



G.W.R.R.A. MI - Chapter O *Lakeshore Wings*

Holland MI
Region D
May 2011



Kortman Kaleidoscope

Glenn & Becky Kortman

Hi! This is Pockets, you may know me better as "Empty Pockets, Fulfilled Dreams" the Kortman's Yellow Trike; I will be doing the Kortman Kaleidoscope this month. I was told to tell you about when I took the GWRRA ERC - trike course (see Jim V for more information). The trike course was fun; Glenn, a 30+year motorcycle endorsement holder, learned a thing or two. Being only a month old Glenn and Becky wanted to make sure I knew how to take sharp corners, speedy swerving and super swift stops.

A couple weeks before the course, Glenn my rider, took me off road in a corner. I was eager to have him schooled on how to corner a trike, but he soon learned it was easy to handle. The instructor said I wasn't going fast enough. Glenn eagerly gave me a little more throttle then my inside rear wheel tried to come off the ground; Becky, the co-rider, ed "we bought this [machine] with three wheels, so kindly keep it on all three wheels." After everyone in the class was getting the hang of corners we switched to swerving.

Swerving was easy. I had already done enough trying to keep my wheels clean of *icky* road kill. Even so, we worked on techniques to master swerving both to the right and to the left. We learned that if Glenn is uncomfortable with a swerve, we need to learn the quick stop.

But those super quick stops were the worst, at least for the instructors. I set out on the course and Glenn gave me a little gas then the instructor wanted us to apply the brakes at a set of cones. We, the whole class, worked on this task until all of us according to the instructor were comfortable with the stop. Then Glenn revved up my motor and we were off for the next task of stopping when the instructors lifted their arms. Wow! I was glad Glenn can see that guy, otherwise that would have been hard for me. We worked well as a team that day; I learned how I react to corners, swerves, and quick stops.

I would recommend that any of you should encourage, entice or energize your rider to sign up for an ERC course. I saw two wheelers and other trikes, some with one-up and some with two-up. All you need to do is get your rider to sign up and pay a little fee, like \$35. Then get your rider to the location of the course safely. Your rider will leave you for the morning and go into the building. I am not sure what they do there but my rider and co-rider were smarter after they were done in there. Oh, then after a lunch break I finally got to show my stuff on the course. Well, my rider did the driving, but really he couldn't have done it without me.

*We strongly encourage you to sign up for this Course which is for fun, safety and knowledge.
See Jim V for sign up and a special incentive for Chapter O participants.*

You will be glad you took the course!

Chapter "O" Spring Campout

Please join us for a week-end of fun. The campground is under new ownership - Debbie & Rick Norman. They have made many new improvements. One thing is they added on to the community room to accommodate larger groups. We have the room reserved for our potluck.

Of course we will have a group POTLUCK on Saturday night and for those who do not camp, you are welcome to join us for supper. After a full belly we will gather around the campfire and tell stories. Maybe Dick will get some "tale to tell" information.

Where: Mecosta Pines in Morley

Exit 125 off US 131, east one mile

Telephone: 231-856-4556

When: May 20 – 22

Cost: \$20.00 per night –electric & water

If you want to join us, you will have to call the campground and make reservations, be sure to tell them you are with Chapter O.

Any questions – Call Mary @ 616-530-6418 or Sandi @ 616-734-4114



WHO ARE WE?

Bernie VanTuinen

How many of us have ever gone on a Blind Date? Well, that is how this couple met, got married and had 3 children, each which are 3 years apart in age, the youngest will be starting college this fall. They have only been members of GWRRA since 2010, but his background in bikes goes back to 1982, he even owned a 1993 Harley Davidson Soft tail, (which inherited from his brother), but with the sale of that bike lead to the purchase of 2009 Gold Wing. Besides biking, he enjoys; hunting, fishing, and his dogs. Her interests are in reading, knitting, sewing and quilting. This is a couple well suited for each other, they also like hanging out with Chapter O. We that know them are glad that blind date worked out. And the way it did - a match made in heaven. GOOD LUCK! Email or call Glenn or Becky for your reward.

