



## Bluegrass Wings Team

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## October 2015

Happy October Chapter C! We hope all is well with you and your families. Since Wing Ding a lot of things have been taking place in the region. We have a lot of changes with the GWRRA University. We have had leadership changes in North Carolina and now Virginia. Our association is working very hard to build more integrity into all we do, along with finding strong leaders to guide us through these changes. Jim Rambo is still our Region Trainer, but also has a new title— National Director of Public Relations for the GWRRA. Congratulations Jim on your appointment!

Our core team spent a weekend in Pigeon Forge on a retreat working on ideas and strategies for the next year in our chapter. We have a lot of new ideas and we hope to see ya'll benefit from these ideas. During that weekend we took the opportunity to ride the Tail of the Dragon in the rain. What a ride! We also met up with Tennessee Chapter A2 who led us on a beautiful ride through the back roads of Tennessee to the Green Tomato Restaurant for a delicious meal. Thanks Gary and your crew for a wonderful time!

At our October gathering, please be prepared to bring us your nominations for our next Couple of the Year. This couple should be involved, visible, and a compliment to our chapter. As we continue to challenge for the traveling plaque, we need your participation. Dedre and I try to make almost all the other chapter gatherings, but we cannot do it by ourselves. We need the chapter to be involved. The more you put into the association, the more you will get out of it. I have never heard anyone complain about having FUN!





**ON-SITE CLASSES AVAILABLE**

*Thanks for stopping in!  
Check Out Some Of Our Great Events*

**Dogs & Discounts**

**Thursday Night Bike Night:**

Every Thursday 5pm-6pm with FREE food and parts discounts throughout the store.

**Off Road Ride / Demo Day:**

We will be holding an Off Road ride at Wildcat Off Road Park the first weekend of October. Arctic Cat will be bringing out a few ATV and Side X Sides to take for a spin. We will provide a FREE lunch also, so mark your calendar this will be an event you do not want to miss!

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Somehow we wound up in Paris, Kentucky on October 8th. This was a really nice dinner ride Roger set up for us in cahoots with Shea Ernest. We even had some friends of Earl and Lily join as we took over Jerry's Restaurant. Mike and Tina Fryman rode their bikes, new friends George and Janell Ragsdale on their Harley Trike, Roger and Karen, Alan and Shea, Earl and Lily, and Mike VanHoose.

On Saturday the 10th we had 6 of our chapter go to Louisville to visit Chapter A and try to get the Traveling Plaque. We were unsuccessful with the capture, but we had a great time with Chapter A. After their gathering we rode along with them thru western Louisville into Bullitt County and up thru Taylorsville before we headed home. Thanks John and Chapter A for a great time and great ride!! Along on the trip were Mike and Dedre VanHoose, Jeff Sullivan, John Conner, Jonathan Jones, and Earl Broome. Thanks to all for going along!

Chapter H (Shelbyville) won the plaque, so please mark you calendars to go to their next gathering on Friday, November 6. Mike and Dedre will be heading to the Region Ops meeting, so we need volunteers to go capture the plaque!

### Alan shares some new found knowledge



Hey Goldwing friends – in looking for some safety hints to send your way, I came upon this Looking and Scanning article written by David and Dori Dirig; CA-1F and thought you might enjoy it.

### **“Where am I NOT Looking?”**

No matter what rider-training course you attend, the technique of scanning for hazards and dangers will be mentioned. So many times, we hear accident accounts in terms of “I never saw it coming;” “The vehicle/debris/pedestrian/animal came out of nowhere;” or “Traffic ahead of me was suddenly stopped.” You can't react to a hazard if you don't at least see it coming. Motorcycle Safety Foundation describes their method as SIPDE (Scan-Identify-Predict-Decide-Execute) or SPA (Seek-Plan-Act). The bottom line is to develop a scanning strategy so that you are prepared for developing situations. The process of scanning involves interrogating your environment for hazards, eye movement, avoiding target fixation, and reacting to this information. For now, let's talk about scanning strategies and eye movement. While avoiding staring at any single point (target fixation) is critical, just moving your eyes around doesn't help if you don't have a strategy.

I don't have a handy acronym; I just try to look everywhere at once. Of course, that's impossible. As a compromise, I continually ask myself where I am NOT looking. My goal when I am riding is to be especially sensitive to hidden dangers that can come from any angle and to avoid any perceptual blind spots. Anyone can scan ahead the proscribed 4 second and 12 second intervals for hazards. While doing this though, “Where am I not looking?” If I am scanning left and right, near and far ahead of me, I make sure to also watch my mirrors for a glimpse of what's behind me. If you are scanning the road ahead, your eyes can easily switch out and down a little to catch your mirrors during your visual passes.

