



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



March 2007

February 10th Chili cook-off

We had 35 in attendance; if you weren't there you missed a good time. The most important are our Great Chefs, they were given ribbons and other assorted goodies for their prize winning chili.

1st Place--Faye & Don Simpson

2nd place--Dorothy & George Glenn

3rd place Harry & Marlene Shiland

Our judges were Ann & Tom Kanady (Harold Emery's sister and brother-in-law), Keith Bender and Glenn Glover.

Oh! Yeah, we played Bingo. Some of us had winning cards and some, well we were there. Quite a few people brought door prizes, so we had great gifts, for our very competitive bingo games.

Harold and Shari brought this great looking cake with the GW symbol on it. Harold really did a good job on the cake.

We also had a drawing for \$\$ and Ray Coffen won \$17 and Dorothy Glenn won \$17.

This event is always fun. Hope to see you there next year.

Deb Coffen

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 AND KNOWLEDGE

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3-1 Harold Emery
 3-3 Deborah Estes
 3-17 Shirley Allen

3-7 Josh & Kacey Dodd
 3-20 Rick & Laura Brothers; Harold & Shari Emery

Ride and Event Schedule

About Chapter N

RIDES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **NOTE:** Every Wednesday morning breakfast ride to “The Poor House” in Gadsden will continue for all of 2007. Meet at the restaurant on Meighan Blvd. at 8:30 AM.
- A different volunteer Chapter couple will plan all rides/activities for each month for all of 2007. Ride Coordinators will work with you as needed and put your activities into newsletter format. We ask that you also be responsible for either writing an article or short summary paragraph of each activity during your month, or ask others on the rides to assist you in writing articles & taking notes. Ride Coordinators, Correspondence Secretary, or the Chapter Educator can assist you in putting it all together for the newsletter as needed. **VOLUNTEERS FOR 2007 ARE:**

- JANUARY - Harold/Shari Emery	FEBRUARY - Ray/Deb Coffen
- MARCH - Butch/Dianne Harris	APRIL - Kerry/Joyce Wilson
- MAY - Terry/Barbie Cleveland	JUNE - Bryan/Leslie White
- JULY -	AUGUST -
- SEPTEMBER -	OCTOBER -
- NOVEMBER -	DECEMBER -
- **NOTE:** Weekly updates of Chapter activities for the coming weekend will be e-mailed on Wednesday of each week. The Phone Tree Committee will call those who do not have an e-mail address.

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

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.gwr-ra-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.gwr-ra-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.gwr-ra-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.

APRIL – (Rides/activities planned by Kerry/Joyce Wilson) (Tentative)

4/7/07 – CHAPTER N MONTHLY GATHERING – Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City. Eat at 5 PM & the fun begins at 6 PM.

www.kerrywilson.com/coosavalleywings.htm

4/14/07 – VISIT A CHAPTER RIDE AND DINNER RIDE - **First, we’ll visit Chapter R** in Sylacauga for their breakfast meeting. Depart Kangaroo 7 AM and ride I-59 S to Ashville, exit 166. Turn left on Hwy 231 toward Ashville and meet others at the Shell station in downtown Ashville at 7:30. Continue 231 S to Hwy 280 E to Mama Ree’s restaurant on the left side of Hwy 280 in

Childersburg. Following the "R" gathering, we will ride more or return to Gadsden according to the wishes of the majority. **Next for our dinner ride**, depart Kangaroo 3 PM to **The Steak House near Rockmart, GA.** We went there last year and everyone enjoyed their great steaks, so let's do it again.

4/21/07 – CHAPTER T FUN DAY – Brookwood Elementary School. Meet at Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City at 7 AM for breakfast and depart there at 8 AM. This is the Chapter that has so many musicians, and it's always a musical fun time with lots of laughs and live entertainment. Also 50-25-25, food, drinks, games, door prizes. We'll get Harry Dennis to plan us a good route to and from Brookwood, which is North of Tuscaloosa.

****FYI - 4/12-14/07 LOUISIANA DISTRICT RALLY** - Holiday Inn Holidome, 800-942-4868. for reservations or www.ladist.org for Rally information.

****FYI - 4/14/07 – CHAPTER G FUN DAY** – Samson Community Center, 33 E Sellers St., Samson, AL.

****FYI – 4-20-23** – Fourth annual Honda Superbike Classic at Barbers Motorsports Park. Special viewing area and a prize for HRCA members.

