



The N Crowd

Monthly Newsletter



September 2007

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION
REGION A. ALABAMA DISTRICT.
CHAPTER N GADSDEN, ALA.
FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

Chapter N Staff

Chapter Directors

Butch and Dianne Harris
256-593-7053

Assistant Chapter Directors

Leslie and Brian White
256-442-3625

bwhite@peoplepc.com

District Directors

Bill and Dian Gulley
256-229-8833

bamawing@netzero.com

Assistant Chapter Directors

Couple of the Year
Terry and Barbie Cleveland
256-538-1443

barbiewing@maxhub.com

Secretary Treasurer

Leslie White
256-442-3625

bwhite@peoplepc.com

Chapter Educator

Wayne and Liz Gargus
205-274-8670
wayneg@otelco.net

R&R Coordinators

Dewey and Alice Cole
256-442-2458
travelerdac@netscape.net

Region A Directors

Larry and Patty Lingo
regiondirector@gwrra-regiona.org

COMMENTS FROM THE CD, BUTCH & DIANNE
HARRIS,

CD COMMENTS 9-07

On 8-1 – Breakfast at Sarah’s with 15 in attendance. Great breakfast room to ourselves. Buffet style. No ride afterwards.

8-4 – Meeting cancelled due to traveling plaque grab. 27 faithful souls rode to Palisades Park hoping to get the plaque. We lost out to Chapter H in Athens with 13 people carrying it back home with them. Eleven came from F in Montgomery and 3 from B in Huntsville. We also had good pizza, drinks, dessert, and fellowship. Of course, we had ice cream on the way home.

8-5 – Sunday afternoon our meeting at Western Sizzlin had 30 in attendance. Wayne & Shari Emery won the 50-25-25. Bruce Hunt’s name was drawn again for the Chapter rollover for \$41. He was not present again so the \$41 rolls over to the Sept. meeting. Alice won a large clock door prize and she also won \$64 at Y’s bingo party Sat. night. Don Sheridan & Tammy Goodson also won door prizes. Also the JA has reappeared. Donna Conn presented it to Butch Sat. night for his goof up trying to leave me behind at a gas station.

8-8 – Breakfast at the Poor House with 11 in attendance. No hot rides. Butch and I spent the day at Dewey & Alice’s with me cooling off in their pool.

8-11 – State picnic - 16 Chapter “N” people turned out for the state picnic in extreme heat, getting \$80 for our Chapter. They gave \$145 twice. No free ice cream for the group on the way home. Good turn out at picnic for the state even though the weather was hot hot. Lots were in 4 wheel. We greatly appreciated the ones that braved the heat. We got to see them making pottery, quilting & basket weaving. Great time; good fellowship.

8-18 – Due to heat wave, the fish fry was postponed until Sept. 8 at Snead park. Please let me know what you are bringing where we all went bring the same thing. Call me at 256-593-7053.

8-22 – Breakfast at Poor House with 15 in attendance.

8-25 – CPR class in Hoover. Ten attended.

8-29 – Breakfast at Sarah’s.

I need some goodies for the basket for the COY. Thanks. Dianne.

Inside this Issue:

Directors page 2	News	Ride & Event Schedule page 2
Chapter Staff page 1		Various Articles
Sponsors page 3		
Birthdays & Anniversaries page 2		Directors News page 7-8
Alabama District Picnic page 3		

SPONSORS

**Santos Printing, Call David Santos for all your printing needs
256-54-PRINT**

**PEPSI. BUFFALO ROCK SALES & CATERING. CALL DAVID EN-
TREKIN 256-492-8400 EXT 3531**

CYCLE WORLD 1701 W MEIGHAN BLVD. GADSDEN 256-546-4444

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

9-3	Hary Shiland	9-11	Calvin and Marie Blansit
9-5	Dianne Harris		
9-9	Loretta Lloyd	9-25	Ray and Debbie Coffen
9-9	Billy Billingsley		
9-11	Josh Dodd	9-28	Gary and Linda Luther
9-11	Michelle Harper		
9-13	Calvin Blansitt		
9-18	Wayne Gargus	9-28	Sammy and Donna Conn
9-18	Calvin Lloyd		

Ride and Event Schedule

About Chapter N

Chapter N meet for breakfast every Wednesday alternating between the Poor House Restaurant at 12th & Meighan Blvd. in Gadsden and Sarah's on Hwy 278 at the Blount/Etowah County line. Chapter N's Monthly Gathering is normally on the 1st Saturday of each month unless otherwise published below. We eat at 5 PM and a short fun meeting starts at 6 PM at Western Sizzlin Restaurant, Hwy 77 Just North of Hwy 411, at 209 W. Grand Ave., Rainbow City, AL. For more information about Chapter N, visit <http://www.kerrywilson.com/coosavalleywings.htm>

Ride Schedule

SEPTEMBER – (Rides/activities planned by YOU and coordinated by Wayne) (Tentative)

9/1-3-07 – GWRRA 30th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL LABOR DAY WEEK-END PARTY - Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN. (Wing World Magazine or www.gwrra.org for more info.) This is also combined with the Region N Rally and registration for both events is only \$10. Please advise Butch or Wayne if you would like to go so a Chapter ride can be planned.