A Tale to Tell

Dick Wynsma

It is a tradition at Christmas time to send and receive Christmas cards and it is the "O" tradition to exchange cards at our Christmas party, thus saving the money spent on postage. I think that is a great "O" idea. But some of us have conflicting events at that time of the year and cannot attend the Christmas party. Some of the "O" cards must then be mailed out. Jean & I mailed and received many "O" cards by U.S. mail. To our surprise, on March 30th one of those Christmas cards was returned to us. It was mailed out along with the rest of our "O" cards in December and was addressed to Jesus S. and his family. There was a pre-pasted stamp on it that read "Incorrect address". How could that be? Well, this is what we found out to be the problem. The name on the envelope was correct as well as the street address. The city was correct (Holland). She left the state off and put the zip code 49426. That's our zip code for Hudsonville. Apparently this confused the mail sorting machine at the post office so it got kicked out to be hand sorted. It was also confusing to the post office workers who have to hand sort such stuff. They found no such zip code in Holland and no such street in Hudsonville and no other city in the US by the name of Holland. SO --- they sent it off to Holland (The Netherlands). Needless to say there was no such address or zip code found there either, let alone a family with a Mexican name. (Actually the reason for return was *Onvolledig/foutief adres/postcode*- that is Dutch for incorrect address) So they sent the card back to the United States and then it was returned to our mail box. This card went on a 3 ½ month trip for only 44 cents! The US mail may be called snail mail, but they try their best to deliver the mail. NO matter how bad Jean screws it up. Anyway, Jesus, **MERRY CHRISTMAS** to you and your family.

CHAPTER O – CARE CORNER

Bruce H. – Cancer

Bernie – caring for his mom whose is dealing with COPD

Kathleen – hospitalized with pneumonia and complications

Joan Z. – knee replacement 5/5/11

FOR SALE

Bernie:	616-531-5208
1982 Pedal Tractor and Wagon \$375	
Joe and Pam:	231-853-6600
1999 Jayco EAGLE 25 foot fifth wheel, sleeps 6, super clean \$11,000 OBO	

Dear Chapter O "Family", Thank you so much for all your thoughts, prayers, cards and flowers. Your expressions of encouragement are greatly appreciated. We are thankful for the good news we received and are also thankful to be a part of such a caring group of people.

Sincerely, Kelly & Lynn S

May 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>Holland Blessing of the Bikes</i>	2 RIDE <i>Wayne's B-day</i>	3	4 RIDE <i>Steve "Stable" Scott & Deb's Anniversary</i>	5	6	7 <i>Arlan's B-day</i>
8	9 RIDE	10	11 RIDE <i>Carl</i>	12	13 <i>B-day's Carl Gina</i>	14 9AM CHAPTER GATHERING Main St. Pub - Allendale
15 <i>Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes</i>	16 RIDE	17 <i>Jim & Laurie's Anniversary</i>	18 RIDE <i>Bernie</i>	19	20 Camping	21 Mecosta <i>Pot luck for all Anniversary - Jack & Gina Glenn & Becky</i>
22 Pines <i>Gwenn's B-day</i>	23 RIDE	24	25 RIDE	26	27 <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	28
29	30 RIDE <i>Laurie B.'s B-day</i>	31				

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAY

April 30 and May 1 Michigan Chrome – Open House

1 Holland Blessing of the Bikes – Holland Fair Grounds, blessing around 2 PM

14 Chapter Gathering **NEW LOCATION – Main St. Pub, Allendale**

13-15 Niehaus Customer Appreciation Weekend

13-15 Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes – Blessing on Sunday around 1 PM

20-22 Camping at Mecosta Pines – Potluck for everyone (come and enjoy the evening even if you don't camp) on Saturday evening.

27 Newsletter Deadline

30 Memorial Day – Day Ride

continued on next page

DAY RIDES– We meet at 10 AM at Community Restaurant in Zeeland. We don't know where we are going until we leave. This is a great day ride, usually 2 hour ride to a restaurant then a meandering ride homeward.

DINNER RIDES – Meet at Allendale High School in North/Western lot on Wednesdays (April – October). 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

JULY

- 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 one couple, 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.

