



# Chapter Chatter

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Wisconsin Chapter A

March 2011

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

By Kevin Puckett, Chapter Director

## Wisconsin District Rally – June 24 & 25

Eau Claire Expo Center  
5530 Fairview  
Eau Claire, WI

District Rally this year will be at the Eau Claire Expo in Eau Claire on June 24 & 25th. There will be camping on the grounds and Americas Best Value Inn is close by. The number for the hotel is: 715.834.6611. This is a new announcement, so "official" camping information from Campmaster Schwabe will be forthcoming.



**Dust Off 2011 - May 20, 21 & 22**  
**Westward Ho** N5456 Division Rd  
Glenbeulah, WI 53023

**Camping** – See Al Schwabe to get in on the already reserved spots (there's plenty of room for everyone), or call the number listed below:

920.526.3101 (Be sure to mention GWRRA-WI)

Motorcycle campers pulled by a motorcycle \$14.00 per night. Large rigs, motor homes, fifth wheels and pop-ups behind a car are \$19.99 per night.

We can put as many on a site as will fit...the more the merrier!

Day passes \$5.00

**Lodging** – For those that do not have their own covered wagon, Chapter C has found a place for you to hunker down for the night. It is the Super 8 in Fond du Lac. The room cost is only \$67.60 per night (plus tax), and rooms are being held until March 31<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to reserve it under GWRRA. Call now to book your room. The address is, 391 Pioneer Rd. Fond du Lac, WI.

The phone number is 920.922.1088

Coordinates are: **N43 47.271 W88 28.938**

## Garmin Zumo! Tickets?

Please turn in ticket money and tickets to Kevin. We have just 4 weeks to sell the remaining tickets before our Tire Kicking event. If you would like another pack of tickets, take one with today. Tickets are only \$5 or 6/\$20!



**Saturday, April 16, 2011 - Tire Kicking**  
Fundraiser - Mark Your Calendar!

## Prizes!

Remember, our Tire Kicking event is **only 27 days away!** Don't forget that we need some help to gather as many door prizes for the table as possible.

### Tradewind International

1601 W Knilians Rd.  
Janesville, WI

N42° 37.728 W089° 02.263

Is everyone excited about our amazing lunch this year?!?! Who isn't going to love to create their own personal pizza, watch it bake in the brick oven, all the while partaking in some of Yvonne's amazing pasta and sauces, too!



As part of your admission you will receive a coupon for one pizza, but if you're still hungry or want to enjoy a couple more over the rest of the weekend, **PLEASE** order a couple to go...**you can't beat the price of a mere \$5 each...**

## Rider Education

By Denny & Yvonne Paffel

### How Are You Starting This Riding Season?

Winter is finally gone, so let the riding season begin! Maybe you have recently taken a CPR/First Aid class or a seminar or two during this past off-season. This means you are better prepared to help in case one of your riding buddies has an accident or a health issue, or you are prepared to be a better co-rider. You are available to spend more time riding now that the season is here! Hopefully you have also taken time to make sure your motorcycle is ready to go, too. You may have done a T-CLOCS, or changed the oil, replaced worn tires, kept your battery charged, or discovered that you needed a new one and replaced it.

There are other things that you can do to be at your best out on the road, too. Many of us will be out on the road before MSF or GWRRA Rider Courses are offered. So what else can you do to get in the right frame of mind and tune up your skills right away? There are a few things you can do as an individual or in a group (such as with your fellow chapter members) to be prepared to ride safely and with skill before the season is even two weeks old.

First, you can practice your skills in an empty, quiet parking lot with smooth pavement that is free of loose gravel or sand. Find an empty church or a school parking lot, or some unused out-of-the-way space at a shopping center safely away from moving vehicles. Choose a time when it is unlikely to be busy, (e.g., a school lot on Sunday) as your safety is of the utmost importance. Work on braking, turning, curves, stopping while in a curve (remember to straighten the handlebars *before* braking!), and turning when pulling away from a stop. When you practice alone, always remain vigilant to vehicles encroaching on your space.

Second, how about participating in a Parking Lot Practice? Also referred to as a PLP, this is an activity that many Chapters hold at the chapter level. The exercises in a PLP are all spelled out in the Cornering Practice Guide along with tips to execute the skills correctly. If anyone is interested in holding a PLP, let Denny or Kevin know.

Third, you can attend a Team Riding Seminar. This Rider Ed seminar has been presented in the past at our social, but if anyone would like, we can put that on the agenda for an upcoming meeting. This seminar is particularly good to hold at your chapter because the folks who are normally part of your riding team can all hear the same Team Riding tips. Why would you sit through a Team Riding Seminar? One reason is because most of us ride to various places around the state with our riding friends. And if you know what to expect from the others in your group – your **team** – you will be more likely to trust them. You will trust them

because you'll know they are all going to ride safely and predictably in a staggered formation. That is what the Team Riding Seminar provides you.

Getting back to the bike for a minute, if you have new tires on your bike for the new season, know that the tire manufacturers recommend that you take it easy on those tires for the first 50 – 100 miles. That means go easy in the curves and easy on acceleration to prevent slide-outs. The reason is because the surface of the tire will be slickest (slippery) when new. There are a couple of common explanations why, but the result is the same – reduced traction. The rubber will get scuffed and roughed up enough over that distance during normal riding and the tire's grip will improve. Be particularly careful with new tires on painted stripes and metal plates, and all surfaces that are slick even when your tires aren't.

Remember that practice in a parking lot, by yourself or with others, is good for all of us after the long off-season. It is even more beneficial and important if you recently bought a new or used motorcycle. Get to know that new-to-you bike and how it handles in a safe environment. After brushing up your skills, you'll be ready to go out and enjoy a safe riding season!

*Ride Smart & Be Safe!*

Bruce & Melissa Thayer

Former MI Asst. District Rider Educators

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### March Birthdays

3	Jan Williams
10	Curtis Pierce
15	Dee Alderman
19	Kris Martin



### Upcoming Events

Sat April 2	Dinner Ride – Road Dawgs (Beloit)
Sat April 9	Moonshine Lunch Run
Sat April 16	Tire Kicking 8am-3pm 10am – Crash Scent Mgt. Seminar 11am – Co-Rider Seminar
Sat/Sun May 7 & 8	– TRC Courses – Kaukauna
Tue May 3	Ice Cream Rides Begin 6pm Jake's