9/1/07 – CHAPTER N MONTHLY GATHERING – Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City. Eat at 5 PM & the fun begins at 6 PM.

9/7/07 – **(FRIDAY) VISIT A CHAPTER RIDE TO J IN TUSCALOOSA** – They eat at 6 & meet at 7 at Rumore's Deli in Tuscaloosa. Depart Kangaroo 3:30 PM & Chevron in Springville at 4 PM so we can get through Birmingham before the main rush hour.

9/8/07 – DINNER RIDE – The Steak House near Rockmart, GA. We went there last year and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. It's one of those out of the way places with excellent food. They open at 4:30 PM Eastern time and to avoid a long wait we need to have an early dinner. Depart Kangaroo promptly at 2 PM Central time. We will take Hwy 278 East from Gadsden. We'll take a scenic return route home via Hwy 100 North to 411 South at Cave Springs and stop somewhere along the way for ice cream.

9/13-15/07 – REGION A RALLY – Perry, FL 4-H Fairgrounds RT 19
www.gwrra-regiona.org Let Butch or Wayne know if you are going so departure times can be arranged.

9/15/07 – TRAIL OF TEARS RIDE – Anyone not going to the Region A Rally can ride up to Chattanooga, TN or to Madison, AL & join the group coming in from Chattanooga as they make a rest and lunch stop. They expect 150,000+ bikes. The ride departs Madison at 11:30 AM. You can ride with them to McFarland Park in Florence where the ride ends and the fun and partying begins. Lots of entertainment, vendors, Native Indian dancing, demonstrations, etc. If you do not want to go inside the park, you can break away from the ride in the Florence area and ride back toward home. Contact Wayne for additional information. Or www.trailoftears-remembrance.org

9/16/07 (Sunday) BIRMINGHAM RIDE FOR KIDS 2007 - Pelham Civic Complex, 500 Amphitheater Rd., Pelham, AL 35124. For more information call 800-253-6530 or go to:
www.rideforkids.org. This is a great event and deserves our full support. Are you going??

9/21/07 – SONIC NIGHT ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT SONIC IN RAINBOW CITY 7 PM.

9/29/07 – Chapter B in Huntsville Fun Day. More information next month.
**North Carolina District Rally 9/20-22 www.gwrranc.org for additional information.

**13th Annual “Wings Across Tennessee” to St. Jude Children’s Hospital in Memphis, TN. Ride starts in Bristol, TN 10 AM EDT 9-14, overnight at Ramada Inn in Dickson, TN, & depart 8 AM on 9-15 with a refueling stop in Jackson, TN.

ALABAMA DISTRICT PICNIC







A good time was had by all in attendance. How hot was it? 102 to 104 was regularly seen on the infometer going home. Some backseat riders wimped out and hopped in a four wheeler for the trip home but who can blame them?

Article contributed by Harold and Shari Emery
Ohio District Rally

We continued our quest to visit rallies outside of Regional A by attending the Buckeye Rally which was held June 15-17 in Marietta, Ohio. For us, this turned out to be a solo trip due to the date conflict with the Georgia Rally. Hopefully everyone had a good time in Rome. Our thoughts were that we could support GWRRA by attending another Region's event, so we did. Our route carried us by way of Pigeon Forge for an overnight stop, then onto the rally through West Virginia. This was our first time in West Virginia and we were astonished at the mountains. We traveled around some, over some, and on two occasions through mountains. We did not see any flatland; actually we saw very little land, for it was all covered by trees.

On our arrival we discovered Marietta, Ohio to be truly a river town. Like, right on the bank of the Ohio River. It is a city approximately the size of Gadsden, with the city of Williamstown, West Virginia just across the river. Williamstown is where the Fenton Glass factory is located. I know, because I followed Shari on a tour of this place and she spent some money, but I really, really enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to contribute to their local economy.

