



“The N Crowd” Newsletter
Coosa Valley Wings GWRRRA
Chapter AL-N Gadsden Alabama



February 2007

Chapter N's January 2007 events

“HAPPY NEW YEAR” On New Years Day several Chapter N members met for lunch at the Cracker Barrel on Highway 77. This was Chapter N's first event of the year. We were offered complimentary black-eyed peas (a southern tradition). Can you believe some people really don't like black-eyed peas (can you imagine that)? After a good lunch, two couples decided to brave the cold and ride to Georgia to seek their fortune. The rest of us went home where it was warm.

This year's Snowball was a great event for one of our Chapter members. Our very own Alice Cole was honored with the Joe Sellers award. Congratulations Alice! Wayne Gargus was able to put in words what all Chapter N people already knew - that Alice is a very special and remarkable lady.

Our January Chapter meeting was held on the 13th due to Snowball. We had a good group in attendance. It was good to see some members that we have been missing. These members were T.R. and Michelle Harper with friends, Marie and Kenneth Blansit, and our very special visitor was Terry and Barbie's cute little Grand daughter.

On January the 27th, twelve Chapter N members met at El Tapito's for our January 4-wheel dinner ride. Among the group were our formal Chapter Director's Sammy and Donna Conn. The food was good and lucky Ole Wayne Gargus won the 50-50 drawing.

January 2007 will soon be over. As normal we had some cold days and a few days that allowed us to ride our GoldWings. Hopefully, the real riding season will be here soon and our February ride coordinators Ray and Deb Coffen will have much more to write about in next month's newsletter.

When you ride, ride safe, and always have FUN.

JAM
 Shari Emery

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 AND KNOWLEDGE

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Birthdays:**Anniversaries:**

2-13 Dorothy Glenn
 2-16 Roy Allen
 2-17 Mickey Durham
 2-27 Lesya Dennis
 2-28 Shari Emery
 3-1 Harold Emery

2-4 Ron & Dalphine Keller

2-23 Harry & Lesya Dennis

Ride and Event Schedule

About Chapter N

Chapter N meets for breakfast every Wednesday morning at 8:30 A.M. at the Poor House Restaurant, 12th & Meighan Blvd., Gadsden, AL. Chapter N's Monthly Gathering: 1st Saturday of every month (unless otherwise published below). Eat at 5:00 P.M.; Meet at 6:00 P.M. at Western Sizzlin Restaurant, Hwy 77 just north of Hwy 411, at 209 W. Grand Ave, Rainbow City, Alabama phone: 256-442-5061

For more information about Chapter N on the web visit: <http://www.kerrywilson.com/chapterN.htm>

Or email kwilson@kerrywilson.com Kerry & Joyce Wilson, Chapter AL-N Newsletter Editors, and Webmaster. 1-800-57KERRY. Once published, all events will be held, and will not be cancelled due to weather or participation.

FEBRUARY: (Rides/activities planned by Ray/Deb Coffen)

2/3/07 – CHAPTER N MONTHLY GATHERING – Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City. Eat at 5 PM & the fun begins at 6 PM.

www.kerrywilson.com/coosavalleywings.htm

2/10/07 – ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF – Palisades Park off Hwy 231, two miles North of Oneonta. Make a batch of your best chili and compete with your fellow Chapter members to determine who makes the best. Prizes will be awarded. Everyone is also asked to bring a covered dish(s) to accompany the chili, desserts, other types of foods, etc. Plates, cups, coffee, plastic ware, tea, soft drinks, will be provided by the Chapter. Decorating and set up at 5 PM. Chili judging begins at 5:30 PM followed by eating and hopefully entertainment until 8 PM.

2/13/07 - VISIT A CHAPTER RIDE, CHAPTER Y IN TRUSSVILLE – They EAT at 6 PM and meet at 7 PM at Neighborhood Sports Grill, on Hwy 11 North of I-459. Depart Kangaroo 5 PM, Springville Chevron 5:30 PM, or meet at the restaurant between 6-7 PM.

2/17/07 – DINNER RIDE TO GANNON'S RESTAURANT, HWY 69W OF GUNTERSVILLE

They have a steak special on Saturday nights that's good and reasonably priced. Depart Kangaroo 3:45 PM, K-mart in Albertville at 4:30 PM or meet at the restaurant at 5 PM.