<u>Gold Wing Road Rider Association Leadership Team</u>		
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	
Rider Educator	Jim & Laurie Voogd	
Sunshine Coordinator	Judy Meschke	
Ride Coordinator	Steve & Barb Siegel	
50/50 Coordinator	Bernie & Donna Van Tuinen	
Newsletter	Becky Kortman	
Web Master	CJ Shroll	

Spring Officer Meeting

In the morning the State Staff introduced themselves and all attending. Each staff member played a role in providing valuable information to your officers. In the afternoon, the officers broke into their officer roles and had more intimate decisions, where we learned new ideas and shared.

GRAND RAPIDS
 3661 Plainfield NE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49525
 616-364-8481



HOLLAND
 13035 New Holland St.
 Holland, MI 49424
 616-399-5000

fax 616-399-6994

villagemotorsports.net



SAFETY CORNER

Jim Voogd, Ride Educator

Motorcycle Safety Test #4

1. Which of the following is true about motorcycle safety?
Motorcycles:
 - a. don't have horns
 - b. horns are loud
 - c. horns aren't very loud
 - d. horns are just there to annoy pedestrians
 - e. none of the above
2. When a car driver is being passed by a motorcyclist, the driver should:
 - a. pull over so the motorcyclist can pass
 - b. speed up
 - c. maintain lane position and speed
 - d. slow down
 - e. none of the above
3. In bad weather, motorcyclists:
 - a. may pull over to change riding gear
 - b. may pull off to wait out a storm
 - c. need more time to maneuver
 - d. all of the above
4. Why do motorcycles have less traction than cars?
 - a. because they go too fast
 - b. because they have fewer wheels
 - c. because they carry passengers
 - d. all of the above
5. Why are motorcycles more difficult to operate than cars?
 - a. because they can be heavy
 - b. because they need to be balanced
 - c. because the drivers need to use their hands, feet and thumbs to operate the bike
 - d. all of the above
6. Are motorcyclists more or less likely than drivers to be involved in a crash?
 - a. more likely
 - b. less likely
 - c. equally as likely
7. At what point does alcohol impair you ability to drive?
 - a. The first drink
 - b. the third drink
 - c. depends on what you're drinking
 - d. when you can't simultaneously hold onto both a beer and your hand grips
 - e. when you've lost your keys
8. Motorcyclists wear leather to make themselves look more dangerous.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. When you see a motorcyclist's high beam flashing, it means:
 - a. They're going to turn
 - b. They're trying to draw other's attention to their presence
 - c. They are trying to blind you
 - d. They are pretending to be a CHIPS cop
 - e. None of the above
10. What sort of person rides a motorcycle?
 - a. Thrill seekers
 - b. housewives
 - c. teenagers
 - d. senior citizens
 - e. all of the above

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Bike Night; Fridays 5 - 9 PM

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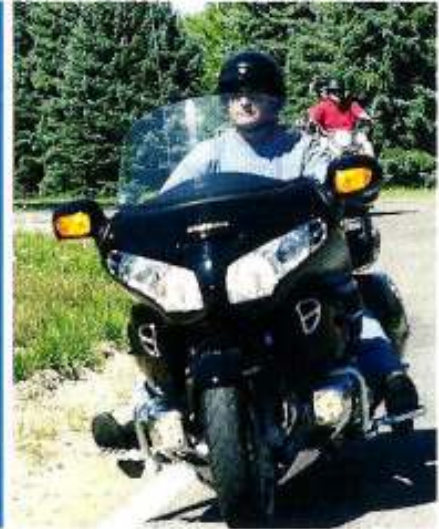
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GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL: www.gwrra.org 800.843.9460

REGIONAL: www.gwrra-regiond.org

STATE: www.gwrra-mi.org

CHAPTER: www.gwrra-mi.org/chapter/O/index.htm

FRIENDS for FUN, SAFETY & KNOWLEDGE

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) is the world's largest single-manqué social organization for owners and riders of Honda Gold Wing/Valkyrie motorcycles -- and some would say, the world's largest family. Dedicated to our motto, Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge, GWRRA members enjoy the freedom of belonging to a not-for-profit, non-religious and non-political organization.

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.❖

