

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



Great Lakes Region D

Regional Newsletter



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What are you doing this summer?

Our world is changing and we may need to do things a little differently than we used to.

We may need to think “outside the box” to make our rallies and events more fun and more exciting, while trying to keep the cost down. From what we have been hearing and seeing that is exactly what the District Directors within Region D and elsewhere around the World have been planning and doing for their events.



The old saying “Been there and done that”, may not hold true anymore. With all the new enthusiastic leaders we have in our Association along with their exciting and different ideas to make it fun and enjoyable for you the Member, we may be in for some extremely fun times. So if you have never been to that new location or experienced what is being offered by this new group for your enjoyment then “you ain’t been there” and “you ain’t done that”.

Each new day brings a new experience and GWRRA Members thrive on new, exciting and fun challenges. When it is said, “That cannot be done” by golly (we) figure out how to do it. When someone else says, “That will never work” by golly (we) come up with an idea to make it work. Who is (we)? It is every (Member and Officer) actively involved in our Association.

GWRRA Members and motorcyclists in general are a different breed of free people. We are usually very patriotic, we are proud, we love and respect our freedom and it shows, whether we are out on the open road or in a large gathering. We are about as diverse as any group of people can get, we may not always agree on everything, but we will band together when we are challenged by adversity and we will attempt to help each other and those in need.

We (your Districts and Region) are facing some adversities and we are asking for and need your help. Let us talk about some things that may not have been discussed recently.

The Districts or the Region or any of the Officers do not receive any funds from the Gold Wing Road Riders Association. We are self supporting just like the Chapters.

Each of the three Districts in Region D has in the past had a "Winter Event" for the Members. These are expensive to put on because the Hotels charge for the use of their facilities and the meals, if one is provided. Because the Districts charge a nominal registration fee for these events, many Members think the Districts make a lot of money on these events, when in reality these events end up costing the Districts more than they take in.

Then each District has their spring and fall Officers meetings, they have quick starts, Horizons Programs, Section meeting, Safety Saturdays or Seminar Sundays and the list goes on and on. These events for the most part are paid for by the Districts with no charge to the Members.

The District and Region D Teams have people that travel all over the Districts on their own dime to help the Members and the Chapters. Once in awhile a District or Region D Team person may be compensated by having their lodging or a meal partially paid for, but nobody including the District or Region Directors or their Team Members are paid for their services.

In addition the Region D Workshop was provided free for all GWRRA Members and Officers.

It is the responsibility of each District and the Region to provide fun activities for the Members while encouraging and training them to be safer motorcycle riders and co-riders and to help them gain knowledge for future Leadership positions both inside and outside the GWRRA.

The equipment we use for all this training is bought and paid for out of your District's and Region D funds.

The District and Region D Team Members volunteer hundreds of man hours each and every year to prepare for each District and/or Region event that is planned, plus they are responsible for the everyday duties of running the District and Region. The summer District and Region D Rallies are usually planned well in advance for the Members enjoyment, while trying to keep the cost to a minimum and attempting to make enough money to operate the District and Region, thereby providing all the above mentioned benefits for the Members.

This is where our adversity lies, we need every Members help in making these summer money making events well attended. It would be very beneficial if everyone could pre-register and attend all the District and Region D Rallies. We also need to be realistic, we understand that not everyone can go to or be at each and every event for the entire weekend because of work schedules, time restraints and/or economical reasons.

We ask that you do what you can to help each of the Districts, especially your own District by supporting them by riding into the Rally for a day and bring a friend or perspective Member, donate something that the District can auction off to generate operating funds. Encourage other Members to attend or anything that will help. For doing this, we Thank You.

We are looking forward to seeing and talking with many of you at the upcoming District and Region D Rallies. Come and bring your friends, your positive attitudes, your smiles and a quest to meet someone new and have a good time. If we are not working, let's get acquainted.

