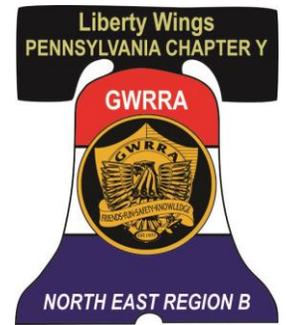




**GWRRA Northeast Region B  
PA District  
Chapter Y  
Harleysville, PA**  
[www.gwrrapa-y.com](http://www.gwrrapa-y.com)



**2016 PA District Chapter of the Year**

**Volume 3**

**August 2017**

**Issue 8**

**CHAPTER Y GATHERING  
BLUE COMET  
MOTORCYCLE FACILITY  
4042 Mensch Road  
Skippack, PA  
Our Next Gathering  
August 26, 2017 8:30 A.M.**

**CHAPTER Y STAFF**

**Table of Contents**

Chapter Y Staff	1
Upcoming Events	2
Thoughts from the CD	3
From the ACD	4
Rider Education	5-6
Motorist Awareness	7-8
Contribution – Katie Green	9
From the Web Side	10-11
GWRRA Insight Articles	12-13
PA District News	14
Vest Adornment	15-16
Chapter Store Goodies	17-18
Amazing Challenge	19

**Chapter Directors  
Peggy & Ron Kratz  
Chapter of Year Coord.  
[director@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:director@gwrrapa-y.com)  
610-287-8393**

**Rider Education Director  
Motorist Awareness Coord.  
Doug Little  
[rider-ed@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:rider-ed@gwrrapa-y.com)**

**Assistant Chapter Directors  
Bob & Elaine Williams  
[assistantcd@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:assistantcd@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-887-1686**

**Couple of the Year  
Coordinators  
Doug & Lee Little  
[coy@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:coy@gwrrapa-y.com)**

**Treasurer  
Jeff Kratz  
[treasurer@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:treasurer@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-256-1626**

**Roll For Dough  
Coordinators  
Bob & Elaine Williams  
[rfd@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:rfd@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-887-1686**

**Member Enhancement  
Coordinator  
Pam Kratz  
[mec@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:mec@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-256-1626**

**Newsletter Editor  
Joan Cope  
[newsletter@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:newsletter@gwrrapa-y.com)**

**Secretary  
Goodies Store  
Barbara Silverman  
[secretary@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:secretary@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-256-0432**

**Web Master  
Dan Reisinger  
[webinfo@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:webinfo@gwrrapa-y.com)**

**Sunshine  
Jane Youells  
[sunshine@gwrrapa-y.com](mailto:sunshine@gwrrapa-y.com)  
215-498-3781**

**NATIONAL GWRRA DIRECTORS  
Ray & Sandy Garris  
[director@gwrra.org](mailto:director@gwrra.org)  
800-843-9460  
[www.gwrra.org](http://www.gwrra.org)**

**NE REGION B DIRECTORS  
Tom & Renee Wasluck  
[regionbdirectors.tom.renee@gmail.com](mailto:regionbdirectors.tom.renee@gmail.com)  
570-474-1014  
[www.gwrra-northeastregion.org](http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org)**

**PA DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
Rick & Andi Riek  
[groundshark@atlanticbb.net](mailto:groundshark@atlanticbb.net)  
814-659-4247  
[www.codyparker.com](http://www.codyparker.com)**

***Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge***

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Chapter Y Events**

- AUG 5 –13 ... Nova Scotia Trip ... Road Captain Rich McFarland
- AUG 5 ... Ride to St. Anne’s Polish Festival ... Road Captain Bob Becker
- AUG 12 ... Ride to Riverwalck – Need Road Captain
- AUG 13 ... Team Meeting TBA
- AUG 19 ... Ride to Garden of Reflections ... need Road Captain
- AUG 26 ... Y GATHERING... 8:30 AM ... ride after
- SEPT 8-9 ... Montgomeryville Cycle Center Sale Days
- SEPT 10 ... Staff Meeting
- SEPT 11 ... Informal Dinner TBA
- SEPT 16 ... Ride to Kundles BBQ/Rusty Palmer Honda ... Road Captain Bob Cox
- SEPT 17 ... Ride to Lyons Fiddle Festival ... Road Captain Bob Becker
- SEPT 23 ... 8:30 am Y GATHERING... ride to Roadies...
- SEPT 30 ... Ride to Route 97 ... Road Captain Kermit Gable