2/23-25/07 – INTERNATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SHOW IN ATLANTA – 2/24 – Meet at Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City for breakfast 6:30 to 7:30 AM. Depart for Atlanta promptly at 7:30 AM local time, which will be 8:30 Atlanta time. Four wheel it if the weather is not favorable for riding. We should get to the GA World Congress Center, 285 Andrew Young International Blvd. NW by 11:30 AM Atlanta time, and will plan to depart at 2:30 PM Atlanta time. Tickets are \$12 for adults and may be purchased in advance at www.motorcycleshows.com We will return through Rome and stop at Fibbers in Cedar Bluff for dinner at 5 PM. Those who don't go to Atlanta can meet us at Fibbers for their great buffet.

2/24/07 – CHAPTER J BIKE SHOW & SWAP MEET – McFarland Mall, Tuscaloosa, AL 9:30 AM – 2 PM. (Those not going to Atlanta should consider supporting Chapter J) www.bamawings.org/index.htm

2/24-25/07 – HORIZON'S PROGRAM FOR NEW OFFICERS AND OTHERS - Holiday Inn at exit 246 off I-65 in Pelham, AL. Begins Sat. 8-5 and Sun 8-12.

MARCH – (Rides/activities planned by Butch/Dianne Harris) (Tentative)

3/3/07 - CHAPTER Y FUN DAY - (Pirates of the Caribbean) – Gardendale Civic Center 10AM-1:30PM. Proceeds benefit Camp Smile A Mile. Depart Kangaroo 9 AM and Snead Chevron 9:45 AM for a scenic ride to Gardendale. Hwy 278W to 79S to Cleveland; 160W to US31S to Gardendale. Turn right on Fieldstown Rd. go 1 block to Main St. & turn left to the Gardendale Civic Center on your left about ½ mile. www.gwrra-al-y.org

3/3/07 – CHAPTER N MONTHLY GATHERING – Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City. Eat at 5 PM & the fun begins at 6 PM.

www.kerrywilson.com/coosavalleywings.htm

3/10/07 – ANNUAL MAINTENANCE DAY – Meet at Butch/Dianne's & bring a covered dish (or 2) for lunch. *Chapter will provide drinks/plates/plastic ware, cups, napkins, etc.* Working on bikes begins at 9 AM and last until?? We will work, eat, work some more, eat more, have a bull session or two, etc. for most of the entire day. There will be maintenance advisors there to assist you as needed to work on your bike, install accessories, fluid changes, etc. Bring your own parts, fluids, etc. Kerry Wilson will bring his (Christmas present from Joyce), a tire mounting machine/wheel balancer for anyone who needs to change a tire(s) or have your current ones balanced. This is a laid back fun day, so join us even if you don't want to work on your GW.

3/11/07 – DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS.

3/13/07 – VISIT A CHAPTER RIDE TO B IN HUNTSVILLE – Depart Kangaroo 5 PM, Snead Chevron 5:45 PM, and ride 278W to 231N to Ryan's on the right side of 231 going into Huntsville. They eat at 6:30 & meet at 7. www.rocketcitywings.org

3/15-17/07 – FL DISTRICT RALLY – St. Paddy’s Day in Kissimmee at the Radisson Worldgate Resort, 3011 Maingate Lane, Kissimmee, FL 34747. 1-866-705-7676 or 1-407-396-1400. Rates \$79. For more info www.gwrra-regiona.org/~fla/indexfla.html

Departure time/place will be discussed at the Feb. & March Chapter Gatherings. Some in the Chapter are going.

3/17/07 – MYSTERY LUNCH IN SCOTTSBORO & VISIT THE UNCLAIMED BAGGAGE STORE – (For those not going to FL)

Depart Kangaroo 10:30 AM and K-Mart in Albertville at 11:15. After lunch we will shop at the unclaimed baggage store and enjoy a scenic ride home.

3/24/07 – DINNER RIDE TO THE LIGHT HOUSE IN BOAZ – (Formerly Big Daddy’s on 431 coming into Boaz). Depart Kangaroo 5 PM; others meet at the restaurant 6 PM. Good food.

3/29-31/07 – AL DISTRICT RALLY 25TH ANNIVERSARY – Civic Center Mobile, AL. Ramada Inn across street 251-433-6923, rates \$85. For more info: www.alabama.gwrra-regiona.org. **TWO DEPARTURE DATES: Wed. 3/28/07 & Thursday 3/29/07** – Depart Kangaroo 7 AM, Springville Chevron at 7:30 AM and stop at Cracker Barrel in Trussville for Breakfast. Proceed to I-65 South to Mobile.