Ride Aware – Ride Safe

Your Friends for – Fun, Safety & Knowledge

Ron & Dianna Miller

Directors of Region D “Where Every Member Matters”

Hello Region D

It's hard to believe that the first quarter of the year has already passed, but you know what that means. The better weather is starting to show, and the motorcycles are again taking to the roadways in our Region. If you haven't already checked, your District Web sight, District Newsletter, and even your Chapter newsletter have listings for ERC's, ARC's, TRC's, and PLP's that will be in your area. From updated information I'm seeing, all of Region D is off to an outstanding schedule of training for our members this riding season. Just during the first quarter of this year there were 335 members trained using the Medic First Aid program, and a total of 464 as of this writing.



There were already 12-ERC's, 9-TRC's, 4-ERC's, and several PLP's that were held this year already. There are still classes open so please consider going to a class this season.

The New Rider Education Program database is up and running, and allows access to all the Chapter Educators, who can assist you in keeping all your records of training information and training needs up to date.

The May National News Letter can be found at: <http://www.gwrra.org/regional/ridered/news/May2009.pdf>

So if you haven't already seen it, stop by and take a look. There is a lot of information on the New Database as well as information on National Rider Education Programs.

Rider Education Forms: We are again asking that everyone please check and only use the newest forms. If you have a question about a form you have, check with your Chapter Educator. They have access to all the newest forms and can provide you with them.

As always - Laurel and I encourage everyone to visit the Region D Web sight (<http://www.gwrra-regiond.org>) for all the up to date information on Rider Education, and links to all three District Web sights for each states lists of Rider/Co-Rider courses, Seminars, MFA Classes, and just good information.

Until Next Time Ride Safe

John & Laurel Kuehl Region D Educators

Ready.....Set.....**GO!!!** That phrase best describes our lives since being selected as the Region D Couple of the Year. Since August we have been busy traveling around doing what we love to do best, talking about the Couple of the Year Program and visiting members of our GWRRA family.



We started our journey as Region Couple with a trip to Ontario Canada in September to join the members of Ontario Chapter H for their Annual Camp Out. What a great time even though the rain on Saturday night cancelled the "Secret" Knights of the Hatchet ceremony. Looks like we'll be returning next year to be inducted into the Knights of the Hatchet. On our way home from Canada we decided to stop and visit Chapter MI-M2 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula at their monthly gathering. We would like to thank all of our "Friends from the North" for showing us such a warm welcome.

October took us to MI-R2's monthly gathering, MI-F's Annual Hoe Down (Yeeeeee Hah!) and our first Region D Staff Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana. November found us at Chapter MI-V's Anniversary Party, Chapter MI-A's Anniversary Party, Chapter MI-F's monthly gathering and Chapter MI-E's monthly gathering which happened to be their Thanksgiving Feast (YUMMY!). Before we could digest all the food we ate and catch our breath it was already December and we were on our way to visit Chapter MI-B.

After spending some quality time with our 3 adult children over the Holidays January had us off and running again to visit Chapter MI-A2, Chapter MI-W and we even served time in Chapter MI-H2's jail during their Anniversary Party.

In February we attended all three District's Winter Events starting with Michigan's Wingless Weekend. Congratulations to Dick and Ginny Beardsley, the New 2009 Michigan District Couple of the Year and the rest of the Couples that participated in the selection process. Then it was on to Ohio's Cabin Fever. We were honored to have been asked to help judge their District Couple of the Year selection. It was wonderful getting to know the Ohio Chap-

ter Couples as they were all deserving couples but unfortunately there can only be one District Couple as they were all winners and we would like to congratulate Doug and Lynn Kerst Ohio's 2009 District Couple. Next was Indiana's Winter Rendezvous for another fun filled weekend. Congratulations to Marvin and Joann Henry, Indiana's 2009 District Couple. All three Districts' have great couples and we look forward to seeing them representing their Districts at the Region Rally in Celina, Ohio this fall.

When we left Indiana we headed south to Florida where we visited Florida's Chapter FL2-D in Melbourne and attended the Florida District Rally in Kissimmee. We had a great time visiting our Florida GWRRA family and want to thank them for all their "Southern Hospitality"!

As you can see, being Region Couple of the Year has provided us with many opportunities to meet people, promote our Association and most of all have FUN!

