



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

GWRRA ILLINOIS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER - MARCH

REGION E ... 2016

HOT OFF THE SHELF – MARY ADAMS DISTRICT DIRECTOR

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March Madness is upon us!

We have St. Patrick's Day, Bike Blessings, and Easter along with the favorite for most of us Daylight Savings...an extra hour of sleep!

With so much going on we need to remember that communication is the key to any successful event. Most of the chapters by now have completed a ride/event schedule for their chapter.

Be sure all members receive a notice in a timely manner to be able to join the chapter for the ride or event. Reminders such as email, Facebook and texts may be something the majority of us prefer, but the old fashion phone call still works the best. Try to make sure all options for all members have been met. Do you make sure that your members know it is ok to come to a ride or event even in a car? Not all of us are comfortable riding this early in the year yet.

The first 2 months of the year has brought about some changes. We have a few new members on the District Team this year. A new Couple of the Year and several new Chapter Directors. With the installment of Bob & Nicki Fowkes as the Region E Directors, Nicki has had to look for a replacement for the District Treasurer.



We would like to Welcome Matt Shore to the Illinois District Team as District Treasurer. Matt & Margie Shore are founding members of Chapter G and lifetime members of GWRRA. We thank Matt for volunteering to fill this position for the 2016 year.

Looking forward, plans are underway for the 2016 Illinois District Summer Rally. We are adding a bonus on Thursday night!! We will be giving cash prizes on Thursday night! All preregistration will go into the drawing. YOU could win \$100, \$50, \$50, & \$50!! You must be present to win. FREE Old Fashion Ice Cream Social and I've heard there will be a contest to see who can raise the most money to put a pie in my face! YOU won't want to miss this!! Friday will be the Flag/Light Parade and Saturday Night we will have a FREE dinner co-sponsored by Niehaus Cycle Sales. **(cont. Pg 6)**

Here it is the middle of a cold spell in northern Illinois, wind chills down to -30 tonight. With that in mind let's think about how we can prepare ourselves for temperature changes when we are riding.

Early morning rides in early spring may require several layers of clothing to provide insulation from the cold air. Leather chaps and pants provide excellent insulation against cold winds. Remember to protect your neckline between your helmet's bottom and the top of your jacket collar.

As the day continues the temperatures may raise. Be prepared to make transitions into different types of riding gear. This is where the extra storage compartments on our motorcycles are handy.

Remember if caught out in cold weather with no cold weather riding gear your rain suit will provide warmth and protection.

All the riding courses in the district are filling up very nice. There is still space available for anyone. Please come out and join us for some great training and amazing friendship.

As always remember ATGATT Dan and Linda Sue



Our Mission

To Save Lives Through Quality,
World Class Education.

Our Slogan

"Safety Is For Life"



(MAD ARTICLE CONTINUED)

In the seminars that I have been giving to the high school students, we talk about the importance of concentrating on your driving and not being distracted. This is without a doubt the biggest problem we face on our roads today. So we truly need to pay attention and not allow ourselves to become distracted. Back to our earlier question, which did you pick? If you said that your brain tells your eyes what it sees, then you were correct. Which is very important, because it is our brain that has to be fully engaged in what we are doing so that we don't catch ourselves in a situation that could have serious consequences. We have to be prepared at all times for the possibility of anything happening. Never assume that the other driver will do the right thing, assume that they won't.

So as we prepare our bikes and look forward to our coming riding season, don't forget the most important part of our preparations, OURSELVES!!!

Have a safe and enjoyable riding season. Larrie & Kimi Wiggand



District MAD Coordinator

MFA/CPR Instructor

Larrie & Kimi Wiggand

Where does the time go? As we are looking at the end of February and March is just around the corner, can it be that spring isn't too far away? It certainly couldn't get here soon enough for me! Of course even though we have had some nice days, Old Man Winter still rears his ugly head occasionally to remind us that he hasn't left us just yet. So, as we endure a little more winter weather and look forward to spring, it is never too early to start getting ready for riding season.

Of course we are all familiar with T-Clocks and the proper procedures to getting our bike ready so that we will enjoy ourselves without having to deal with breakdowns and other problems. That is the mechanical part anyway, but what about the mental part? Do we properly prepare ourselves so that we are in the right frame of mind when we go riding? If we work so hard to make sure our bikes are ready but we fail to properly prepare ourselves, then all that preparation could very well be in vain. Nothing could be worse than making all kinds of plans and having a great trip planned or just to spend a day out enjoying the scenery and something tragic happens because we failed to do a few simple things. What am I talking about? We know good and well that other drivers don't pay attention to motorcycles very well and so it is incumbent on us to be extra careful and aware of all the possibilities that can occur. We have to recognize that as we get older our reflexes aren't as sharp and that we need to allow a little extra time and distance when we are out riding to allow for other drivers not seeing us.