Chapter N wishes to express their sympathy to Rick and Laura and Tommy Brothers in the passing of Rick & Tommy’s father Chuck Brothers this week.

SAFETY IS AN ATTITUDE – GET A GOOD ONE; YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.

Chapter N Safety Article – February 2007 – By Wayne Gargus, Chapter Educator

10 STEPS TO STAYING SAFE

(Reprinted from the January 07, Region A Newsletter, by Ron & Pam Lantz, Region A Educators)

- (1) Assume Drivers Can’t See You:** Ride assuming that you and your motorcycle are totally invisible to motorists. That means you must never assume that drivers can see you. The odds are, they can’t, so believe it and always have an “out” for dangerous traffic situations. Motorcycle Safety depends on you.
- (2) Maintain Safe Spacing:** leave plenty of space in front and back and to the sides from all other vehicles. Be an island. Stay away from traffic as much as possible. This gives you more visibility and more time to react to situations.
- (3) Anticipate Trouble:** Anticipate trouble situations and know what to do when you see them. Analyze what vehicles are doing and try to predict the outcome. Then make sure you’re ready to avoid a bad traffic situation.
- (4) Beware of Oncoming Left turners:** Beware of oncoming motorists turning left in front of you at intersections. This is the leading cause of death of motorcycle riders. I’m deadly serious here. I have personally lost many friends to this type of accident. If you only remember one tip here, let it be this one. Slow down before you enter an intersection. Have an escape route planned. Stay visible. Don’t travel too close to cars in front of you. Position your bike so it can be seen by the left turner. Eye contact is not enough.
- (5) Ride Your Own Ride:** Don’t try to keep up with your friends who may be more experienced. Know your personal limits. Ride your own ride.
- (6) Watch Out for Curves:** Beware of taking curves that you can’t see around. A parked truck or a patch of sand/gravel may be awaiting you.
- (7) Don’t Give In To Road Rage:** Do not give in to road rage and try to “get even” with another rider or motorist. If you follow these tips, most likely you won’t fall victim to road rage. It’s better to calm down, slow down, and collect your thoughts first. Then continue on and enjoy the ride. That’s what we’re all out there for in the first place.
- (8) Don’t Allow Tailgating:** If someone is tailgating you, either speed up to open more space or pull over and let them pass. Life is too short. Remember that a bike can stop faster than a car so you don’t want a truck on your tail when you find yourself trying to brake to avoid an accident. Also, don’t tailgate the vehicle in front of you. Oncoming drivers can’t see you.
- (9) Don’t Be Blinded by Sun Glare:** Beware of riding your motorcycle into sun glare. All it takes is turning a corner and finding the sun either directly in your face or passing straight through your windshield. Some helmets have shields to block the sun. Face shields help somewhat, but sometimes you just find yourself blinded by the light. Slow down, pull over, shield your eyes, and look for a way to change directions. Be careful when slowing because the person behind you may be blinded as well.
- (10) Avoid Riding at Night:** Avoid riding at night, especially late Saturday night and early Sunday when drunken drivers may be on the road. It goes without saying that you shouldn’t drink and ride. Going bar hopping? Leave the bike at home and find a designated driver.

REMEMBER, SAFETY IS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY

Another Good Tip: Normally, it’s summer time when you think of the dangers of “tar snakes”, those strips of asphalt sealer that road crews put down to protect pavement cracks from getting worse. But, it’s important to realize that, just as they get slippery and gooey under a hot summer sun, tar snakes also get slick and hard in the winter. Either scenario is bad for traction, so slow down and take extra care when you see them, summer or winter. Kinda makes you wonder why transportation departments use that stuff in the first place, doesn’t it?