The rally was good as rallies go. The unique thing about this rally was the number of campers. My guess is that 60% of the attendees actually camped out at the rally site. They even had a camper vendor. Kerry and Harry would have felt right at home with this crowd. We must say that we found Roger Hurley (DD) and all the Ohio GWRRA folks to be a friendly bunch. We did notice that at the opening ceremonies that several city officials including the mayor were on stage to welcome us all to their city. The mayor invited us to attend their "Mayor's Friday Night Jubilee" which was a Bluegrass concert held downtown on Front Street (their main street). When we arrived, Mr. Mayor Mike Mullen was center stage as the lead singer and yes Dianne he could sing. So, we can say the city and the town folks were also unique.

We will now return our focus on local events, but will begin soon to plan another adventure. It could be a trip to Niagara Falls for us and others. We hope that our future adventures are not solo. It's more fun with friends.

Harold & Shari

September 2007 District News

Well, someone requested "hot" weather, and boy have we had it. I don't know about you but my riding has slowed down somewhat this month. Not much activity to report since last month.

We did have a very successful picnic at Tannehill Park on August 11th with over 150 in attendance. We had a goodtime, gave away lots of door prizes and spent time with friends. We even had watermelon to go with the burgers, hot dogs and delicious desserts.

If you have selected a Chapter COY, please have them contact Frank & Linda Teasley with their information, even if they do not plan to participate in the District selection at teaswing@bellsouth.net or call them at 1-205-424-4717. They are planning a get together for the Chapter couples and they would like to include all couples.

Once again I would like to urge you to ask your chapter folks to submit a design for the 2008 Rally pin. The deadline is November 15th. The design should contain; GWRRA or logo, Alabama District Rally (NASCAR) April 3-5, 2008, Mobile, AL.

Start making plans now for the Snowball social and Officer's Conference in Montgomery January 5th 2008. All Chapter Officers, (CD, ACD, and Educator), are expected to attend the Officer's Conference. If you cannot attend, I need to know who will attend in your place. The conference will start at 3 PM Saturday afternoon. The financial reports will be completed Friday evening if you can be there. If not, we will do them Saturday morning. You will need to turn in a chapter equipment inventory as well. If you have any questions about the financial report or inventory, let me know. I would like for each chapter to bring 5 door prizes to Snowball if possible. Everyone likes to win. Registration is free and you will receive a year bar and door prize ticket when you register. Snowball head pin will be available for \$4.00 if you are new or do not currently have one. The head pin is used to attach your year bars to. We will have games, (10am-12 noon), coffee, donuts, etc. and awards. You will also be able to meet your new District Director and Staff!

Please get your registration in for the 2008 NASCAR Rally if have not already registered. We need your support and attendance in order to continue to provide benefits to you. This one is going to be the best one yet! Our District Staff has done a tremendous job the last 3 years. The next time you see them, let them know if you like what has been happening in Alabama! If not, let me know and I will attempt to fix what's wrong. Some things are beyond my abilities, but I'll sure do my best.

Remember the Region A Rally in Perry, FL Sept. 13-15. They will be

-serving the world's largest banana split! Come on down and have a great time in sunny Florida.

Visitation between chapters and districts is the best way to make new friends and learn how other folks have fun. You might be surprised how many ideas you can acquire for chapter "Fun" activities by visiting other chapters. Give it a try, you might like it! The traveling plaque is a great means of making new friends and seeing some new territory. It will be available at Greenbrier Restaurant near the Harley dealer on 565 in Madison on Sept. 9th from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. Come on out and enjoy a good meal and socializing with friends. Hope some of you will be able to attend the 30th Anniversary Party/Region N Rally at the Gaylord in Nashville on Sept. 1-2. We plan to be there, maybe we will see you.

Please keep our Military people and our country's leaders in your prayers, as well as those who are sick or recovering and those who have lost loved ones.

Till next time, hug someone you love and don't forget to wave.

Bill & Diane

Article by Jim Lee, the A/DD and Rally Coordinator

Hi Folks,

It seems the older I get the faster time passes. The less time I have to accomplish things and the more demanding my time is. Do you remember when you were a kid how slow each day seemed to pass, why now a week is passed in seemingly the same time frame. This last month was filled for me. We attended the District Picnic in 105 to 110 degree temperatures but once we were at the picnic it was very comfortable thanks to the cool fan and fans strategically placed around the area and of course the absolute wonderful park that was surrounded by trees. We had a great turn out and a wonderful time.

I also got to attend some out of state chapter business meetings to promote our rally with the help of some Chapter A members. We traveled over into Mississippi and Florida and were able to enjoy the company of those chapters.