Most of my daily commute consists of multi-lane interstates in San Diego, so just scanning my lane is not enough. I also need to worry about other lanes to my left and right as well as entrance/exit ramps. While I am watching my lane ahead (and scanning the mirrors as well), “Where am I not looking?” Debris in other lanes can easily be

thrown into my lane or cause another vehicle to dodge into my lane. Fast traffic merging on and off the freeway can come from two or more lanes to either side and ‘suddenly’ appear ahead or behind me trying to get to the next exit. In a perfect world, signs will warn of up-coming construction or lane reductions, but this is not a perfect world. How easily can a single sign get knocked/blown down, setting up a ‘surprise’ lane merge? If I am worrying only about my lane, then hazards can come from where I’m not looking. My rapid eye movement and scanning technique extends beyond my lane to potential hazards across multiple lanes. Keep the eyes moving and keep asking yourself, “Where I am not looking?”

Rural and urban areas present different sets of hazards with driveways, sidewalks, and vehicles parked at the curb. Being aware of potential hazards and keeping your eyes moving is critical in this ‘target-rich’ environment. The hazards can come at you from all sides and involve vehicles, pedestrians, and animals. Being aware of one potential hazard should not prevent you from watching for others. Avoid target-fixation at all costs! As an example, I was coming home from work one day through a hospital zone where an ambulance was on-coming preparing to turn left with its emergency lights on. As I focused on this primary hazard ahead to my left (i.e. staring at it), a young mother and daughter (also watching the ambulance) stepped off the curb in front of me crossing from my right. “Where was I not looking?” I managed to stop and not run over the family, but it wouldn’t have required maximum braking if I had kept my eyes moving. It was where I wasn’t looking that the real primary hazard emerged.

Every traffic light also requires scanning all directions, whether the light is green or red. If you are stopping, you worry about traffic stopped in front of you, but you also need to watch traffic behind you. With a green light, what is the traffic from left and right doing? Is there an on-coming left turn arrow that someone may disregard and cross in front of you? What about your right? Is there a driver hurrying to turn right on red and pull out in front of you? “Where are you not looking?” Whether the light is red or green, you have multiple threat axes that need to be addressed before your entrance as well as during your passage through the intersection.

This rapid eye movement and scanning strategy is a technique that requires practice and constant refinement. It can and should be practiced anywhere and anytime. Whether you are riding or driving, simply ask yourself, “Where am I not looking?” You can only look in one direction at any given moment, so this question has multiple options as to where your eyes should scan next. If you are scanning left, look right. If scanning ahead, check your mirrors. The trick is to keep your eyes moving, don’t focus on any one threat axis, and remain vigilant for potential threats. I practice this everyday coming home through my neighborhood. Every driveway is a potential threat. Every four-way stop, a potential threat from 360 degrees around you. Keep your eyes moving, keep scanning and practicing, and be ready for anything that could happen. If something that you didn’t see or didn’t expect startles you, this tells you that your scanning technique/strategy needs some fine-tuning. For more information on this issue as well as other safety topics, consult the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Rider Course classroom session and booklet.

**Ride Safe & COAST (Concentrate On A Safe Trip)  
Thanks David and Dori for such informative safety tips!!**

***Ride Safe***

***Alan Ernest – Chapter C Rider Education***

***aeruger@gmail.com***



Hello Fellow Wingers,

10/06/15

Hey it's October – where did our summer go?

What a great summer it was and we had a blast meeting and riding with our fellow wingers, so thanks for being a part of the summer of 2015. I was just down in the Smoky Mountains the end of September and Rode the Dragon twice in the pouring rain and fog. Got that off my bucket list Thank Goodness. Also rode on route 32 in Tennessee on the way to Maggie Valley NC and it turned into the Dragon on gravel – got that off the bucket list also, but braking and turning on wet gravel gave me a great idea for this month's article. I read this article about braking several months ago.

## **The Do's and Don'ts of Emergency Braking** (By Wes Siler – January 29, 2014)

### **Category: How To**

Emergency braking is the most crucial safety skill you can learn, but also one you'll hopefully never have to use. If you suddenly find a car turning in front of you, it's often your only way out. Here's some easy do's and don'ts to keep in mind when it comes to emergency braking on a motorcycle.

#### **Do: Progressively squeeze the lever**

Starting gently and working up to max pressure will transfer the motorcycle weight to the front wheel and compresses the tire, expanding its contact patch and increasing its grip.

