



PURCHASE AREA WINGS



Chapter KY-Y Mayfield, Ky.

August 2021

Volume 21 Issue 8

Where We Meet: Majestic Family Restaurant
700 South 6th Street
Mayfield, KY 42066

Eat at 6:00 - Meet 7:00

First Thursday of the Month

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Pins & Patches:
Open

Rides beginning at the "Blue" Building:
901 N. 15th Street, Mayfield
(hint: the building isn't blue!)



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2021 Couple of the Year
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2021 Individual of the Year
Richard Thomasson
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From the Chapter Director



The KY Blast in Lawrenceburg is right around the corner. Richard, Steve and Jennie, Rita and I are going to the Blast in Lawrenceburg on the 19th-21st. You can still sign up and get a shirt till the 7th or sign up at the door for a little more.

Can you believe it's already August?? I hope everyone has been keeping hydrated during this heat wave we've had. As we still have a lot of summer to go yet, please be careful and if you are out with friends please keep an eye on them also!

Hey don't forget when you're out and see a Goldwing if you get the chance to talk to that person ask if they know about the Gold Wing Road Riders Association and also about Chapter Y. Who knows, you might have just met your new best friend!

I want to thank everyone for all the prayers, calls and texts while I was in the Hospital.

Just a friendly reminder every month till the September. That KY-K Henderson will be having their kickoff in September and hopefully we can have a large group go and support them.

Ride Safe and Stay Alert
KY Dist. Ride Cord
Chapter Y C/D's
Dan and Rita

View From The Saddle



Are there hidden meanings in everyday things we experience? I'm not talking motorcycles right now but in general. Here's some examples:

When my oldest daughter and grandson were here a couple of weekends ago we were blown out of bed by a tremendous clap of thunder. We immediately lost power so I went outside to see if I could see any damage. What I found was a hole in the ground about 6" across and 6" deep. Dirt and grass were blown up on the deck and even some on the roof of our house. The lightening had struck about 10' from my house next to where the grandson was sleeping.

A friend from South Dakota called it a "warning shot"! Wow. That makes you think a little. Have I (we) done something to deserve a warning shot from above? Was it a warning to not think "I can make it out to the barn...it's not that far". We had some damage to things in the house and I'm still trying to get my 240 volt wiring fixed at the pole barn. One leg is down so I have about 1/2 of my outlets not working. It could have been worse. But it also took out the mother board on our tankless water heater so I had cold showers for a few days. Glad we got that fixed. Brrrr... (ps- its all fixed now)



Where the lightning bolt hit.



Grass and dirt blown on to deck.



Steel siding blew past screw in pole barn 100 yards from strike.

On a lighter note: some things happen out of the blue that are positive. I was riding back from a trip to town on the bike and noticed a pigeon sitting in the driveway. "That's odd." I thought as I rode by because we never see pigeons here and it barely got out of the way as I passed by. When I walked back to the house after parking the bike this pigeon was still in the driveway and actually let me walk up close to it. "Must be hurt." I thought. Jennie and I coaxed the bird to the carport where we gave it some food and water and we figured, with some rest overnight, it will head home. Meanwhile, Jennie started looking up pigeons and determined it was a homing pigeon and, most likely, a female. By then we had named her Homer so the masculine name stuck with the feminine bird. She was quite friendly and it

was obvious this bird belonged to someone. The first 2 nights she flew up on the deck railing close to the back door to roost. She acted like she wanted to come in for the night. We have lots of owls and stray cats come by regularly so as Jennie held a light on her in the dark, I crept up and grabbed her. We put her in a dog crate in the carport for safe keeping overnight. Each morning we'd let her out but she stuck around. We started getting attached to our feathered friend. And while we liked the idea of her staying here we felt that when she regained her strength and rested or healed up, she'd probably head for home, where ever that was. But, until then, we moved her to the barn at night where we could close her inside, she could safely roost, and then be free to leave during the day.

So it was no real surprise that one evening when I was doing the final chicken chores (Jennie was in Bloomington, IL helping the oldest daughter) that Homer flew up on the chicken run and sat for a while watching me. I walked out to the driveway expecting her to fly over to me but instead she flew high above the barns, circled once and flew northwest. As she quickly disappeared from sight I felt that was Homer's way of saying good-bye. One high circle over me and the farm that had been her resting place for a few days and she was gone.

A sadness fell over me because I had gotten attached to the personable little pigeon. But if it was time for her to go home, well, I guess it was good-bye.

