

Goldwing Road Riders Association



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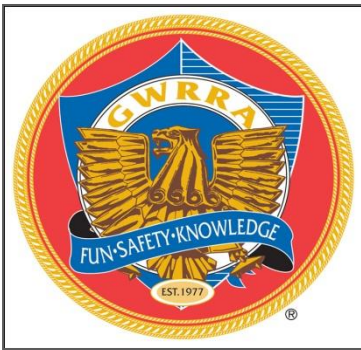
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Newsletter Mar '11

PICTURE OF THE MONTH, CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS IS?



Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge



From the Directors Chair



The February Chapter gathering was moved to Sunday February 27th and combined with the 2011 Ride Planning meeting, thank-you all for attending, great turnout, good time even without getting our pepperoni pizzas. We've listed your suggested rides and a couple of ours on an Excel spread sheet and sent it out to all of you for input. Remember, Chapter A is your chapter so please get involved and let us know which rides you want on the 2011 Ride Schedule this year. This is another opportunity to let your voices be heard and ensure we'll go somewhere you'd like to go. We're also asking for your help to volunteer to lead 1 or 2 rides this year. In that way, you decide what time we start, when we stop, for how long, where we eat lunch and when we turn for home. Don't worry you'll have plenty of support during the ride from those around you. It's all about having fun!

Speaking of your voices, have you completed and returned the survey we sent out a week or so ago about the 2012 Gold Wing? Honda asked for your input, your feelings and your thoughts about the new Wing. We heard a lot of comments about it last Sunday during the meeting, so turn on your PC, assemble your thoughts and complete the survey, it only takes a few minutes! Can you remember the last time Honda asked you for your input? So don't miss this opportunity.

Pop quiz.....did everybody read their March Wing World? Did you read Mike Stiger's column? If you did, you read about how members from all over New England voiced their concern to Mike at last year's New Districts Rally. We raised our voices in unison expressing our displeasure on the changes he was announcing for the New England Districts. Because we did the New Task Force was formed which is made up of representatives from each of the 6 NE states. Over the next 6 months we met, we argued, we agreed, we agreed to disagree but in the end we formulated a counter proposal that was accepted and put into place by Mike and the GWRRR. Mike's column was titled "The New Year looks Bright..." I have to agree, the future does look bright for Chapter A in 2011. Just another example of how people's concerns & ideas, if properly expressed can make a difference. Hint, hint, see above

So is everybody looking forward to spring, seeing all this snow melt and some road cleaning rain? I think I know the answer to that question. I know I am!

The 2011 annual chapter fund raiser will be held on Sunday September 11th. This year is shaping up to be a "really big show" , it will still be held at Cycles 128 but this year we'll be out back in the larger fenced in area behind the shop. This will provide a bigger area to set-up, try to bring in a few more vendors, better parking, safer parking and allow us to provide entertainment after the guided rides during lunch. Yes entertainment!

Speaking of Cycles 128, we'll have the GWRRA discounted pricing on the new 2012 Wings shortly and possibly an update on pricing for leftover 2010 Wings, stay tuned.

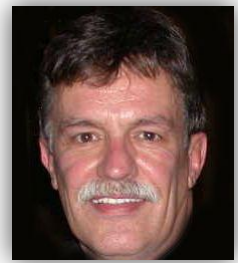
So happy March, Happy St. Patty's Day and come on spring!

So until next month -

Kevin

We all know the dangers of riding a motorcycle and yet we still ride and enjoy them all the time.

Well saying that, the following little article isn't written to scare anyone or put down any particular brand, but to make you more a bit more aware of a situation. The following article is from an e-mail that I received...



Caution; Be careful of those compact florescent lamps !!



"Above is a picture of a CFL light bulb from my bathroom. I turned it on the other day and then smelled smoke after a few minutes. Four-inch flames were spewing out of the side of the ballast like a blowtorch! I immediately turned off the lights. But I'm sure it would have caused a fire if I was not right there. Imagine if the kids had left the lights on as usual when they were not in the room.

I took the bulb to the Fire Department to report the incident. The Fireman wasn't at all surprised and said that it was not an uncommon occurrence. Apparently, sometimes when the bulb burns out there is a chance that the ballast can start a fire. He told me that the Fire Marshall had issued reports about the dangers of these bulbs.

Upon doing some Internet research, it seems that bulbs made by "Globe" in China seem to have the lion's share of problems. Lots of fires have been blamed on misuse of CFL bulbs, like using them in recessed lighting, pot lights, dimmers or in track lighting. Mine was installed in a normal light socket.

I bought these at Wal-Mart. I will be removing all the Globe bulbs from my house. CFL bulbs are a great energy saver but make sure you buy a name brand like Sylvania, Phillips or GE and **not the ones from China.**"

Now a note from me;

After reading that let me say that Yes, I use them in my house and will continue to do so. I also use LED bulbs and someday I hope to change all bulbs in my home to LED's because they last waaaay longer, use a lot less energy and have no mercury.

Benefits of using LED bulbs....

Long-lasting - LED bulbs last up to 10 times as long as compact fluorescents, and far longer than typical incandescent bulbs.