RIDING SAFELY IS AS EASY AS ABC.....ALWAYS BE CAREFUL

Chapter Gatherings

CHAPTER A: MOBILE 1ST WEDNESDAY EAT 6:00 PM, MEET 7:00 PM , MORRISON'S CAFETERIA, 3200 SPRIGDALE PLAZA, MOBILE CD MAX & KATHY TANNER 251-973-1978

CHAPTER B:HUNTSVILLE, 2ND TUESDAY 6:30 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET, RYAN'S 10017 S. MEMORIAL PKWY, HUNTSVILLE, SCD MIKE & CINDY JANES 256-721-0598

CHAPTER C: BIRMINGHAM, 1ST SUNDAY 8:00 AM SHONEY'S GARDENDALE

CHAPTER D: ANNISTON, 1ST THURSDAY EAT 6:00PM, MEET 7:00, WESTERN SIZZLIN, HWY 78 OXFORD CD GEORGE & DOROTHY GLENN 256-820-2060

CHAPTER E: ANDERSON, 2ND MONDAY EAT 6:30PM , MEET 7:00PM , FISH CREEL, HWY 207 ANDERSON, AL CD RAY & GLENDA PHILLIPS 256-247-5879

CHAPTER F: MONTGOMERY, 1ST THURSDAY 6:00 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET CHAPPY'S 8139 VAUGHN ROAD MONTGOMERY CD TOM & BERNADETTE MECHLER 334-584-7121

CHAPTER G: SAMPSON, 1ST TUESDAY , 7:00 PM TO MEET CHINA KING ENTERPRISE DOYCE COLVIN 334-774-5036

CHAPTER H: TANNER, 3RD SATURDAY, BREAKFAST AND MEET 8:00 AM MCKINNEY'S RESTAURANT, HWY 31 & BROWNSFERRY RD, TANNER, AL CD PAUL NEELY 256-216-1026

CHAPTER I: DECATUR, 4TH TUESDAY, 6:00 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET BARNHILL'S BUFFET, HWY 67 (BELTLINE) DECATUR, AL CD RICK & SUSAN TALMADGE 256-773-9624

CHAPTER J: TUSCALOOSA, 1ST FRIDAY, 6:00 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET, RUMORE'S DELI TUSCALOOSA, AL CD JOHNNY & JEAN KOONTZ 205-339-5781

CHAPTER K: FLORENCE 1ST SATURDAY 8:00 AM TO EAT, 9:00 TO MEET, UNDERWOOD COMM. CENTER 840 COUNTY RD 7, FLORENCE, AL CD JAMES & DEBBIE WILEY 256-766-1863

CHAPTER L: MONROEVILLE, 3RD SUNDAY, 2:00 PM TO MEET DAIRY QUEEN CD TONY & LISA CLARK 251-743-3147

CHAPTER M: OPELIKA/PHENIX CITY, 1ST SATURDAY, 6:00 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET, BONANZA, HWY 280/431, PHENIX CITY, CD CRAIG/CAROL HARRISON 334-291-3234

CHAPTER N: GADSDEN, 1ST SATURDAY 5:00 PM TO EAT, 6:00 PM TO MEET, WESTERN SIZZLER, HWY 77, RAINBOW CITY, INFO: 1-888-218-6711 OR 256-546-2811

CHAPTER O: FAIRHOPE, AL 2ND WEDNESDAY, 6:30 PM TO EAT, 7: 00 PM TO MEET, FIVE MOUNTAIN RESTAURANT I-10 EXIT MALIBIS, AL CD DAN SUTTON 251-957-1718

CHAPTER Q: MILLBROOK 2ND MON EAT 6:30, MEET 7:00, SHONEY'S HWY 231 WETUMPKA CHARLES SMITH 256-896-4192

CHAPTER R: 2ND SATURDAY EAT 8:00 AM, MEET 9:00 AM MAMA REE'S HWY 280 SYLACAUGA, AL CD HERMAN BURNEY 256-207-1299

CHAPTER T: WOODSTOCK, 3RD FRIDAY 6:00 PM TO EAT, 7:00 PM TO MEET, PLAZA CAFE, EXIT 100, I-59, RIGHT ON HWY 216W, WOODSTOCK CD WILIAM & GLENDA LEE 205-553-6255

CHAPTER U: DOTHAN, 2ND TUESDAY, EAT 6:30PM , MEET 7:00PM, GOLDEN CORRAL, DOTHAN, ROGER LETT 334-744-2749

CHAPTER Y BIRMINGHAM 2ND TUESDAY EAT 6 PM, MEET 7PM NEIGHBORHOOD SPORTS GRILL HWY 11 NEAR I-459 TRUSSVILLE, CD DON & LINSDA MOSLEY 205-531-4631

CHAPTER Z PRATTVILLE, 2ND THURSDAY EAT 6PM , MEET 7PM, TYAN'S STEAKHOUSE COBB'S FORD ROAD, PRATTVILLE, AL CD JOHN & CATHY SHUMWAY 334-358-0472

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