I looked around for Homer the next morning but she was no where to be found. I had texted Jennie the night before and told her how Homer had circled me and then left so I followed up with a text that Homer was still gone. All day I kept an eye out for her but finally decided that she was REALLY gone.

That evening, to my surprise, I found Homer in the barn! AND she had a note taped to her leg. She wasn't too interested in me grabbing her but she finally let me take the annoying paper and tape thing off her leg.

The note read: "Hi! If I make it home please call my friend Mike at (phone number) and tell him I'm ok. I stayed at his house overnight. Thanks."

Jennie called Mike and it turns out he lives just over a mile SW of us and he had put Homer in a crate in his mud room overnight and let her go the next day. She flew back here and has been here ever since. I think she intends to stay even though she's free to leave every day. But even when she flies off she's usually only gone for an hour or less and returns to the barn.

Was Homer blown off course from the storm that happened just a day before she showed up here and she can't find her way home or was she someone's indoor pet and they "turned her loose in the country" like people do dogs and cats they no longer want? Every time we see Homer fly off we wonder if this is the final goodbye. So far, she has returned each time.

Is Homer just a lost bird or is there a deeper message that we haven't figured out yet? Is she a reincarnation of Barney, the gray cat that Jennie loved so much, that died of "bobcat fever" from a tick bite? Is there some other meaning? We may never know, but for now, Homer is home with us.



Homer back with a blue paper band.



Jennie and Homer

Steve Knode

District Educator Report

Rick Artmayer District Educator



Happy August greetings to the members of the Kentucky District. Many of us are back from Wing Ding 42. I had a good time and I hope those of you that attended did too. Even though this was my 10th Wing Ding, I have often wondered about the people who say they are excited to see their old friends and make new ones every year. Now I know. Being a volunteer puts you in direct connection to other like-minded volunteer members. For example, I helped stage the parade, and met several of the Maryland District members who were also there. I also went to the Rider Educator's Forum and had the chance to greet in person many of the Educators I had only met on Zoom.

This month I want to relate some of the information I have learned from both Wing Ding and the July District Educators Zoom call. One of the people I was able to meet in person is Lorrie Thomas, Director of GWRRA University. In discussion, she explained that if we have a need for trainers, she has some that will travel. She also gave me a challenge; to put together an opportunity in our District to host the GWRRA 101 course. I am hoping that everyone will want to experience this opportunity to learn the facts and dispel the rumors of how and why we do what we do in GWRRA. I hope every Chapter Director will discuss this in their upcoming Gathering and send me a list of interested members by the middle of September. It would be helpful if there would be a recommendation of a venue as well. I would like to get this organized to be on the books by the middle of November, before the holiday crush.

The effects of the Pandemic are still causing some consternation with Members' status in the Levels program. While there are increasing numbers of opportunities to obtain the training one needs to stay current, many of these courses are out of our District. We are not the only District in this predicament. Because so many instructors have not had the opportunity to train (an instructor must be current in his achieved level to teach a Rider Ed course), they have become expired. For the Members, because of the difficulty of having to travel to find courses, the grace period has been extended one last time through June of 2022. So, if your Level status has expired after January 1, 2020, completing the necessary Rider Ed course will bring your status back to current, with no lapse of time. If you need an on-bike course and this is your normal year to need the full course (both classroom and range) this year you can take a range only class again to bring your status current.

I have also learned of the importance of having your medical and emergency contact information where someone on a group ride can find it. While some of us keep this information in a small tube in our left fairing pocket, others may not be comfortable with this personal information being available to anyone. For this reason, it is critical for a responsible member of the group to have a ride participation roster with emergency contact information on it. Any GWRRA group ride needs this roster to be made. Just

because you wish it, does not mean that something is not going to happen on your ride. If something were to happen to you, how long do you want your loved ones to wait to find out? Why make the EMT have to guess what to do for your condition? It is also a good idea for someone on every official GWRRA group ride to have a GWRRA Accident/Incident Report form. Completing this form as soon as possible while all the details are fresh will help to protect everyone involved.

Hopefully, everyone knows they can check the Rider Ed data base to confirm their status in the Levels Program. If you do not, please contact me and I will send you the instructions, and/or call you and talk you through it. I will also be working to check the database each quarter and send a report to each Chapter listing the members who are expiring and need to retake one or more classes.

Richard Artmayer
KY District Educator

GWRRRA Levels Program

Dan Bondurant	Level 4 (Life Grand Master)
Steve Knode	Level 4 (Grand Master)
Jennie Knode	Level 4
Rose Sharer	Level 2
Charles Lenear	Level 1
Lisa Lenear	Level 1
Richard Thomasson	Level 1

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12

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2021