Durable - since LEDs do not have a filament, they are not damaged under circumstances when a regular incandescent bulb would be broken. Because they are solid, LED bulbs hold up well to jarring and bumping, as in car and motorcycle lights.

Cool - these bulbs do not cause heat build-up; LEDs produce 3.4 btu's/hour, compared to 85 for incandescent bulbs. This also cuts down on air conditioning costs in the home.

Mercury-free - no mercury is used in the manufacturing of LEDs.

More efficient - LED light bulbs use only 2-10 watts of electricity (1/3rd to 1/30th of Incandescent or CFL) Small LED flashlight bulbs will extend battery life 10 to 15 times longer than with incandescent bulbs. Also, because these bulbs last for years, energy is saved in maintenance and replacement costs. For example, many cities in the US are replacing their incandescent traffic lights with LED arrays because the electricity costs can be reduced by 80% or more.

Cost-effective - although LEDs are expensive, the cost is recouped over time.

SCHEDULING & EVENTS

Monthly Meeting



Bertucci's

45 Walkers Brook Road
Reading, MA

Meeting:
Wednesday, March 16th @ 7:00pm
(dinner @ 6pm)

Up-Coming Ride/Events



BREAKFAST's

March 6th

Brother's Wakefield, MA

March 20th

Deli King Tewksbury, MA



Linheart Smith	Mar 02
Pat Costello	Mar 17
Dee Davison	Mar 21
Rhonda Porawski	Mar 24
Charlie Kay	Mar 28
Thomas Lowe	Mar 28
Cathy Silveria	Mar 29
Jim & Sharon Scofield	Mar 30





Greetings once again from the Director's Chair! Well here we are, another month, March already, and time for the Irish, Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

We are slowly moving towards warmer weather and riding season, although you would not think so, with all the snow and cold Arctic weather we have had this winter! We may not see the ground until June at this rate! But just the same, we should be getting our Bikes ready for when that sunny, warm day arrives. Even though it is winter and we are not riding the bike, Bob and I have been plenty busy! The end of year brings us some paperwork and with some changes from National, this year has not been the exception. Of course if we stayed home more often, I might be able to get it done, LOL! We have had the pleasure of visiting several of the Chapters throughout RI, MA and CT, we still have more to visit to make our rounds complete, but we are getting there, slow but sure. There have been some changes, some from National, some at the Chapter levels, but all in all, I think everyone is happy and things are running smoothly. One of the newest ideas from National is the Passport Program, which each member will be receiving in their Gold Book packet this year. It looks like a fun program for all, keeping track of your mileage whenever traveling, whether it be to an Event or just out riding with your chapter, or on your own, placing those miles in a pass port type book, getting it stamped or signed and possibly winning a prize! This can also be combined with your own Chapter ideas for rides and prizes. Just another way to promote more fun and more riding. I think the idea behind this from National, is to see GWRRA getting back to basics, Riding.

Also, when we attended the Region meeting back in November, we were presented with the OCP updates, which we will roll out to all of our Chapters in CT, MA, and RI, when we hold the staff meeting in April, with all of our Officers. National is also working on less paperwork and getting programs, such as the OCP, on line. This will eliminate excessive travel and enable us with yet another tool to use for the betterment of GWRRA and its members. Of course this will NOT eliminate the personal contact for such seminars, just enhance and make life a little easier for our members. We will talk more about this as new information comes down the road. The Couple of the Year and The Chapter of The Year are also great programs to be involved in, but is not mandatory. The guidelines for these programs and more are on the National Website for your convenience, you can have fun with these programs and take them as far you like. My job is to let you know what is available to every member, not to tell you what to do.

I see 2011 as not only a new year, but a better year with new ideas and a partnership between members and officers, as we are a TEAM and we will work together to make GWRRA life more fun and safer for all.

Northeast Motorcycle Expo

On January 29 & 30th Chapter A along with Cycles 128 in their booth at the expo to help promote the GWRRA & possibly recruit a few new members for our chapter went very well. I hear they had a great time and even recruited a few new members. Congrats to Kevin and his Chapter A in MA. I also want to thank Kevin and Georgia and Chapter A for inviting us to their WinterFest in January, we had a great time and the food was very good too. We look forward to more fun times with MA-A.

Thanks for all your support and friendship, without you, the members, Bob and I would not be able to do all we do. **Happy St. Patrick's Day to Everyone.**

Stay safe and we hope to see all of you on the road soon.

Thank You! Enjoy Safe Riding

Judy & Bob Burns / RI, MA, CT District Directors



FEBRUARY WINNERS!!!

ITEM	DONOR	WINNER
50/50		MaryBeth Traynor
10 FREE TIX (picture contest)		Sean McCarthy



Official Sponsor of Chapter "A"

Special Offers

Cycles 128 Discount Offer:

- I. Save an additional \$2000 off Cycles 128 already low prices on your new Goldwing!
- II. \$1000 discount on current GWRRA price on all models.
- III. \$1000 FREE genuine Honda Gold Wing accessories with purchase

Offer valid thru 3/31



Brand new River Road XXL Dark gray leather jacket. Suitable for early spring or fall riding. Won at Maryland Winterthing 2011, Half price for \$125, Just write a check to Ride for Kids 2011, Have pictures, will pay for postage. Please contact: H erv  Houde / 978 372 9979