**Around the District**

- AUG 5 ... Amazing Individual Challenge, Gettysburg Harley Davison
- AUG 19 ... PA-D 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Rib Cookout
- AUG 19 ... PA-R Poker Run, Souther Tier Honda, Montour Falls, NY
- AUG 31-SEPT 1-3 ... PA-Q Annual Labor Day Weekend Campout, Pittsfield, PA

*\*\*\*\*2018 -- MAY 17-19—PA DISTRICT RALLY, Park Inn Radisson, Uniontown, PA\*\*\*\**  
*\*\*\*\* 2018 – JULY 27-29--PA ALL CHAPTERS EAST, Old Mill Stream Campground, Lancaster, PA*

**Around the Region**

- AUGUST 19 & 20 ... MD-F – TRC Trike Rider Course, Hagerstown, MD Free
- SEPT 16 ... MD-I 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fun Day 11am-5pm ... \$17 pp, Reg. by 9/6  
Tilghman Lake Park, LaPlata, MD
- SEPT 21-23 ..... 2017 NY/NJ Bi-State Rally, Cortland, NY ... \$55 ... Pre-Register by 9/1  
Hope Lake Lodge, Cortland, NY \$109pp.

**National**

- AUG. 29- SEPT. 2 ..... WING DING 39 – Gaylord Texan Resort, Grapevine, TX

**Other**

- SEPT 24 ... Ride for Kids, Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, New Hope, PA
- SEPT 30 ... Stop the Cycle (Ride against Domestic Violence) Hannum’s Chadds Ford
- OCT 8 ... 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ride for Camps (Boy Scouts) ...Lebanon, PA \$25

**Chapter Director's Wow Things!**

WOW! YEEHAA! YIPEE! July was a constant HIGH for me... RIDING, RIDING, RIDING! Hope it was the same for all of you.

You all know by now of my dual membership... GWRRA and national Motor Maids, Inc. MM is a women's motorcycle group that is 77-years-old... the group not the women in it. Imagine what it was like for a woman to ride a motorcycle in those early years. I attended their convention in East Peoria, IL. in July. 500 women from all over USA and Canada RODE in. A new Y member, Pat Despirito, was my travelling companion, fearless leader, GPS navigator, and an expert confidence builder for me. We travelled over 2,000 miles in a week. The last travel day home, we decided to try to meet up with PA-Y's Wellsboro trip folks and ride home with them... would only add a couple hundred more miles to our trip. After two days of calling the Canyon Motel for a room and hearing "all sold out!", we tried one last time around 2 pm Saturday... decision time! If we got a room, we'd head 100 miles north or head home. Wahh!!! They had a cancellation and the room was ours. We arrived there around 7p.m.---just in time to meet them at Peggy's Candy and Ice Cream Shop! after a 410 mile day! Yumm! We topped Jeff's ideal 300 mile day ride goal, still pumped up and chattering about the thrill of the trip! Illinois is FLAT in every direction, saw 100's of wind turbines, rode the original Route 66, and had a blast with 500 other like-minded, lady-like motorcycle-riding women. Quite empowering. Pam's our next recruit.

Thanks' to Pat's prodding and instruction, I learned how to use the new trike's GPS... its great hearing it tell me when and where to turn—finding us food, lodging and fuel.

One thing learned... use "lock-tight", super glue, duct tape, whatever, to secure your add-on water holder and thermos to your bike! Even after checking it in the morning, the bumpy road ridges loosened it and it took flight... while doing 65 miles an hour! Luckily, when it hit the road in the passing lane, it bounced 6 foot high and away from us... there was no other vehicle in that lane to hit. The lid flew off and a spray of water hit Pat behind me. This could have created a terrible accident. Moral: be sure add-ons are secured and check them regularly.

Special thanks to Bob Cox and Katie Green for planning and leading the Rt. 6 Wellsboro trip. Katie was right on target with co-rider hand signals. Thanks to Jeff for tailing. Enjoyed riding and visiting with Bob Grimes and his wife (met us there by car) as well. I promised her a ride on my trike. Another great ride with friends.