#### **Don't: Just grab a handful**

Even with ABS, simply going straight to max brake pressure will overwhelm the front tire's grip and cause it to skid. If you don't have ABS, that will likely lead to a wipe out. If you do, you just won't be achieving an optimal rate of deceleration.

#### **Do: Use both brakes**

Even on bikes that don't come with handlebar tassels, where the weight bias is dramatically forward under braking, the rear tire may retain contact with the road and even have a little traction, so using both brakes will help slow you down.

#### **Don't: Rely on the back brake only**

Not only is the back brake less powerful than the front brake, weight is also transferred off the rear brake under deceleration and reduces the rear tire's traction.

#### **Do: Be aware of traffic around you**

It's no good going to maximum braking power only to be swatted by the texting SUV driver tailgating you. Ride defensively at all times and try to create a "bubble" of space around you at all times. This will give you room to take evasive maneuvers like emergency braking should you need it.

#### **Don't: Let other vehicles dictate your safety**

Ride in such a manner that you control your relationship with other traffic. Don't find yourself in a situation where another motorist is able to tailgate you and restrict your vision. Move through traffic with authority and confidence.

#### **Do: Plan ahead**

As you're riding, you need to be constantly scanning your entire area – above and below and to the side and behind you – but pay particular attention to where you're going and look as far ahead as possible. As cars pull up to intersections or other traffic movements occur, plan how you'll deal with each one, then put that plan into action.

#### **Don't: Get taken by surprise**

Surprise creates panic, panic creates accidents. Use your superior vision – move around in your lane and alter your distance from other vehicles in order to maximize it – and develop a sixth sense capable of predicting what other people are about to do. Identify potential risks before they threaten you, then avoid them before they become a problem.



## Membership Enhancement Continued, keep is coming Darrell!

### **Do: Practice**

Motorcycles have exceptional braking abilities, but conversely, their brakes are exceptionally difficult to master. Go find a big, empty parking lot and spend half a day familiarizing yourself with your motorcycle's abilities and working up from a walking pace until you're able to confidently bring your bike to a commanding halt from normal road speeds.

### **Don't: Rely on something you don't know how to use**

How fast can your motorcycle stop? What happens when the rear wheel starts to lift off the ground? How much back brake can you use before that wheel locks? What does it feel like to lock the front wheel? You should know the answers to all these questions by heart.

### **Do: Brake hard!**

Your rear wheel might lift up, the ABS might kick in, you might pee your pants a little bit, but every MPH that you can lose before hitting something will incrementally reduce impact forces, thereby reducing your chances of injury or death. What might kill you at 40 mph may only send you home with bruises at 30 mph. And that's a mere fraction of a second of max braking apart.

### **Don't: Let go**

Trust your bike and your abilities. Your best bet to avoid the accident or reduce its severity lies in braking, not bailing.

Famous Quote: Most people dread the middle of nowhere, motorcycle riders look for it!

Safe Riding!

Darrell and Alice Hampton

Bluegrass Wings Chapter C

Membership Enhancement Coordinators

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Phone: (859) 252-9993



### Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Lane Hait	10/06	Mike and Dedre VanHoose	10/10
Helena Taulbee	10/11	Roy and Helena Taulbee	10/11
Alice Hampton	10/21	Cliff and Sandy Planck	10/26
Ryan King	10/24	Jere and Alice Sellers	11/09
Lily Broome	11/09	Roger and Carol Fischer	11/11
Rex Guinn	11/12		





This is a really good picture of our ride with TN A2. Behind us is the Cherokee Dam as we traveled the back roads to the Green Tomato. We had a really good meal and even better company. Along for the ride were Don Renfro and his gal Donna. It was really great to see them. Did I mention we rode the Tail of the Dragon while we were down there?





## From our Ride Coordinator

We had a good turnout for our dinner at DJ's Bar and Grill in Winchester. We got to hear some stories about Wing Ding and enjoy some good food. I learned there is a good Mexican Restaurant in Winchester so hopefully we can put that on our list for a future dinner ride.

After our last meeting we rode to the Kentucky Fudge Company in Harrodsburg. We enjoyed some ice cream treats and some of us purchased fudge to enjoy later. After the treats, we rode west on state route 390 which was recently paved and had plenty of curves for us to enjoy. It was a great ride.



The Chapter Team had a Retreat the weekend of 9/25 to 9/28. We had some rain all weekend but Sunday and Monday were fairly dry days. Most of the rain was on Friday but we still managed to make it to US129 and rode the Tail of the Dragon. It was raining and part of the ride was foggy but no one else was on the road so we had a great time.