Now that winter has finally passed and our Gold Wing is ready to hit the road again we are making plans to visit our friends in the Ohio and Indiana Chapters on our travels throughout the region.

See you soon!!!!

Brad and Connie Garner

2008-2009 Region D Couple of the Year

Rita and I have been pretty darn busy the last few weeks. We managed to make it to the Florida District Rally, helped with the seminars at our new Annual Workshop in Toledo, coordinated and emceed the Couple of the Year Selection at the Region F Rally in Las Vegas, attended the Tennessee District Rally, and the Missouri District Rally. We were judges for the Couple of the Year Selection in FL and TN, presented our Couple of the Year Presentation in Vegas and avidly promoted the program everywhere. Next is the Arkansas District Rally where we will be giving the presentation again and also judging the selection. People keep telling us what great enthusiasm we have about the program. Well it's no big deal, we just let go of how strongly we feel about it, how very important we think it is to the organization, and how special we should all make the couples feel. That kind of stuff just can't be squelched. Okay, a time or two I might have gotten a little excited and loud...and yeah, it's apt to happen again.



There's something else feel strongly about too...RETENTION. I think most all of our chapters have some sort of recruiting drives. This is good and is encouraged by National. Now comes the big ole BUT (with one T). But if we recruit a new member and then never

contact them or invite them to chapter functions, are they likely to renew? If not, why did we even bother to recruit them? Numbers? Points? Pressure? Wrong reasons! We should recruit members to expand our family. We should then make them feel like family and immediately get them involved. If a member isn't active at all in a chapter and no one contacts them for the whole year until their membership is about to expire, and then they are told "We really want you to renew", why would they? My first response would be, "Why? You didn't need me the rest of the year." Another situation, a somewhat active member...one that maybe attends 2 or 3 chapter functions a year, is up for renewal. No one bothers make the effort of contacting them. No one has the time to make a 3 minute phone call to say "Hey, We enjoyed having you at the events you attended this year. You know your membership is up for renewal and we really would like to see you renew and then hopefully we can get you to some more events this year. Maybe get some of your input on what you would like." Now I have to ask myself, if I were that member and I didn't merit a 3 minute phone call, would I renew? Or would I feel like, well I must not have been that important to them? I think the latter. However, if I received that phone call, I think I might just feel like I really mattered. I think then I would renew. In February Region D had 146 members let their dues expire. I have to wonder how many of those members were contacted. Were they contacted all during the year? Did we just let them quietly fade away. If we keep inviting these inactive members to chapter functions, sooner or later something just might get their interest. They just might show up and they just might realize what they had been missing and when the time comes, they just might...no, most likely will renew. Remember...Find a Member, Involve a Member, Keep a Member.

Ken & Rita Moffitt

Region D Membership Enhancement Coordinators

2008-2009 International Couple of the Year

I would like to start out by giving a huge THANK YOU to all of the presenters at the Workshop & especially our International Staff that were there. We had 204 members participating, but I know there were more than that. I seen several of you at the workshop but your names didn't show on the sign in sheet. That's fine because from the reports everyone had a

great learning experience, and that is what it is all about. I'm sure from the turn out and the interest we will be doing this again next year, so if you have anything you would like us to have on the agenda , please let us know. We already have one that was given to us a little late this time, so we'll try and get it done this next year.. One thing that showed up a lot on



the survey sheets was, you would like to have a longer session on web design and newsletters. I'm going to work on Mike and see if he would do that for us, because he is the best you will find for that. Maybe it would be that you would need a laptop or you would need to be a good note taker.

The Indiana Team has chosen Karen Hunter to be their new District Trainer. I'm sure you all know her and Lonnie as the ones who do those great skits at our events. They are both Senior Instructors and are very involved in the GWRRA family. So when you see her congratulate her and set in on one of the seminars she will be giving at their rally. She is very enthused and ready to meet the challenges.

The schedule for seminars at Wing Ding is in the draft stages and from the looks of it, it is packed with a great number of different types of seminars for everyone. There is seminars for all types of Leadership Training to Rider Ed to "How to lose Pain" to making earrings, to repairing a chip in your windshield. So if you are going to Wing Ding check out the July issue of Wing World and see the schedule.