**From the Desk of Chapter Y's ACD...**

***by Bob and Elaine Williams***

**Wellsboro Ride Recap .....**

Wellsboro ride... Boy, what a weekend... Starting out at 6AM to meet the group in Breinigsville at the WA-WA. Kick stands up at 9 a.m. Off we went to Tunkhannock on great back roads. Stopped for lunch then off again to Wellsboro along route 6. We stayed at the Canyon Motel a very friendly motorcycle motel. There was another M/C group there also. Then a good meal at the Steak House.

Of course we did a little walk for ice cream and found the shop closed because of a fire there. So off we went to find another one . Would you believe the shop was called Peggy's Ice Cream. Then out of the blue who should appear but our fearless CD Peggy on her way home from a Motor Maid Gathering with Pat. They stayed and rode home with us on Sunday.

Up early Sunday and had breakfast at the Wellsboro Diner. Then left for home again on back roads.

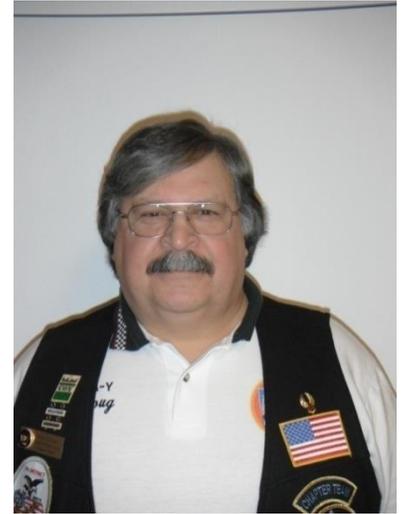
Many thanks to Bob Cox for putting this together and leading the ride with Jeff Kratz acting as tail gunner.

**From the Rider-Ed Coordinator...**

*Doug Little, Chapter Educator*

**Trouble Shooting Your Ride. . .**

Every so often you hear crash stories from other motorcyclists. Many times the rider thinks he or she knows what went wrong. Often times they are not quite correct in their analysis. This can be due to an unwillingness to admit failure, the inability to recognize a lack of mental skills, or because they don't quite understand how motorcycles work and how the rider's actions affect control.



Let's begin by discussing some of the mental blocks that can prevent someone from accurately troubleshooting a riding problem, and then identify some common problems that lead to crashes and the list of solutions that could have prevented the crash.

**Blame. . .**

When an incident occurs it is easy to look elsewhere for the cause. You will often hear the statements "There was nothing I could do" and "The road tightened unexpectedly". Sometimes these statements are valid, but before you accept them as the truth it is smart to ask what you could have done to prevent the incident from occurring.

Was it safe to proceed, was your speed correct for the road conditions and traffic conditions. If involved with another vehicle did the other driver see you? Were you as conspicuous as possible, were you in his or her blind spot? What was the time of day? Was there sun glare involved? It is your responsibility to be as conspicuous as possible for your own safety.

By taking responsibility for your safety and adopting a self-preserving attitude, you are able to perform better hazard management. If a crash does happen, you will be in a better position to learn from the mishap and prevent a similar situation from happening again.

**Predicting Trouble. . .**

Riders who have been involved in a crash have a common reaction of it was "impossible to respond in time". This may be true in some cases but if it could have been predicted it possibly would not have turned into a problem.

Being able to predict a hazardous event takes sharp mental skills and keen environmental awareness. This includes anything that should warn you of imminent danger, vehicle movement that is not consistent with traffic flow, flashes of sunlight off windshields from vehicles approaching from the side, convergence factors, loud noises, vehicle lane changes placing you in a blind spot.

Surface hazards are another problem that must be dealt with continually. They may be detectable or undetectable, but most often could have been spotted in time to avoid a problem. Letting down your guard and being overly optimistic whether debris or dangerous roadway features are present is a major cause of surface related crashes. Sand, dirt, gravel, grass clippings and other slippery surfaces can occur at any time and it is up to you to remain aware of the possibilities and have the skills to respond.