We have to recognize that as we get older our reflexes aren't as sharp and that we need to allow a little extra time and distance when we are out riding to allow for other drivers not seeing us.

But it is even far more than just that. We just recently attended a perceptions class that was very eye opening and informative. It certainly made you aware of that fact that what you think that you see, isn't always the case. One of the questions that the instructors asked us was, does your eyes tell your mind what they are seeing or does your mind tell your eyes what they are seeing? Just think about that and we will address that issue in a little bit. They did have us do a number of different activities, as well as exercises that showed you that perhaps you don't truly see as much as you think. One exercise was remembering a series of numbers, first four than five than six. It was quite challenging to say the least, especially when they only gave you a very quick look to begin with. Another set of exercises was a scene as you are travelling down a particular road and it would give you several different scenarios to try and determine what is was you saw. After viewing it, again very quickly, they would ask you what you saw. You may not have always seen what was going on or not seen what they asked. It was quite challenging, but it also helped you to realize that we need to be more aware and not assume that we always "see" everything. It was a lot of fun, but it certainly helped you to realize that we really need to pay attention more.

(continued on Page #2)

ASSISTANT ILLINOIS DISTRICT DIRECTORS —STEVEN & DIANE GOTTSCHALK

Greetings from Southern Illinois

Diane and I have been discussing why do we ride motorcycles?

FREEDOM – Speak with enough riders and they'll all mention freedom. When you're riding a motorcycle on a nice day, soaking in the sun, you enjoy the freedom of being outdoors. There is nothing between you and nature. You are not surrounded by a metal and glass cage – the sights are brighter, sounds sharper and smells vibrant. When you're in control of your own spirit, the destination becomes unimportant and the ride is the thing.

TRANSPORTATION – Yes, motorcycling can be economical with most bikes getting over 40 miles-per-gallon. Motorcycles take up less space to park. If more people rode motorcycles, our roads would be less congested and people would arrive at work with a smile on their faces!

FUN – Motorcycling is fun. People from all ages and occupations participate. You meet the nicest people on a motorcycle (really!). Whether riding alone or in a group, in town or on country roads, doing it on a motorcycle is exciting and fun!

SOCIAL – Sharing your passion with others of like mind brings friendship and camaraderie. Motorcyclists love to gather to talk bikes, kick tires and ride! Every weekend Chapters get together to ride. Normally, there's a destination but mostly it's the ride that brings people together.

Ride Safe and have FUN!



Steven and Diane Gottschalk
Assistant Director, IL District
MEC Coordinators, IL District

Steve & Diane, Assistant IL. District Directors



REGION E DIRECTORS—BOB & NICKI FOWKES

Greeting;

Looking for something fun to do during one of the best riding months of the year?

We would like to invite you to join your GWRRA family at the Region E Rally in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on June 24-25, 2016.

The Rally location is centrally located in Region E so grab some friends and join us! The new Region E Couple of the Year and Individual of the Year will be selected at this rally.

Please see the attached flyer and registration for more info! Stay tuned on our Region website at gwrra-region-e.org (2016 Rally tab) for more information as it becomes available.

Hope to see you there,

Bob & Nicki Fowkes GWRRA Region E Directors

director@gwrra-region-e.org



Region "E"
Directors

HOT OFF THE SHELF CONTINUED !!!

Registration is online so check out the newly updated Illinois District Website.

Keep the shiny side up, Ride Safe Thank you,

Mary Adams Illinois Sr. District Director *Every member counts!*



GWRRA ILLINOIS ASSISTANT DISTRICT DIR. -GENE & ANNETTE SHIELDS

From up north where it has been very cold for the last few months, it looks like spring will be here soon. With a couple of days when the temperature got in to the upper 40's and low 50's, we know riding season will soon be on us.

Are you prepared? Well, I still have a lot to get done before I am ready to get out our newly converted Goldwing trike. Yes that is correct, we made the change in late January when we took our 2009 GL1800 to RoadSmith Trikes in White Bear Lake MN. Arrived just before noon on Wednesday and left with a fully completed 2016 HST1800 trike just after noon on Friday. Amazing how they can do that much work in 2 days. Of course we had to give it a little dress up so we had them install the Chrome Wheel package for and rear so the wheels would match and they look fantastic. I will include a photo of the completed trike.



