



Chapter Chatter

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Wisconsin Chapter A

January 2011

By Kevin Puckett

Welcome to January! I hope you enjoyed our **Motorcycling for the Mature Rider Seminar** today!

GWRRA makes available to us some great, 50 minute seminars. The GWRRA Rider Education Program (REP) is intended to make the motorcycle riding environment safer by reducing injuries and fatalities and increasing motorcyclist skills and awareness. The REP does not propose to have all the answers.

Below are the seminars available through GWRRA:

- Co-Rider
- Team Riding
- Road Captain
- Trailing
- Motorcycle Riding for the Mature Rider
- Motorcycle Crash Scene Response
- MSF Seasoned Rider

Crash Scene Management Seminar! February 20, 2010 – 4PM



Join us at 4PM before our next Social for this great seminar. We discuss:

- What to do at a crash scene
- Securing the scene
- Traffic management
- Group safety
- Communications
- First Aid Kits

Don't miss it! Course completion cards will be distributed for all attending.

Couple Of the Year – Greg & Gena Watson

Greg & Gena were selected as our Couple of the Year (COY). As you know, these two rarely miss out on one of our events and always show their bright, smiling faces. Greg is always there to swap a lie or two over coffee and Gena keeps him in line. Members of GWRRA for many years, this is a well deserved honor!

Congratulations to Gena & Greg!

Bob Schwabe & Suzi Hagstrom New Assistant Chapter Educators

Denny and Yvonne have announced that Bob & Suzi have offered to assist in our Rider Education department. Bob & Suzi love to camp and have attended many of our fun activities, camp-outs and rides. Having jumped right in to the GWRRA Levels program, they both understand the importance of continued education in a low-key, no pressure manner.

Chapter-A is very lucky to have such dedicated members in our Chapter Education area to help keep us informed and riding safely.

Bus Trip Motorcycle Show! - Sat. February 12, 2011

Join us for a fun-filled day as we take a CoachUSA bus to the International Motorcycle Show in Rosemont, IL. The Coach will leave the Janesville area at 7:30 a.m. and make a couple of stops along the way South.

- 7:30 AM - Janesville K-mart Parking lot. (Rt 14 & 26)
- 8:00 AM - Van Galder bus stop at the Road Ranger at South Beloit (The station on the EAST side of I-90)
- 8:30 AM - Holiday Inn N.E Corner – Rockford (I-90 & Bus. Rt 20)

Then it will be OFF TO THE SHOW! After we enjoy a few hours at the show, we will again board the Coach at 2:00 PM and Ron will retrace the route to bring us home! We should be back in the Rockford area around 3:30 PM and Beloit (4PM) and Janesville (4:30P). All of this for only \$30 per person! This includes the bus trip AND your ticket to the IMS Show! Talk to Ron Morgan today before you leave.

Saturday, April 16, 2010 - Tire Kicking 8am-3pm

Fundraiser - Mark Your Calendar!

Thank you again to Peter Bales for welcoming us back this year for the 114th annual Tire Kicking event! (Well maybe not exactly 114th but....we've had a bunch!)

It's not too early to start thinking about it.....Door Prizes, Fun and Food! Speaking of food, Yvonne and I talked briefly and kicked around some ideas.....you know how those sessions go! Well.....Let me start by asking:

Does anyone have access to a commercial pizza oven for free? And YES, it has to work! ☺



Remember, the **Garmin Zumo 665** tickets are now for sale. It will REALLY help if you volunteer to take some to sell for us! **The price is \$5 each or 6/\$20!** The going price for the Zumo 665 is over \$800!

Talk to Kevin today to get some tickets to sell.



Where:

Tradewind International
[N42° 37.728 W089° 02.263](#)
 1601 W Knilans Rd.
 Janesville, WI

Rider Education

By Denny & Yvonne Paffel

Friday while I was riding home from work, a situation happened I felt was worth talking about. I was leaving work, so it was around 1700ish, the weather was beautiful, and traffic was very moderate going my direction. I was traveling down a two lane road and keeping a safe distance behind the truck in front of me. In fact, everyone was maintaining good following distances, even the truck behind me. We were all traveling about 40mph and all was well. The car 4 vehicles in front of me needed to turn left. Due to oncoming traffic, he had to come to a complete stop.

Since everyone was following at safe distances, everyone had plenty of time to come to a graceful stop. Everyone that is, except for the truck behind me. He locked his brakes (We were only doing around 40, so he did not go into a full on skid. Instead his tires made a long, chirp sound) and had to work hard to stop. At that point, I had three options:

Escape to the left. That would have put me in oncoming traffic. Out of a bad situation and into a worse situation.

Stay where I was and possibly get sandwiched.

Or, since there was no ditch or curb, escape to the right and through the grass.

The last option would have been the better one, but here's what happened in real life:

Everything happened so fast, there wasn't really time to access the situation. I heard his tires "squawk," looked in my mirror, and saw him angling towards the grass. He drove off the road and came to a stop beside me. He then gave me one of those stupid, "I'm sorry" waves. Not the way I wanted to start my weekend, that's for sure.

When traffic started moving again, I drove off thinking about how much of an idiot that guy was. I was thinking about how his lack of paying attention could have damaged my bike and possibly damaged me in the process. After some critical thinking, I realized pointing my finger at him may be partially right, but I also needed to point several fingers at me for getting into that situation to begin with. Since we all had plenty of time to come to graceful stops, I had plenty of time to check my mirrors to ensure the vehicle behind me was also coming to a graceful stop. Had I only taken that quick second to check my 6, I would have seen him coming up a little too fast. While I was still rolling and both feet still on my pegs, I could have easily driven into the grass and powered out of the situation. I sometimes have a bad habit of paying too much attention to what is going on in front of me and forgetting that what is going on behind me is also just as important, especially when coming to a stop. (Frommsgroup.org)

January Birthdays

- 6 Connie Reader
- 18 Lynne Bass
- 20 Carol Schwabe
- 26 Adam Puckett
- 28 Valinda Pierce

January Anniversaries

- 5 Bob & Nan Rosenbaum
- 5 Bill & Mary Babb