As time grows closer to April we all need to start thinking of how we promote the rally, how we get more people to attend, how we get the word out to non-GW members and basically what we need to do to advertise. We will have more things going on that should be enjoyable to the membership and non members as well. We will have more courses provided, on site camping, more

tours (free walking and riding as well as a paid swamp tour), ERC and Trike Courses, great places to eat, more great prizes – money and merchandise. Once again we will have the bike shows, ice cream social, coy competition, talent show, cash payout for a non-riding poker run and this year we will serve barbeque. Once again we will feature a large dance floor and the entertainment of Jim Hubbard after the talent contest. Our 50/25/25 drawings are always substantial, we will give away some great door prizes, last year we gave out \$560 from the dunking booth and of course the Gold Wing will be given away. Should you win the Gold Wing and for some reason not really want it then a cash prize of \$10,000 will be offered in its place. So if you don't want to purchase tickets because you do not need a new motorcycle purchase them for the money.

The next few months our chapter will be going to more of the out of state chapters to promote the rally. I challenge you to do the same. Take some brochures and visit the nearest out of state chapter to you and invite them to attend our rally. Hey for that matter take some brochures and go to the Alabama Chapter next to you and challenge them to have as many at the rally as you do. Together we can make a difference and we need your help. Get the word out that the Alabama Rally isn't just another rally but one that you can have a great time at and have the opportunity to win some big prizes because you can.

Jim & Karen Lee

Kerry Wilson's Trip

<http://www.kerrywilson.com/MICHIGAN.htm>

Harry and Kerry recently completed a long trip to Michigan. Lots of pictures taken – too many to publish in the newsletter - so browse on over to the above link and experience an almost stream of consciousness travel log.

**Article by Harold and Shari Emery
Pickwick Landing State Park**

The 1st question was - what do we do on the 4th of July? And the answer was - we eat BBQ. The 2nd question was – where? Harold wanted to eat at home, but Shari wanted to eat out. So we ate out.

We decided to visit Pickwick Landing State Park for lunch. Pickwick Landing was a riverboat stop dating from the 1840's. In the 1930's, during the depression, this site was chosen as a site for one of the TVA dams on the Tennessee River. This park is located 14 miles south of Savannah, Tennessee on the west bank of the Tennessee River. After eating breakfast-in (McDonalds that Harold went and got), our ride began at 7:30 AM. We rode Hwy 278 W. to Cullman, then Hwy 157 N. to connect with Hwy 72 W. We turned north about 5 miles into Mississippi onto MS 25. We rode MS 25/TN 57 to the park. Our arrival was at 10:30 AM, so we had time before lunch to visit the gift shop (Shari) and snap a few pictures (Harold). Our BBQ rib lunch was great. As we sat and ate ribs, we watched from the restaurant, the many ski boats and jet skies on the river. There were some ladies at the pool, but to see them it was necessary to turn ones head sharply to the left or right and risk getting caught, so I did not.

After lunch, rather than return home via the same route, we rode TN 128 N. to Savannah Tennessee, then Hwy 64 E. Between Savannah and our gas stop at Waynesboro, we crossed over Horse Creek, Turkey

Creek, and Indian Creek. Our timing must have been poor, for we did not see a horse, turkey, nor did we see any Indians. After our gas stop, we continued on Hwy 64 E. to the Natchez Trace. We rode south on the Trace to Hwy 72. As we all know, the Trace offers an opportunity to ride slow with limited hazards to contend with. But, there are always exceptions, such as the one we experienced. We were riding down the Trace at a speed just above the posted 50 MPH when as we approached the scenic stop at the Alabama –Tennessee State line, it happened. There was a cyclist on his Cannondale XL 1200 high speed bike cycle (48 gears) and dressed as Lance Armstrong. He was riding out of the parking area. I assumed that good buddy Lance would stop before entering the Trace. Wrong assumption. I next assumed that he would stay on the very right side of the southbound lane, so I moved to the center of the Trace to give good buddy Lance more space. Second wrong assumption. Good buddy Lance rode out into the southbound lane then decided to make a U-turn to the northbound lane. I did the rapid handlebar rap as you do when attempting to avoid a last second pot hole. My guess is that our front tire missed Lance's rear tire by 6-inches. We were so close that we saw Lance's dilated eyes and heard him utter a 4-letter word. As we continued our relaxing ride south on the Trace, we asked each other several times –why did he do that?

Now safely off the Trace and back on Hwy 72 we rode to Moulton, then took Hwy 33 through the Bankhead Forest to Hwy 278. After a water stop at Double Springs, we rode Hwy 278 E., arriving home at 5 PM where we dined-in (Harold had a bowl of soup). Our 9.5 hour ride had covered 389 miles.

This would make a good day ride for chapter N.

Harold & Shari