Gene & Annette Shields
Assistant Director, IL
District

Annette and I have been very busy. She is in the process of having surgery on both eyes for cataracts removed. It does take a lengthy process to complete, but she will be able to see clearly again, only having glasses to read. Then like most we are in the process of getting ready to file our taxes. That was complicated some by the passing of Annette's mother in December.

With our new position of Chapter L 2016 Couple of the Year, we have been trying to fit in some chapter visits to chapters that we normally don't attend their meetings. So if we are in your area when you are having a meeting, we just might show up. We did get to the IL district Winter Warm Up where we had a great deal of fun. Enjoyed the skits and the costumes and the presentation by Joey Watson of the ISP. His talks are always standing room only. Great presentation and a lot of good information. We had a lot of vendors with some good products so I hope everyone that browsed through them enjoyed what you saw. We have visited chapters R, C-2, DK, G and L in the last month. Between all of their events and meetings it does give a lot of options for us and anyone else that wants to take part.

With better weather this month, we had a great turn out at the Chapter DK meeting in Plano. We hope this gets them reinvigorated and active again. They have set up a couple of rides already and that will help people see how they can get involved and have fun at the same time. How about your chapter? Do you have a ride schedule set up for the coming year? If not take some time to plan a few.

I guess that is enough since I need to get back to my tax work.

Have a great month and keep praying for good riding weather.

Gene & Annette Shields

NW Illinois District Directors



ILLINOIS DISTRICT COUPLE OF THE YEAR—BRIAN & DEBBIE KING

Brian and I are very pleased and honored to have been chosen District Couple of the Year. It was interesting to see some of the behind the scenes things for the selection process. The interviews were fun and harmless, just like sitting and talking to friends about GWRRA. This helped to ease our nervousness. Up on stage on the other hand, well that's a different story! There's a lot of people out there! But as a couple we got through it. We are going to be visiting as many chapters in Illinois that we can. Our hope is that we can see what other chapters are doing right and bring that back to Z while learning to avoid what is not working for others. We are also planning on going to as many rallies as possible. February 15 we went to chapter N in Quincy where we were welcomed at the chapter gathering. We managed to get and other couple from our chapter to go along and arrived a little early. Since this was the day after Valentine's Day the decision was quickly made to stop at Wal-Mart and hunt for discount chocolate! Their stock was pretty well picked over but we all managed to find a little something to our liking. We have not traveled to other chapters much and it is nice to be able to place some of the faces that we see with their chapters. Look for us to be around to your chapters as we head out for a year of Brian and Debbie's Great Adventure!



Brian & Debbie King

GWRRA Illinois district



ILLINOIS DISTRICT ANNOUNCES 2016 COY / IOY

Congratulations to all Participants

Be sure to get you chapter couple selection process started and keep us informed so we can recognize the folks here. By Dave & Sandy Ginger COY/IOY District Coordinators

GWRRRA Proclamation



**ILLINOIS
COUPLE OF THE YEAR 2016
Brian & Debbie King**

GWRRRA Proclamation



**ILLINOIS
INDIVIDUAL OF THE YEAR 2015
Joan Stemke**

Illinois ~ Chapter Couple / Individual of The Year Recognition for 2016

| Chpt | Couple of Year | Individual of Year | Chpt | Couple of Year | Individual of Year |
|------|------------------------|--------------------|------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| B-2 | | | N | | |
| C | | | NW | | |
| C-2 | | | O | | |
| D-2 | | | PI | | |
| DK | | | Q | James & Tonya Lampley Beggs | Reid Hansen |
| E | | | R | | |
| F | | | S | | |
| G | | | T | | |
| G2 | | | U | | |
| H2 | Daniel & Alvah Fryer | Jonnie L Mohr | Y | | |
| I | | | Z | | |
| L | Gene & Annette Shields | Laurie Richards | Z2 | Danni & Don Schwieger | |
| | | | | | |

These will be updated as new couples are recognized

MEET THE ILLINOIS DISTRICT TEAM FOR 2015



Mary Adams—ILL Sr. District Director
 1600 Riverdale Rd. Lot 107
 Rock Falls, IL 61071
 1-815-625-6763 or 815-535-8349
 Email: hondagirl711@yahoo.com

