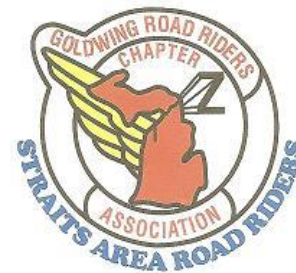




GoldWings Road Riders Association

Chapter Z

Straits Area Road Riders



www.gwrra-mi.org/Z/index.htm

Region D Director
Roger & Penny Hurley
rogerhurley@woh.rr.com
937-698-4443

Membership Enhancement & Sunshine Team
John & Sharon Crocker
231-627-4920

District Directors
Bill & Vicky Young
734-301349
wvyoungsr@comcast.net

Chapter Educators
Wayne & Lou Thornton
waylout@charter.net
231-627-9192

Assistant District Directors
Doug & Rowena McAfee
rowenaa@charter.net

Senior Chapter Director
Chip Hiles
woodchipsomi@yahoo.com
231-537-4752

Assistant Chapter Director
Tim & Georgia McCracken
sparky3744@sbcglobal.net
231-535-2487

Ride Coordinator
Rod & Bonnie Altman
rbaltman@hughes.net

Couple of the Year
Tim & Georgia McCracken

Goody Sales & Historian
Sue & Dennis Jessick
djess@charter.net
231-838-5099

HOME OF THE CHAPTER Z TROLLS

I can't believe this weather. Snowing like crazy one minute and thunderstorms and rain the next. Think Mother Nature is having a nervous breakdown. The old gal needs to get on the back of a GOLDWING and take a ride. LOL

For those of you who didn't know Denny Jessick and his brother Larry were in a plane accident (a two person ultra light hit a tree). Denny was alright but his brother took the brunt of the crash. He broke his left leg in several places (from toes to the hip). Please keep him in your prayers.

Here is this month's episode of the HUMOR CREW (aka The Crockers). In the last episode, John was undergoing several tests to determine exactly what was wrong with him. Sharon had reported that he hadn't fallen into the pond yet (there is a nice pond on property where they are staying when not in Slidell. Or that he hadn't driven the golf cart into the pond either.

Recently John was scheduled for 2 days of MRI (first his shoulder, then his back). They had John on the table ready for the shoulder MRI. It was determined that MRI on shoulder couldn't be done (too much metal in shoulder). Sharon asked if back could be done (to save a trip). After checking MRI schedule, tech said it was ok to do the back MRI.

Sharon removed John's suspenders and wrapped them around her hand. Apparently she moved the wrong way and the suspenders got into the magnetic field and slammed her into the MRI machine, she knocked over the tech and nearly knocked John off the end of the table (where he was sitting up at the time.)

Everyone was AOK. Sharon stated that the suspenders looked like spider legs wiggling all over the place. The results of the MRI showed some compressed discs in the lower part of the neck. He has an appointment with a spinal specialist soon.

John and Sharon would love to hear from the members of the Chapter. If you are so inclined to call them, they can be reached by dialing their Cheboygan home phone number.

Until then, look forward to the next episode of the HUMOR CREW.

Just note, plans are in the works for the Campout the first weekend in June. Please consider lending a helping hand. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Helllllllo, well did I fool ya? Yep tis me again with another edition of what the helllllo is goin on. Also I figure I should get a response and that will tell me who is actually reading this. Well the season is starting to gear up and I had some interesting ideas come from yesterdays meeting. I started the meeting by asking for suggestions and comments about what you the chapter members would like to see happen this year. All were good, some possible and some may not be possible. One of the largest determining factors on what is possible will rest with you the chapter member. Fortunately we have a core group in this chapter who gets what needs to be done and helps a lot in helping what we want to be done to make this chapter exist. I really try to limit what these individuals do mostly because I do not want to over work them and burn them out. We also have another group who do come out and lend a hand when we need help to get things done. Yes I know every organization has that. Bottom line as I just hinted the number one item I judge when I decide what this chapter will do is what is the available resources, both financial and "person"-power to accomplish this. Our chapter is a little smaller than it use to be several years ago and some of our members have other responsibilities that has come up which limits the "person"-power available to both do some of the things we have done in the past and to do new things. With that being said let us move on to some suggestions on what we should consider for this years activities.

First up was to have some weekend day rides. Because of time constraints we can only ride so far on Tuesday nights and still have dinner. So the idea was suggested to plan day trips on the weekend so we can visit places further out such as Fish Town or Tahquamenon Falls. This suggestion was further refined to three trips this year. One before Memorial Day and one after schools start to do a trip outside the summer tourist season. The third trip would be during tourist season in the summer. There has been nothing done on the exact where to and when these trips will happen. To do any of these trips we will need someone to organize each of them. So if you have an idea on some place you would like to ride to with some friends and you would not mind leading them there then let me know and we will let the membership know. Oh yeah after last year I also think it would be a good idea to have a back-up date just in case of rain.

