



Bluegrass Wings Team

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Michael & Dedre VanHoose

March 2014

Wing It With Mike and Dedre

We hope all is well with each and everyone in Chapter C. Looks like we might eventually get some warmer weather, but winter sure has been cruel to us. Last year at this time we were already riding and enjoying much warmer weather. I personally think we should shoot the groundhog.

Over the last month Chapter C has been busy visiting other chapters and enjoying some much needed fellowship, trading the Traveling Plaque around a bit, and getting in on some good dinner rides. This past Saturday Randy led a ride to Kathryn's in Clay City for a hot brown. I don't know the route but am certain a good time was had.

Russ (Goo) Bell resigned as Chapter Educator at our last gathering. He will be sorely missed but does intend to stay close to us. Russ wants family time and needs a break. If anyone is interested, we need an assistant chapter director and now a chapter educator. We really could use some folks stepping up to fill these roles. Please see Dedre or me if you are interested in filling one of these positions.

Please check the ride calendar for March and April. We will be going to Tennessee for Spring Fling and other district events across the states. If anyone is interested in joining us please let us know.

We want to get out and ride. Drop us a line and we will send out an email to get takers for the ride. Stay safe and enjoy the upcoming riding season.





RIDER EDUCATION



It's Not If...But When

The old adage among motorcycle riders in general is that you will eventually have an accident. The big unknown is when. Yes accidents will happen and they do. Last year at the start of the riding season in April two riders lost their lives in one week-end here in the Blue Grass.

Death is inevitable as we are mortals; we are born and begin our journey toward death. But the loss of life by an accident is a tragedy. While reading an article by my friend Clement Salvadori, he pointed out in his article that according to statistics, deaths due to motorcycle accidents are down. Quoting his article there were in 1960 575,000 registered motorcycles and 730 deaths due to accidents. That translates into 1.2 deaths for every registered motorcycle. Based on the latest available numbers (2011) there are 8,400,000 registered motorcycles, trikes, and scooters. The death rate in 2011 was 4,600 for a ratio of 0.54 per 1,000 bike registrations.

Now there are other numbers to support that training has improved over the last 50 years with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation that started in the seventies and our own GWRRA training that began in the late eighties. Chapter KY-C has always been at the fore front of motorcycle safety due to one of our members Ray Ochs who taught vehicle safety at EKU and is now employed full time at MSF in California. During the period of 1984 through 1987 over 50 % of the Chapter took the MSF Experience Rider Course under Ray's supervision.

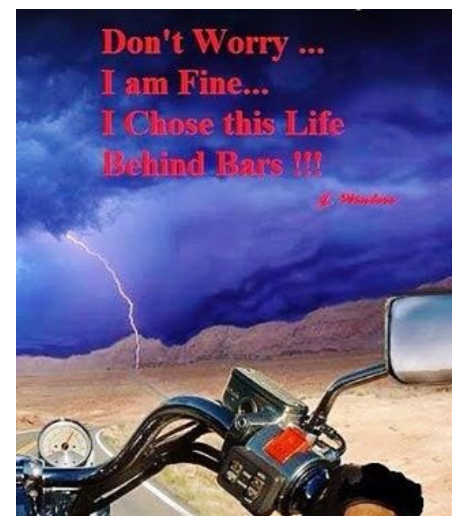
Pete Woodruff teamed up with GWRRA and modified what was being taught in MSF courses to be more specific for the Gold Wing. Along with the riding course instructions the Rider Ed program was begun and expanded with the seminars covering everything from pulling a trailer, the co-rider and riding in a group. Education is out there for expanding your riding knowledge and the stats indicate that a better educated rider is a **Safer Rider**.

And as Roy and Dale use to sing:

**Some trails are happy ones,
Others are blue.
It's the way you ride the trail that counts,
Here's a happy one for you.
Happy trails to you, until we meet again.**

Ride Safely

Russ "Goo" Bell
Chapter Educator



Chapter C and the Traveling Plaque

March chapter meetings were back to back! Chapter H hosted the International Couple of the Year, Tommy and Gayle Wilson. They are also the Assistant Director of the Membership Enhancement Program Goldwing University (Tommy) and Region N MEP (Gayle). They live in Virginia and were able to tell us that the Virginia convention is taking place, but at a different location. It will be held October 9-11 in Roanoke, VA. This is where Mike and I will compete for the Region Couple of the Year.

The next evening was at Chapter A where we were trying to capture the Traveling Pack. Chapters H and S were also there, and Chapter S won the plaque. The Chapter S meeting was the next day, so they ended up with the plaque for less than 24 hours! We were also at Chapter S, along with Chapter A and H. (Yes, "long time no see" was mentioned often!) Chapter A won the plaque again. Thanks to Jeff Sullivan for traveling with us to try win the plaque.