Paul & Cheryl Region Trainer

LifeLock®, Added to GWRRA Discount Programs

Melissa Eason, Executive Director of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA), announced that LifeLock®, one of the first and fastest growing identity theft solution providers in the market, has been added to their already extensive list of discount membership benefit programs.

Identity theft is one of the nation's fastest growing crimes, affecting nearly 10 million Americans last year. Here's the good news: GWRRA has partnered with LifeLock®, to provide all GWRRA Members with an exclusive discount on their industry-leading identity theft protection service. LifeLock® works to help stop identity theft before it happens. And what they don't stop, they'll fix at their expense, up to \$1,000,000.

visit www.gwrro.org/membership.html and click on the LifeLock® link to enroll. **Use promotion code GWRRA to protect yourself and receive a 10% discount.** LifeLock® deters identity theft by setting and maintaining "fraud alerts" with the four major credit bureaus. In addition, LifeLock®:

- Searches the web for the illegal selling of your information
- Verifies change of address requests
- Requests you be removed from pre-approved credit card lists
- Requests free annual credit reports

Protects children's identities, While other companies promise identity theft recovery or insurance

services, LifeLock's strength is prevention. They prefer to stop identity theft from occurring in the first place. In fact, they are so confident their service works, it is backed with a \$1 million guarantee.

Hello Everyone ,

Time sure does go fast , when your having fun . Hope you all are getting some good riding in .

The District Rallies are coming up very fast. Please try and help the Districts by going . They put alot of hard work and time into these rallies and get so much more satisfaction , when the attendance is good and you , the members have FUN . Make plans to attend one and see old friends .

Don't forget , if you are going to Wing Ding , we sure could use some help on any day at pre - registration . I do have to say , we have fun meeting new friends and asking them , how many times have you been to Wing Ding ? I beleive , if anyone of you just try this one time , you will come back to help year after year . Its FUN !!

They will be announcing the Chapter of the Year winner for 2008 at Wing Ding . We will be pulling for Ohio E -2 , they were our Region D winners . Lets see , if Region D can really ROCK !! Good Luck .

I am getting the invites back from the vendors for the Region D Rally . They will be put on the Region D web site , very soon and updated thru the summer. All members will be able to see , which vendors are coming in Sept.

The Chapter of the Year is growing and I hope , we have more participating this year . If you have any questions , don't be afraid to ask them . Remember, most of the chapters are doing the required things now , You really may end up having more fun as a chapter , than you think .

In closing , while attending the District Rallies or Wing Ding , or Region D Rally , please don' t forget the Seminars , that are being presented . They all have excellent information , which you can take back to your chapters . Thanks .

Ride Safe & Always Have FUN !!

Asst. Region D Directors

Roger & Penny Hurley

More 2009 Region D Rally info:

Mercer County Agricultural Society Fair Grounds – Celina, Ohio

This is the site for your 2009 Region D Rally. This is a really nice and well kept facility; most of the roads are blacktop surfaced, there are a lot of big shade trees in the main part of the grounds. The vendor buildings are relatively new or remodeled. The Junior Fair building has just had the interior finished with dry wall and paneling and has bathrooms right in the building.

The main entrance to the Fairgrounds will be on the south side of the facility off Market Street. We ask that you use that entrance the first time you enter the grounds and to register for the event. There is also an entrance and exit on the northeast corner of the Fairgrounds, we will have security at that gate and you will not be able to use that entrance unless you have already registered and have your armbands. The northeast entrance will be closed and locked at night. The northeast gate will also be used by the equestrian personnel.

As you enter the Fairgrounds you will notice a fairly large blacktop area, this is where all the on-site motorcycle events (Top Gun & Amazing Team Challenge) will take place. On the northeast corner of that blacktop area and directly in front of you is the Fairgrounds Community Center building, this is where Pre and on-site Registration and the Hospitality area will be. The Community Center has a Ladies and Men's restroom, is heated or air conditioned, whichever is needed.

