JUNE

- 18 Central Motor Sports is putting on their annual MOTORCYCLE OLYMPICS.
- 25 or 26 ERC classes, Ionia, MI – see Jim for details and a sign up form
- 29 Brown Bag Ride

Make sure to read up on the all the fun upcoming events continued on the next page!

JULY

4th **Allendale Parade, activities in the park, and a ride...** line up at 9 AM parking lot C for those wishing to be in the parade. Anyone interested in parking your bike in our bike show (for motorcycle awareness and just plain fun), you can go to the Allendale Twp Veterans/Ball Park off of 68th Ave. We have the parking lot by the pavilions and bathrooms (the small lot with 8-10 parking spots.) If you would like to get involved with the fun, contact Glenn or Becky.

6-9th **WING DING** – Wing Ding 33, “Rollin’ on Rocky Top”, will be held in Knoxville, TN

29-30th **Michigan District Rally – Ogemaw County Fairgrounds, West Branch MI “Cowboys”;** line dancing, bon fires, top gun, light parade and much, much more. Chapter O has the PA on Saturday morning. We already have some couples, and would love more volunteers to help.

AUG

6 Veterans Ride (see Wayne for details)

19 25th Midnight Ride – Chapter G

27 Visit another chapter

OCT

7-9 Camping – Mecosta Pines see/call Mary B. with questions and interest.

Gold Wing Road Rider Association Leadership Team

Director GWRRA	Mike & Lori Stiger	(517)769-4824
Region D	Ron & Dianna Miller	(517)851-7276
MI District	Bill & Vicky Young	(734)301-3492
Assistant MI Director	Ken & Kathleen Heibel	(616)560-7984
Chapter Director	Glenn & Becky Kortman	(616)895-4801
Mentors	Dick & Jean Wynsma	
Member Enhancement Coordinator	Bernie Van Tuinen	(616)531-5208
Treasurer	Lynn Schaap	
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Sunshine Coordinator	Judy Meschke	
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SAFETY CORNER

Jim Voogd, Ride Educator

Motorcycle Safety Test #5

1. Which of the following is NOT a reason why some motorcyclists ride way over to the side of the lane?
 - a. To allow cars to pass
 - b. to avoid oil & gravel in the center of the road
 - c. to see other riders better
 - d. so other drivers can see them
2. Which is safer for a motorcyclist: to speed up, or slow down, WHILE turning?
 - a. to speed up
 - b. slow down
3. What does a flashing turn signal on a motorcycle mean?
 - a. The motorcyclist forgot to switch it off
 - b. the motorcyclist intends to turn or change lanes
 - c. either a. or b. could be correct
4. Since motorcycles are smaller than cars they need less space on the road.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Motorcyclists have their headlights on in the daytime:
 - a. so they can see better
 - b. to blind other drivers
 - c. so other drivers can see them
 - d. none of the above
6. Motorcycle rider skills training:
 - a. reduces the likelihood of the motorcyclist crashing
 - b. is available anywhere there are motorcycle riders
 - c. is free to all licensed drivers
 - d. all of the above
7. Motorcycle helmets:
 - a. make you a safe rider
 - b. last forever
 - c. help protect the riders from head injuries
 - d. are not comfortable
 - e. all of the above
8. When turning at an intersection, you should:
 - a. look for other motorists before proceeding
 - b. use your turn signals well before you turn
 - c. wait until the light turns red
 - d. close your eyes, hit the throttle and hope for the best
 - e. only A and B are correct
9. When riding the motorcycle, the rider:
 - a. uses both hands, both feet, and both thumbs to operate the bike
 - b. turns by pressing the handlebars
 - c. can slow down without using brakes
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
10. Smaller motorcycles:
 - a. are easy to see in traffic
 - b. are just as capable as large motorcycles
 - c. have different handling characteristics than larger motorcycles
 - d. have the same handling characteristics than larger motorcycles

Topic: Do You Ride with the Right Attitude?

When you decide to take your motorcycle out for a ride, what are you thinking about? Where is your attention? Are you thinking about the things you will be doing when you get to work? Is your mind playing with the words you could have said, or should have said, in the debate with your boss or your spouse earlier in the day? In short, where is your head at when you saddle up? Each and every time you throw a leg over your motorcycle it matters what you are thinking about. Whether you are simply commuting to work on your motorcycle to reduce fuel costs, or you are heading out on a week-long vacation on two-wheels, your mental attitude plays a big role in how safe you will be on the road, and how much you will enjoy the ride.