So.....all hands on deck for a trip to Louisville on Saturday April 12. Mike and I have to be in Ohio Saturday night, so we're not going to be able to go. Jeff Sullivan has volunteered to go along, so we need a minimum of two more please!

District Trainers Doings

Mike and I are holding a Horizon's class on Saturday, April 5 from 8-5 and Sunday, April 6 from 1-5. Horizon is a team building event and an opportunity to learn more about yourself as well. We plan to have a lot of fun and celebrate Mike's birthday as well! Let us know if you want to join us. It will be held at First Christian Church in Versailles.

We've also been asked to provide an Officers Certification Program (OCP). It is required for officers, but you don't have to be an officer to attend. If you're thinking about filling our open positions, take the course now and get it done! It's a way to learn more about GWRRA and only lasts a day now.

We are asking for ideas on ride destinations from our participants. If you have any ideas please contact Roger, Dedre or me and we do our very best to include your input in our commitment to provide the best rides we can. Some ideas that have come across lately are the Dayton Air Show featuring the revitalized Blue Angels. This is certain to be a great time. Are you interested in spending a weekend in Tennessee riding the Tail of the Dragon, Cherahola Skyway, the Blue Ridge Parkway, or other destinations? We never did make it to Marango Caves last year, maybe we can make that happen in 2014. We are looking forward to some serious road time this year. Let's get together and RIDE!!

KY-C MONTHLY GATHERING INFO

Don't forget New Gathering place !!!!

The Bluegrass Wings gather the 4th Tuesday of every month at Roosters Restaurant at 124 Marketplace Drive, Lexington, KY. We eat at 6:00 and meet at 7:00. Let's get together and have some FUN!!



Ride Events

Web page www.kybluegrasswings.org

We had a lot of fun at the dinner on March 10 at Mi Pequena Hacienda. The food was great and as usual it was a pleasure sharing a meal with our GWRRA friends.

We had a ride to Kathy's Country Kitchen in Clay City on 3/15. Unfortunately I had to miss that ride because I am having some trouble with my right knee and did not feel it was a good idea to join the ride. As Goo pointed out in the February newsletter, part of our ride preparation is to make sure we are physically ready and I did not want to risk further damage to my knee by trying to keep the Wing upright. It was such a pretty day, I almost got the bike out anyway but decided against it. Hopefully I'll be ready for our ride on the March 29. I heard the ride went well and a good time was had by all.

The list of our upcoming rides and dinners is below. I hope you can join us for many of these.

March 29 – Ride to Swope's Cars of Yesteryear Museum in Elizabethtown

April 7 – Dinner at Ky Butt Rubb'in BBQ

April 12 – Ride to Saluto Wildlife Center in Frankfort

May 3 – Kentucky Derby Ride

May 8 – Dinner at Bellacino's

May 17 – Ride to Jane's Saddlebag in Union, Ky

May 31 – Ride to Opal's Restaurant in McKee, Ky

I will send out an email a few days prior to each ride or dinner to provide more details.

For more information about the rides and future dates please see our events calendar at <http://www.kybluegrasswings.org/events/>. The calendar also includes the various Chapter Meetings and the Region Events. If you have any questions or corrections, please let me know.

If you want to see some of the photos from our past events, check out the following page: <http://www.kybluegrasswings.org/photos/>

Information from your Membership Enhancement Coordinator

Lets got out and VISIT our fellow chapters. Here is a list of when and where they meet. It's FUN to make new Friends.



Chapter A Meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Shoney's just off I-65 and Fern Valley Road in Louisville. They eat at 5:30 and meet at 6:30.



Chapter C Meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Roosters. This is at the intersection of Nicholasville Road and Man O War in front of Walmart. Eat @ 6:00 PM and meet @ 7:00.



Chapter G Meet on the 2nd Tuesday at the Holiday Inn 7905 Freedom Way Florence, KY 41042 Eat @ 6:00 pm, Meet @ 7:00 pm



Chapter H Meet on the 1st Friday of the month at Stratton Community Center 215 Washington St. Shelbyville, KY 40065 Meet @ 6:30pm



Chapter S Meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month at Golden Coral U.S. 31 W. Elizabethtown, KY Eat @ 4:00 PM, Meet @ 5:00



Chapter T Meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Carriage House Ramada Inn Paintsville, KY Eat @ 6:00 PM, Meet @ 7:00



Chapter W Meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at Frischs in London off Highway 192. Eat at 6, meet at 7.



Chapter Y Meet on the 1st Thursday at Majestic Family Restaurant 700 S. 6th St. Mayfield, KY 42066 Eat @ 6:00, Meet @ 7:00

Look at the Chapter Gathering days as we will try and to visit them all at sometime.



Wing Ding 36 Returns to Madison, Wisconsin July 2-5, 2014. Come with us!



James has a new ride!! His new 2014 Honda GL 1800 with the airbag system made it to Richmond for him to pick up.

*****Congratulations James*****

Thanks to Honda for giving it to him!!