Just north of the Junior Fair building is the new main bathroom building, it has multiple restroom facilities and 4 showers for the Ladies and 4 showers for the Men. The fairgrounds personnel will be maintaining the restrooms within the facility for us. This is a very nice building and we hope all of you will do your best to help us keep it clean and looking good.

There is a restroom building just south of the Grandstand and the Hopewell Grange building. This is the old restroom facility and it has no showers. It is old but functional.

We will be using the two large multi-purpose buildings and the Junior Fair building for Vendors, Painters and/or Pin-striper's and installers. We will have some vendors outside along with the food vendors on the Midway. There will be numerous places to sit, visit and rest or watch what is going on.

There is a livestock auction area between the two multi-purpose vendor buildings that has roof over it, there are three sets of permanent bleachers and room to put numerous

chairs under the roofed area, so we may use that area for opening and closing ceremonies. If we can do this it will be a little different and cozy. There is an oval shaped horse track and grandstand available on the far north end of the Fairgrounds we can use if we need to. The Fair Office is right next to and on the west end of the Grandstands.

There is a public swimming pool on the southeast corner and adjacent to the fairgrounds, but we do not think it will be open in September. But who knows, if it is hot come prepared.

Campers you are going to love this place;

NOTE: The numbers listed below are the actual receptacles on the boxes; this list was given to us by the Fairgrounds.

Next to Fair Office – 15 amp = 10 / 30 amp = 2 / Water = 6

“A” Lot west of Cattle barns – 15 amp = 15 / 30 amp = 29 / 50 amp = 8

By Arena – 15 amp = 11 / 30 amp = 7

“C” Lot (near dump station) 15 amp = 27 / 30 amp = 20

Restroom/Jr. Fr. Bldg area – 15 amp = 33 / 30 amp = 2 / 50 amp = 3

Camp Circle (around K of C Bldg) 15 amp = 72 / 30 amp = 23 / 50 amp = 4 / Water = 28 / Sewer = 11

There are 11 full hook up sites for RV's included in these figures. There is a dump station on site.

That means there are approximately 168 = 15 amp receptacles.

90 = 30 amp receptacles.

15 = 50 amp receptacles available.

We are going to have breakfast available on-site on Friday and Saturday mornings. We will be having our Masters Breakfast from 7:30 am to 8:45 am on Saturday morning. Then it will be open to everyone. These breakfasts will be in the Hopewell Grange Building just south of the Grandstand. The ladies from the Hopewell Grange are going to be preparing the breakfasts and we have been told these ladies know how to cook up some good food.

They are very happy to have us coming to Celina and are excited to do this for us because this will allow them to create some much needed funds to help with the upkeep on their building.

Because we are having the Grange ladies prepare our breakfasts, they are allowing us to use their building for all our Seminars. So plan on eating your breakfasts on site. The cost

should be no more than \$5.00 a head. There are restroom facilities in the Grange building as well.

Just east of the Grange building are some "Horse Shoe Pitching" pits, so those of you that like to pitch horse shoes bring them along and create some friendly competitions.

There are a few "Fire Rings" provided on the grounds and open fires are allowed in those rings. The quiet hours for camping are normally from 11:00 pm to 8:00 am this is flexible for us but we hope everyone will be considerate of each other. For additional information about the fairgrounds and all the camping rules, go to: www.mercercountyohiofair.com or you may call 419 586-3239. The address is: P.O. Box 301 Celina, Ohio 45822. Go to the Region D website - Rally Flyer for GPS coordinates.

Listed below are some phone numbers in case you want to record them?

Emergency - 911

The Celina Police Department - 419 586-2345

The Mercer County Sheriff – 419 586-7724

Community Hospital – 419 678-2341

Urgent Care – 419 586-1611

The City Officials and the Fairgrounds management are very excited and are looking forward to having the Gold Wing Road Riders Association coming to Celina for our 2009 GWRRA Region D Rally. They have been very helpful in making this a fun and successful event. The Mayor of Celina Sharon Larue is looking forward to riding in our Light Parade and seeing the Light Show in the park down by Grand Lake. We hope you all are planning on coming to Celina on September 17, 18 & 19, 2009. See you there.

Thank You
Your GWRRA Region D Team