****FYI – 4/26-28/07** – TN District Rally www.tngwrra.org (At the Grand Hotel again)

****FYI – 4/28-29/07** – National Cornbread Festival, South Pittsburg, TN. www.nationalcornbread.com/index.html

What a great monthly meeting we had. We had 57 in attendance, visitors from Chapter's J & K, also Bill and Dian Gulley. Bill and Dian talked about the upcoming District Rally, and all the exciting things that will be going on there.

Dewey, Butch and Wayne discussed the month's activities, and other business, old and new

Then, the real action started. Harold and Shari brought in two cakes for door prizes, which was promptly taken by Joyce Wilson and Roy Allen. Then one of our visitors from Chapter J, took away a cookie jar...George Glenn won the participation drawing \$34, Donna (Lucky) Conn won \$47, and Leslie (maybe Bryan) White won \$47.

Wayne gave safety tips for riding...ABC...always be careful.

Thanks to all who attended and for those who missed it, we missed you. Hurry Back!

Deb Coffen

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

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

Hopefully this month will officially open our riding season in Central Alabama. But, you know what they say about March; "in like a lion, out like a lamb", so we'll just have to hope for the best. This month's safety information is taken from the February 07 AMA magazine and will provide some useful riding information we can all use. (AMA has 280,000+ members)

HOV LANE NIGHTMARES – In 1991, the AMA was successful in getting Federal Officials to open these lanes to Motorcycles. A Federal Law specifically prohibits states from banning motorcycles from their HOV lanes. However, some states including NY, AZ, PA, and others have recently chosen to challenge this Federal Law. Roads built with Federal Highway Money, including Interstates, U.S. routes, and many State highways nationwide are subject to Federal Rules. *So, banning motorcycles from HOV lanes is illegal.* AMA members can get legal advice and assistance from the AMA and should challenge any citations received for "just riding in" an HOV lane. **ONE WORD OF CAUTION:** *When pulling a trailer, you might be illegal, because some signs do specify no trucks or vehicles pulling trailers so be advised.*

STOPLIGHT FIX – Traffic lights at intersections, which are partially controlled by those magnetic cables buried in the asphalt, don't always work for motorcycles. One AMA member recently reported a situation where the signal at a frequently traveled intersection no longer recognizes his M/C. He was surprised when the City Engineer called him the next day and asked for his assistance in setting the signal to recognize a motorcycle. He promptly met the engineer and used his M/C so proper adjustments could be made at that one and one other that he mentioned to the Engineer. We should all follow this rider's example and likewise report them to the City Engineering Dept. **SPECIAL NOTE:** About 2 or 3 years ago, I remember reading that the state of TN had passed a law allowing motorcycles to run red lights at intersections controlled by these buried cables, where the M/C is stopped first in line, **PROVIDED THE RIGHT OF WAY IS CLEAR.** *Remember, this applies in the State of TN ONLY as far as I know...*

PROPOSED SOUND LAW – Some states/cities are passing laws concerning sound issues both on and off road. In fact, one state is proposing sound laws, which include riding off road vehicles on privately, owned property. Thankfully, our GW's are quiet, but this

is noted just as a reminder that we should do our part to keep legitimate complaints about excessive noise from turning into overly restrictive laws for all of us. Many cities/municipalities are losing their patience for the loud ones rumbling through town.

NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE SAFETY STATISTICS – The last major study was completed more than 25 years ago and known as the Hurt Report. A lot has changed since then, and new research is needed. Congress has earmarked up to \$2.8 million for the study provided motorcyclists and others kick in an equal amount. AMA has kicked in \$100,000 toward this effort and set up a “Fuel the Fund Campaign” so others may contribute. As a total group of motorcycle riders, we can raise \$2.8 million much easier than the entire \$5.6 million needed. Congress has designated the Oklahoma Transportation Center at Oklahoma State University to do the research. You can donate online at www.AMADirectlink.com.

PUT A LID ON IT – Probably no other single piece of M/C gear gets more use than a good helmet. To find out what’s new and hot for 07, major helmet companies were contacted to help you get the most from your helmet, new or not. *A summary of that information was printed in the 2/07 issue of AMA Magazine and I have it available for your review if desired.* It’s commonly accepted that helmets have a life of about 5 years, then perspiration, salt, gas fumes, and the sun start to take their toll on the expanded polystyrene liner that provides the impact-absorption protection. **Helmets should be stored in the house; not in your garage.**

RIDING SAFELY IS AS SIMPLE 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 & LINDA 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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