Some surface hazards are easy to spot. You should scan aggressively and look for the clues such as diesel fluid on the roadway, washouts after a heavy rain storm, etc.. A change in surface coloration may indicate a change in traction quality of your tires and therefore lead to an unfavorable ride.

### **Problems and Solutions. . .**

A sharp set of mind skills combined with an attitude that accepts responsibility goes along way to preventing unfavorable incidents from occurring. Even the best riders encounter problems. The difference from a rider who is destined to repeat a mistake and one who learns from it, is a willingness to evaluate the cause and the knowledge to identify the solution. By understanding the fundamentals of motorcycle control, you can figure out what happened and how to prevent a situation from happening in the future.

As always, feel free to offer any ideas/topics you may want to be mentioned or discussed to either Peggy Kratz or myself at any time. All suggestions are welcomed.

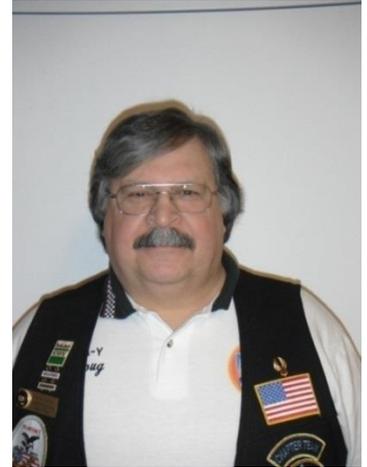
Till next month,  
Be safe ride safe.

Doug Little  
Chapter Y  
Director Rider Education



**MOTORIST AWARENESS...Doug Little, Motorist Awareness Coordinator**

Over the years there have been many articles written on why there are so many motorcycle crashes each year. Each incident can have its own explanation but one of the many publications always in the forefront is the Hurt Report. The following will give you some insight to that information.



**The following article is being reprinted from the Maryland's August District Newsletter by Rider Ed Coordinators.**

In 1981 the Hurt Report was published to explain motorcycle crashes. It was found that riders were lacking skills needed to safely operate a motorcycle. Now Virginia Tech has just completed a study that tracked 100 riders, ages 21 to 79 for 366,667 miles. Why it agrees with the Hurt Report it also found that crashes were a little more complex. Using the latest technology; here are some excerpts from Revzilla article on the report.

**WHAT VIRGINIA TECH LEARNED ABOUT HOW AND WHY WE CRASH OUR MOTORCYCLES:**

Several things, some of which we knew, some surprising. Intersections are dangerous.

- ✓ We either need to pay better attention or work on our braking techniques, because we crash into the back of other vehicles way too often.
- ✓ We're not good enough at cornering, especially right turns; and we drop our bikes a lot (probably more often than any of us imagined or were willing to admit).

**How Virginia Tech studied motorcycle crashes:**

The VTTI researchers recruited 100 riders from age 21 to 79 in California, Arizona, Florida and Virginia. They outfitted their motorcycles with video cameras showing the rider's face and forward, rear, left and right views. GPS and data loggers captured other information, such as brake pressure, acceleration, etc.

**1. Where we crash: Intersections.**

No surprise there. VTTI created a system to calculate how much a certain scenario or riding behavior increased the odds of a crash or near-crash.

- ✓ **An uncontrolled intersection** presents nearly 41 times the risk of no intersection.
- ✓ **A parking lot or driveway intersection** is more than eight times as risky and an intersection with a signal is almost three times as risky.
- ✓ **A downhill grade** increased the risk by a factor of four while an uphill grade doubled it. Riders were nine times as likely to crash or have a near-crash incident **on gravel or dirt roads** than on paved roads.
- ✓ And riders were twice as likely to have an incident in a **righthand turn** than on a straight section of road (crossing the center line is considered a near-crash scenario, even if nothing else bad happens).

**2. How we crash:**

We complain all the time about other people on the road trying to kill us, especially cars pulling into our paths. The VTTI study partially backs that up. Of the 99 crashes and near-crashes involving another vehicle, the three categories of other vehicles crossing the rider's path add up to 19.

