



Gwrra

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Region D

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Wilderness Wings

May 2012



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Couple of the Year



CD's Corner

Hello Everyone,

Well the weather is slowly starting to cooperate so maybe we can ride a little without snow. Looks like there will be a bunch of things going on this May for everyone to enjoy, just find the one or two things and get out with the bike.

First thing May 5th is the GWRRA Michigan Officers Meeting in Midland at the Fairgrounds, this is the Fairgrounds where the Michigan Rally was held years ago and now is moving back to Midland again this year, August 2-4, 2012. There are lots of campsites for Pop-up Campers and for the big RV's as well, cost is \$17 a day so fill out your Rally Registrations form and send them in to get the best sites.

The second weekend May 12th is the Medic First Aid Class in Brimley at the Township Hall, starting at 8:30am and finishing around 4-4:30pm, don't forget to bring a small piece of carpet or rug for your knees, Lunch will be Chicken w/ Gravy, Potato's, Vegetable, Dinner Rolls, and Desert for a cost of \$6 per person, Pop, Water, Coffee will be for a small fee. Please do not be late so the Class may start on time, CPR and First Aid takes a lot of time so starting is important.

Sunday is Mothers Day and I'm sure we all have someone important to honor, Happy Mothers Day Ladies.

The third weekend Saturday May 19th is the 19th Annual Blessing of the bikes in Hillman, Michigan, Sunday May 20th is the Blessing in Stuttsmanville down by Harbor Springs, Service is at 11 am and Lunch will follow and then the Blessing will take place after the meal. You need not attend the service to have Lunch or participate in the Blessing, all they ask is bring something to pass if you want.

June 1-2 is Chapter Z Campout and the first of the Section campouts, Dinners are getting ready with Steak and Chicken for Saturday night, the food is outstanding believe me I've been there. I have sign up sheets if someone needs them, or you can find them on line at Chapter Z web site. Chapter Ont H is heading to Wawa the weekend of June 9-10, make your reservation at the Bristol.

Well its time for me to say, till we meet again,

Frank & Deb
Senior Chapter Directors
MI-Q

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Riders Ed

Rider Course Season – ERC, ARC, TRC & SRC

How about that! March is here already and while those in the southern states have been riding for a few weeks now, those in the north can realistically begin thinking about clear roads and warm temperatures. At least warm enough to encourage us to unplug the Battery Tender, bundle up in full gear, and take the steed out of the stable for the first ride of the season on the next bright sunny day.

Okay, maybe I am rushing it a bit for some of you, eh? But where ever you live, the beginning of the riding season is a good time to think about signing up for a rider course. What better way to refresh yourself mentally and physically of the skills it takes to ride safely and with confidence? I like to think of rider courses as a kind of insurance. But this is the kind of insurance that helps *prevent* accidents instead of paying for the damages *after* the fact. The return on the investment can be much greater than you realize compared to the other kind of insurance. You might even say it is priceless!

So what if the course is not offered right in your own backyard and you have a bit of a ride to get there? Sounds like a good reason for a chapter ride. In fact, you could practice *team riding* both ways - there and back. Maybe spend the night near the training site, if it makes sense. This could help you get the season off to a great start if you enroll in one of the early courses. Remember, the chapter that trains together, ... uh..., has a lot of trained riders! Right?

Seriously, we can all improve our riding skills. Even if you have taken the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Experienced Rider Course (ERC) every year for the last 10 years, there is something you will learn, or re-learn, from one of our rider training courses. I say that with confidence because there is now a new course available for those experienced and frequently trained riders among us that are looking for something different. The new class is the Advanced Rider Course (ARC). This is a rider course developed by GWRRA for its members. The class includes new exercises found only in this class. And they were designed specifically to help you deal with real-world riding situations. If you can ace this class, then you have some riding skills to be proud of! That is not to say only the best riders should take this class. Quite the opposite is true. Every motorcycle rider among us

is eligible for this class and capable of completing it. (Sorry, the ARC is only for 2-wheelers.) Remember that there is no pass/fail criteria in these classes!

What else can you expect from this new course? Just as with the ERC, it is presented to you by two trained and qualified instructors who will tell you how to perform the exercise, demonstrate the exercise for you, and give you tips to improve your technique while you practice it on your own motorcycle. The ARC also includes some classroom instruction prior to the fun on the range. Altogether, it is pretty much a full eight hour course. As long as you participate in the classroom and practice the exercises on the range, you will get a completion card. It is as easy as that! There are no minimum performance standards to meet. And, hopefully, everyone finishes with better awareness of the risks of motorcycling and improved riding skills. And isn't that the point of a rider training course?

There are no prerequisites to meet other than the usual for current GWRRA members. Your bike needs to pass a T-CLOCS inspection and you must wear the proper riding gear. (Did you forget what comprises proper riding gear? Hint: There are 6 items included!) And you may need a cycle endorsement on your driver's license (state specific) and proof of insurance. Register for any of the classes – ERC, ARC, Trike Riding Course (TRC) or Sidecar Riding Course (SRC) - by completing an application. The sooner you submit your application, the better your chances are of getting the training site you desire.

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May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Chapter J2	4	5 Officers Meeting Midland
6 H Ont T-Clock at the Henderson's	7	8	9	10 CC Hall Spaghetti Dinner 5pm	11	12 MFA Class 8:30 Township Hall in Brimley Chapter Q Mtg 11:30 Brimley
13 Happy Mothers Day	14 Happy Birthday Frank King	15	16	17	18	19 Hillman Bike Blessing
20 Stuttsmanville Bike Blessing Chapter Z Cheb Great Lakes Grill Chapter Y Fred's in Roscommon	21	22	23	24	25	26 Happy Birthday Sherri Veogtline Ont H Grand Gardens 10am
27 Memorial Day Thank You for Serving	28 Happy Birthday Mike Johnston	29	30	31		

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Section Campout is Chapter Z this year, June 1-2, 2012. Come on down and become a Troll...

June 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Chap Z/ Section Campout Alanson	2 Chap Z/ Section Campout Alanson
3 Chapter Y	4	5	6	7 Chapter J2 CC Hall Spaghetti Dinner 5pm	8	9 H Ont Wawa Run heading up
10 H Ont Wawa Run coming home	11	12	13	14	15	16 Chapter Q Mtg Ang-gio's Cedarville 10am Lets ride
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Chapter Z	25	26	27	28	29	30 Chapter H Ont Grand Gardens 10 am

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