F R I E N D S F O R F U N , S A F E T Y , & K N O W L E D G E

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|--|--|--|
| <p><u>Asst. District Director—Northern</u> Gene & Annette Shields 1332 Griggs Road Rockford, IL. 61108 1-815-761-5271</p> | <p><u>ADD District Director—Chicago-Land</u> Earl & Pat Hobbs 4579 Lincoln Ave Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 earlrh@yahoo.com 1-847-826-4107</p> | <p><u>ADD District Director—Eastern</u> Tom & Pam Waller 110 North St Paris IL 61944 1-217-822-6984 twaller68@yahoo.com</p> |
| <p><u>Asst. District Director—Central</u> Tony & Donna Gaitros 523 Oakley Rd Cerro Gorda, IL 61818 D.gaitros@mchsi.com</p> | <p><u>Asst. District Director—Western</u> <u>Illinois Ambassador Program</u> Jack & Hazel Burton 3315 Foxrun, E Quincy, IL 62301 Email: jburton3315@comcast.net</p> | <p><u>Asst. District Director—Southern</u> Steve & Diane Gottschalk PO Box 83 Cambria, IL 62915 1-618-889-5778 Email: s.gottschalk@mchsi.com</p> |
| <p><u>Educator</u> Dan and Linda Sue Davis 622 E Franklin, Lanark, IL 61046 1-815-493-2265 Email: armymsg97@yahoo.com</p> | <p><u>50/50 Raffles</u> Lorie & Ron Heffelfinger 1473 Lamson Dr. Winnebago, IL 61088 1-815-335-2151 Email: lorieron@aol.com</p> | <p><u>Patches</u> Nancy & Terre Buffington 2 Coddington Lane Canton, MO 63435</p> |
| <p><u>Sponsor Coordinator</u> Chet & Billie Stephens 1505 90th Ave Berwick, IL 61417 1-309-297-0960 chetscyclecare@hotmail.com</p> | <p><u>District Membership Enhancement</u> Nancy & Charles Mallett 502 Sir Galahad DeSoto, IL 62924 ildistmec@gmail.com</p> | <p><u>COY/IND of Year Coordinators</u> Dave & Sandy Ginger 16949 Hillside Drive Monroe Center, IL 61052 dginger1975@yahoo.com sandy_ginger2000@yahoo.com 815-751-6420 815-393-4629</p> |

Special Note *** Want to get more involved ? Ask to be part of one of the greatest volunteer organizations in the country GWRRR and help make it even better as there is no ceiling on improvement.

MEET THE ILLINOIS DISTRICT TEAM FOR 2015

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| <p><u>MAD Coordinator</u> Larrie & Kimi Wiggand GWRRA MFA/CPR Instructor</p> | <p><u>MFA Coordinator</u> Mike & Jan Buzick 112 Sunset Blvd. North Pekin, IL 61554 1-309-382-1459 Email: smbuzick@comcast.net</p> | <p><u>Webmaster</u> Roy & Cheryl Miller 573 Franklin Ave. Troy, IL. 62294 H - 618-667-7132 rlm1123@charter.net</p> |
| <p><u>Newsletter Editor</u> Dennis & Jean Bose 1074 W Park Rd Freeport, IL 61032 815-235-4340 Email: gwrrailc2@gmail.com</p> | <p><u>District Treasurer</u> Matt & Margie shore</p> | <p><u>Leadership Training Program</u> Position Currently Open— See Mary for Details</p> |

REGION "E" WEB SITES AND OTHER INFO



| | | |
|---|--|---|
| National: www.gwrra.org | Region E : gwrra-region-e.org | Illinois: www.gwrra-ildistrict.com |
| Wisconsin: www.gwrra-wi.org | Iowa: www.gwrra-iowa.com | Missouri: www.mogwrra.org |
| Minnesota : www.mngwrra.us | North Dakota : www.gwrra-nd.org | South Dakota District / Nebraska : www.gwrrane.com |
| Insight Newsletter http://mep.gwrra.org/newsletter.html | By The Book http://ltp.gwrra.org/ByTheBook/btb.pdf | Region E Newsletter Link http://www.gwrra-region-e.org/NLO1.pdf |

PARTICIPATION PROGRAM TO RUN AGAIN IN 2016 IN ILLINOIS

This is a participation program to get Chapters to visit other Chapter's Events and promote fun and fellowship throughout Illinois. We are hoping many chapters will participate in this fun and easy program. Plus you can win some money for your chapter. **Check out the District Web Site** for full details and rules which are few. It will run January 1st - December 31, 2016.

It is made to take into consideration those that still participate but cannot ride. The goal is to get more out visiting the other chapters and chapter events. There is no limit as to how many other chapter meetings or gatherings they can attend. Even if they only attend their neighbors they will help boost that neighbors attendance, 50/50 and door prizes. The winner will be announced at the 2017 Winter Warm Up.

PRIZES: New prizes for this year