Here's the surprise, however. What's the most common scenario? Riders hitting (or nearly hitting) another vehicle from behind. There were 35 of those incidents. Are we really almost twice as likely to plow into a stopped car in front of us as to have someone pull into our path? or should we write this off as the result of a small sample size? Maybe there are clues in the risk section. Researchers tried to break down rider behavior in crashes and near-crash incidents into two categories: aggressive riding or rider inattention or lack of skills. The cameras and other data helped determine, for example, if the rider ran the red light because of inattention or aggressive riding.

The study found that aggressive riding increased risk by a factor of 18 while inattention or lack of skill increased it by a factor of nine. Combine the two, and odds of an incident increased by 30.

Now here's one of the less dramatic findings, but an interesting one, just the same. It seems we drop our bikes a lot. Or at least the riders in the study did. More than half the crashes were incidents some riders wouldn't define as a crash — not a dramatic collision but an incident defined as a case where the "vehicle falls coincident with low or no speed (even if in gear)" not caused by another outside factor. Rider inattention or poor execution are to blame.

The study finds "These low-speed 'crashes' appear to be relatively typical among everyday riding," but they are incidents that would never be included in a different kind of study of motorcycle crashes. The cameras, however, capture it all, even our mundane but embarrassing moments.

### 3. What we can learn:

Of course, the practical goal for the MSF in funding this study is to find ways to improve its curriculum for teaching new riders and the study ends with some suggestions. For all of us, however, anything that gets us thinking about where we can be better (and therefore safer) riders is worth a little of our time and thought.

Here's one thing I know I personally need to work on constantly; and I suspect many of you do as well. We need to look further ahead. It applies on the street, on the track, everywhere. One of the other risk factors the VTTI researchers found that I haven't mentioned yet is that maneuvering to avoid an object, whether a pedestrian, an animal or something lying in the road, increases the risk factor by 12. Combine that with the high number of riders hitting another vehicle from behind and I get the feeling we're just not paying close enough attention. We're not keeping our eyes up and looking far down the road to see the developing situation that is going to cause the driver in front of us to slam on his brakes, or to spot the hunk of exploded truck tire lying in our lane. Those things are taking us by surprise and we're not giving ourselves enough time to react.

I found this article very informative. Using the modern technology available gives us a much better picture of what really happens on the road. Using this information can help organizations like the Motorcycle Safety Foundation create a better training.

We wish to thank all the agencies involved in motorcycle safety and the Maryland District Newsletter for this publication.

Doug Little  
Chapter Y  
Motorist Awareness Coordinator



## All Chapters East . . .Roxbury Holiness Campground, July 28 – 30, 2017

By Katie Green

Bob and I returned home about 1 pm on Sunday, July 30th, after having an uneventful ride home from the gathering hosted by GWRRA Chapter “C” at the Roxbury Holiness Campground near Orrstown, PA.

We left here at 9 am on Friday morning, and enjoyed a three hour ride to our destination under cloudy skies. After registering, we were guided to our on-site hotel, as the grounds were huge and I’m sure we never would have found it on our own! The accommodations were certainly ample and very nice, if a little spartan with no TV, phone, fridge, microwave, or hair dryer. I enjoyed reading while Bob napped when the skies opened up and poured all afternoon. (The afternoon ride scheduled for 2pm had to be cancelled.) At 5 p.m. we returned to the pavilion to enjoy a pizza party and ice cream social with all the accompanying raffles, fun, and camaraderie! The continuing drizzle put a damper on the bonfire festivities, so we chose and signed up for our guided ride the next morning, and left to get a good night’s sleep.

While it was a little wet on Saturday morning as we went down for breakfast – great pancakes, sausage, eggs, and all the fixins! – the rain was over and all the rides (both guided and unguided) left as scheduled. Our ride was through some beautifully scenic mountainous terrain to the Trough Creek State Park at the head of Raystown Lake. There was a balancing rock high up on a mountainside, a suspension bridge over the river, and rainbow falls to enjoy at the destination, and our leaders had a couple of cooks working the grill there to give us grilled burgers and dogs, along with salads, chips, and water for our lunch. The ride back was equally spectacular with very squirrely roads! (Have I ever mentioned that I don’t like roller coasters?) After a little freshening up, we headed back down to our catered dinner which was excellent! Then we enjoyed a night of raffles, 50/50s, Chinese Auction, and general fun and mayhem with a lot of new friends (especially Chapter B, and Gerald , the only attendee from Chapter E) and old ones, specifically the Region B District crew. Later, we returned to our pavilion for the ice cream social (have I mentioned that I love ice cream?) and some pretty wild stories around the bonfire!