Riding a motorcycle is an activity that is 80% to 90% mental while the rest is physical. When you are thinking about the job on your way to work, or going over the list of errands you need to complete, or just letting your mind drift as you idle down to the end of your driveway, your level of safety is reduced. You need to shift your attitude and focus only on the ride to insure an incident free trip.

So how do you make the shift from thinking about daily issues to the ride at hand? Establish a routine that you will go through before every ride. Start by evaluating the condition of your motorcycle as you walk up to it. Do a mental T-CLOCS. Look at the tires as you approach (inflated, tread, visible damage). Are there any oily or wet spots on the ground under your bike (where did it come from, is it safe to ride)? And try to be conservative when you answer these questions to yourself. Keep your eyes open for anything amiss. Then, if everything looks okay, gear up. (Of course, you should do a physical T-CLOCS regularly, too, especially before starting a long ride!)

Next step, finish donning your protective outer layer. Most of us put on our gear in the same sequence every time. Long pants and boots are usually put on in the house. Out at the bike, your jacket, helmet, eye protection, and gloves complete the process. Consider the weather and make sure you have packed any other gear you may need before the ride is over.

Put the key in the ignition and start the bike. While the engine warms, check the fuel level. Determine how far you will be able to go before you need to stop for a fill-up. Do you know the route you plan to take? Do you have all the necessary information with you to get you where you want to go? Good.

With those aspects considered, you are ready to focus on the journey. Now, when you shift your bike into gear, shift your brain into "active rider mode" because nothing else matters now except your safety. All your thoughts should be about the ride you are beginning. Your eyes should be active and scanning your surroundings - **aggressively!** Look for potential hazards that might cause you to change your speed (by braking or accelerating), to change direction (by swerving or turning), or to communicate to other road users. A wave of the hand, a flash of your high beams, or a toot of your horn *tells* others that you are there. Make sure they are aware of you.

All the while your mind should be translating the inputs from your eyes and ears into pictures of things that might happen next. Evaluate in your mind what your response would be to each of the possibilities. When a hazard comes up, keep your options open until you have to choose one – the best one – the one that lets you avoid the hazard safely and without any drama. This is riding with the right attitude - the attitude that your job is to ride safely until you park your bike and remove the key from the ignition. Develop a routine like this for yourself and every ride you take will be a safer and more pleasing ride.

Ride Smart & Be Safe!

Bruce & Melissa Thayer
Former MI Asst. District Rider Educators
brucethayer1@comcast.net

Camp Out with friends

Mecosta Pines Campground

If you weren't there, here is some of what you missed.



Sandi teaching Bruce to make deviled eggs



A table of YUMMY food!



Herm and Dick calculating the candy.



Guesses are made



Going through the chow line



Eating all the fabulous food

Friday, we all arrived when we could. We gathered around Joe and Pam's camp fire and told many stories. I am still trying to figure out why Mary didn't take off her helmet in one of the stories. Saturday, we woke to a sun filled – blue skied day. We sat and talked, played games and ate. Then at 6 PM we gathered under the roof of the new patio and enjoyed a shared meal, while it rained. Some of us watched NASCAR on the really big screen in the game room, adjacent to the patio. A few of us threw some pigs during a game, thanks Lori for the laughs. Sunday, we all left when it was time. You always have to leave wanting more. See you in the fall.

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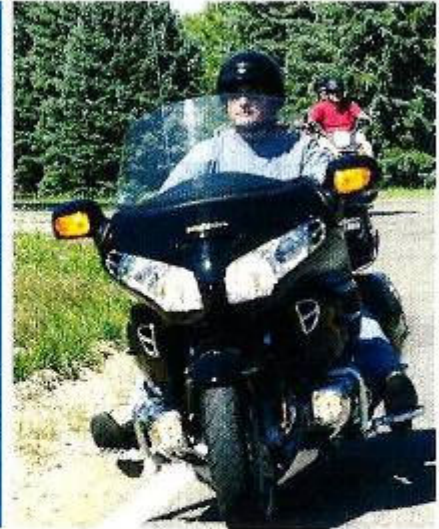
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GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION
Chapter O - Michigan

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

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Founded in 1977, GWRRA has grown to more than 80,000 U.S., Canadian and international members in 53 foreign countries in just 34 years. Over 800 active Chapters are managed by 4,000 volunteer leaders working with members to foster safe, enjoyable riding while also working to improve the public image of motorcycling. ❖