On Sunday we rode to Maggie Valley to enjoy the Wheels Through Time Museum. It makes you really appreciate how far motorcycle technology has come when you see the bikes in the museum and then head out on the road on our Gold Wings.

As part of the retreat, we discussed our rides and the possibility of having some overnight rides. We discussed some possible destinations but we are always open to suggestions. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for rides or even some ideas for dinner ride destinations. We have a few places that we enjoy each year but I am open to trying some new places.

The list of our upcoming events is below. As you can see, we have plenty of opportunities to ride including our chapter rides, dinners, and District Conventions. Please come out and join us.

- October 8 – Dinner ride to Jerry's in Paris
- October 10 - Ride For Life, Versailles 10:00
- October 17 – Chapter Ride TBD
- November 7 – Ride to the Murals in Portsmouth, Ohio
- November 12 – Dinner at Bellacino's

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/>



Happy Fall Ya'll !!

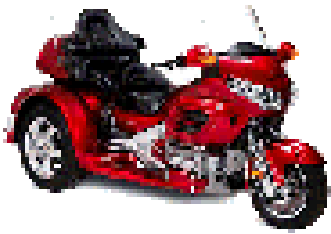
I know the calendar says October, but I'm still trying to figure out what happened to the last six months! The weather has been interesting and I hope we've still got some good riding days ahead of us.

This past weekend was Virginia's Rally in the Valley. Lily, Earl, the Kentucky District Couple BJ and Carol and I represented Kentucky at the Rally. I had the privilege of judging the Region Couple of the Year Selection on behalf of Jack Dozier. KY, NC, TN and VA had couples and it was fun to watch their presentations. BJ and Carol did a great job, but the new Region N Couple of the Year is Dottie and Alan Wessels from TN.

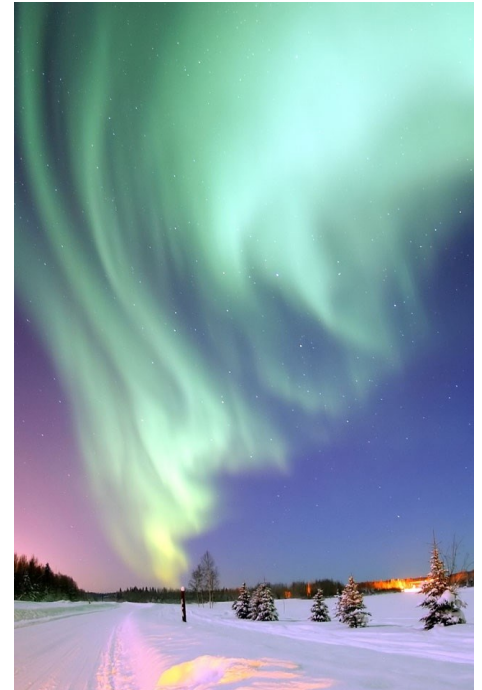
Our Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 5 at 6:00 pm at the home of Earl and Lily Broome in Nicholasville. It will be catered by Sonny's and the cost will be announced soon. Desserts will be welcome if any one would care to bring one. We will need a head count, so please check your calendar and plan to sign up at the October gathering.

We will be placing another shirt order in the next month. Please let me know if you're interested and I can send you the price sheet. Currently we have short and long sleeve polos, long sleeve button down shirts and long sleeve denim shirts.

Dedre VanHoose



Just a nice picture of the Northern Lights from the Alaskan frontier near Elmendorf AFB. Photo courtesy of my cousin Charles circa 2013



Alan and Alice strike a pose down in Tennessee. We need to give this pair a nickname.

## 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 2nd Saturday of the month at Mark's Feed Store at 6501 Bardstown Road in Louisville. They eat at 11:30 and meet at 12:30.



**Chapter B-1** Meet on the 4th Sunday at Ryan's Steakhouse at 1921 Mel Browning Street, Bowling Green, KY 23104. Eat at 4:00 pm and meet at 5:00 PM.



**Chapter C** Meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Roosters. This is at the intersection of Nicholasville Road and Man O War in front of Walmart. Eat @ 11:00 AM and meet @ 12:00.



**Chapter G** Meet on the 2nd Tuesday at the Golden Corral, 4770 Houston Road Florence, KY 41042 Eat @ 6:00 pm, Meet @ 7:00 pm



**Chapter H** Meet on the 1st Friday of the month at the UK County Extension Office, 1117 Frankfort Road, Shelbyville, KY 40065 Social time at 6:30, meet at 7:00.



**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.**