Of course most of the meeting was talking about the Kickoff Campout. One thing that was not discussed about this campout but I want to remind everyone is that the campout brings in the largest portion of our operating budget. I am not talking about it increasing our income but off setting what we no longer make off ticket sales. As I stated in the meeting last year our funds went down \$120 or we spent \$120 more than we took in for the year. While that is not bad and no cause for concern we don't want to do that every year or sometime in the future we will have no funds to operate the chapter. So because of that the first change from last year is a slight increase in the cost of registration. Exactly how much will be discussed at the next meeting but it really won't be much. Next we agreed that the campout will be at Petosega so I am currently working on setting that up. At the meeting it was stated that pre-registration would start April first but I think I will have everything in place to start it on March 25th which is a meeting date. Again cost will be less for pre-registration. Now we have a meeting on May 20th (the third Sunday in the month due to Memorial Day) and that will be the last day of pre-registration. The cost of registration will go up after that date. As in the past we will have a BBQ meal on Saturday night and a ride on Saturday morning/afternoon. Now last year we also provided a meal on Friday night and a breakfast on Saturday morning. At this

time we may not offer them due to “person”power but that will be discussed at the next meeting. Last but not least was entertainment for Saturday evening and I think most of that has been covered. That covers most of what was discussed at January meeting. We will be finalizing more details such as costs, meals and the ride at the next meeting. So if you have any ideas or comments either get them to the meeting or to me so they can be considered. One last thing before I close this item. There should be three other chapters coming with decent attendance so with a little effort we can not only make this campout one of the best yet, have a lot of fun ourselves but also take care of the whole years funding at the same time.

In case you have not heard the district has purchased a Goldwing, to raffle off again this year. I should be receiving our tickets for this year soon. If you would like to get some tickets to sell let either Sue or myself know so we can get them to you. We also discussed doing one ticket sale this year and that it should be at Glen's in Cheboygan in May. That is not confirmed yet but by next meeting I should know if it can happen or not.

Have you patted yourself on the back yet? You should. Our chapter donated four big boxes of toys to the Toys For Tots program in December. Not bad you guys and gals. They really appreciated it and sent all of you a big thanks.

A request was approved at the last meeting to rename the position of “Sunshine Team” to now be called “Humor Crew”. If you are wondering why I believe the best answer I can give is that John and Sharon Crocker currently hold that post. Even though they were not present they did provide a lot of laughs at the meeting.

Well I think that is all the news I have for now. What do you mean “Thank God”. Anyway I will close this edition and leave you with some dates. The next meeting will be back at BJ's in Gaylord if you have not heard. They contacted us and wondered why they have not seen us lately so I gave them an ear full and they asked to be reconsidered for a meeting spot again. Stay warm and start thinking about what you want to do when warmer weather arrives. Yes it will happen again just like you finding another article from me next newsletter, sorry.

The Chipster SCD Chapter Z

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 14 Cheboygan	Tuesday Dinner	Great Lakes Grill
February 26 Gaylord	Monthly Gathering	BJ's
March 13 Lake	Tuesday Dinner	Moose Jaw Junction Larks
March 25 Cheboygan	Monthly Gathering	Great Lakes Grill
April 17 (week early due to Easter)	Tuesday Dinner	Northwoods Oden
April 22	Monthly Gathering	
May 20	Monthly Gathering	
June 9	Wa-Wa Run	Chapter H Ontario Canada

July 4	Wing Ding	Fort Wayne Indiana
August 3	Michigan District Rally	Midland MI
August 10	Chapter Q Campout	Sault Ste Marie
August 18	Midnight Ride	Michigan
September 7	Chapter H Campout	Ontario Canada
September 13	Region D Rally	Celina Ohio

Wayne has purchased some Rider Safety DVD. He plans to share these DVDs at future meetings.

Here are ten motorcycle safety tips to keep you alive and well this season:

1. Make eye contact

Never assume others see you. Always try to make eye contact with drivers who may be about to pull into your path.

2. Read “vehicle language”

Even when drivers, cyclists and pedestrians do see you approaching, they often misjudge your distance and speed. Don't rely on them.

3. Watch out for left-turning vehicles at intersections

Getting hit by an oncoming vehicle that's turning left is the most common type of motorcycle crash.

4. Check behind when turning left from a highway

Watch your mirrors and make sure you have plenty of space behind. The drivers behind might not slow down for you.

5. Look out for hazardous road conditions

Wet roads, fluid spills, sand, gravel, highway sealant, railroad tracks, potholes and other road-surface hazards reduce your traction. They cause many falls.

6. Take it easy on the curves

Many crashes happen there. You might overshoot the road or cross the centre line and get hit by oncoming traffic. Watch the road ahead, slow down and choose the correct lane position-before entering a curve.

7. Wear a good helmet

Helmets prevent head injuries in 67 per cent of crashes and deaths in 29 per cent. Make sure your helmet has a sticker showing that it meets current safety standards. Avoid buying a used helmet. It may have been in a crash, and the damage may not be obvious.

8. Wear protective clothing designed for motorcycle riders

It can provide some protection during a crash, as well as shield you from the weather and flying debris. Keeping warm and dry will help you stay alert and maintain coordination. Wear your riding gear in layers so you can adjust to changing conditions. Jeans give little protection. Never ride in lightweight pants or shorts.

9. Protect your eyes and face

Constant wind can make your eyes water, preventing you from spotting hazards. Flying insects, dust and debris can hurt your eyes and face. The best protection is a full-face helmet with a built-in face shield.

10. Be visible

Wear bright, reflective clothing. Add extra reflective material to it or wear a reflective vest. Likewise, buy a bright-coloured helmet and stick reflective tape to the back and sides. Always keep your headlight on. Ride in the lane position where other drivers can easily see you and you've got room to move. Avoid all other vehicles' blind spots.

Here on The Sidecar, we want to help bring [safety awareness](#) to you. Stay tuned for [**more tips, guides, and posts on motorcycle safety this month!**](#)

Sources [[ICBC](#)]

Category: [Lifestyle Safety](#)

Tags: [crash](#), [helmet](#), [Safety](#), [safety month](#), [tips](#), [top 10](#)

MCHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



©T. McCracken mchumor.com

Sue does this remind you of anyone (this comment came from Wayne not me)
Also didn't know Tim was a cartoonist