Sunday morning, they fed us well again, before having a short meeting for the roll-for-the-dough pictures. Bob and I got our “chapter C bars” for our vests, and said our fond farewells. It was a great time and we really enjoyed ourselves! Our kudos to Chapter C!! There were 13 out of 20 region B chapters represented, for a total of 98 people in attendance, and as we pulled up to the house Bob remarked that we put a little over 400 miles on that weekend! Now we are anticipating the Nova Scotia trip next weekend!! I’m ssooo excited for that!!

**From the Web Side... Dan Reisinger, Webmaster**



Hello Chapter Y!

To say I am stoked about heading down to Texas for Wing Ding 39 would be a definite understatement! I remember when I was making trips to Knoxville to attend the Honda Hoot – and it always was a HOOT! – the anticipation of the early morning launch out of the garage and off to the interstate for air in my face and asphalt passing under my feet has once again enveloped me. I am so ready to hit the road and get some miles behind me.

And isn't that really what it is all about? Having fun and riding! Riding with a group of enthusiast who share the same passion for the same ride. Some don't have the flagship Gold Wing as their ride but they appreciate and admire the association of those of us who do and we certainly appreciate and enjoy the fact that they ride (and they choose to ride with US!). Group riding with a group of motorcyclist who know how important it is to have sufficient space between each other, obeying all the traffic laws, and watching each other's back.

It is always good to see everyone at our Chapter Gatherings, but you know what, it is even better when we see you out for one of our Chapter rides. Not only are we enjoying your company as we do at the chapter gatherings but we are enjoying riding with you! Enjoying the thrill of twisting roads, riding among shaded roads, along babbling brooks, creeks, and rivers, under blue skies (and sometimes cloudy ones or raining ones!), into the sunrise or sunset, and we are enjoying it with YOU!

We have been on some awesome rides over the years and some of those destinations never get old. The beginning ride to Kauffman's Bar-B-Que (known as the Chicken Ranch to Chapter Y) has become a staple that a lot of the chapter look forward to, Jigger's Shop – a lunch and ice cream one stop favorite, Lucky's where you can't finish one of those fabulous Italian hoagies, who can resist a trip to Roadies (or River Walck for that matter), and then there is St. Anne's Polish Festival (ask Peggy about the line for Bleenies next time you see her on a ride), and keeping Rich McFarland out of New England (or next door Canada) is just not going to happen. Talking about Rich McFarland – don't even get him near a Civil War (although we in the south prefer War Between The States LOL) site – you are going to learn more than any Park Ranger could tell you. You want a scary experience – Bob Becker knows way too much about the Molly Mcguires and he has taken us on some really haunting rides in the Pennsylvania coal country. Next time he leads this ride you better hope it isn't around Halloween!

All these experiences have happened ON A RIDE that just pours over with FUN! Didn't you love that run up on that mountain with all the curves and switchbacks? Wasn't it cool when we came across a really nice shaded stretch that really dropped the temperature and the creek along the side of the road had a breeze coming off it and just sent chills up your back. Oh my gosh, didn't we just ride by that restaurant? Somebody is going to hear about the U turn award hahahaha.

All these experiences have happened on a CHAPTER Y RIDE! Were you there? Do you remember Peggy coming on the CB and giving her trademarked WHEEEEE? Hey how did you not stop for ICE CREAM! And that doesn't have to be our Chapter Director – it can be anyone on a Chapter Y ride! Do you remember when you picked out the ice cream stop? You don't – I'm sorry

you missed that ride but hey we have another next weekend! Why don't you see if you can make it with us and have some fun! Laughing at Ron trying to chase that group of turkeys that decided they had the right of way in front of his motorcycle.

You know as a group we sure share a lot of fun, laughter, camaraderie, and (get this) KNOWLEDGE! Yep, not a ride goes by that we don't compliment a good rider, help a struggling rider, and make sure everyone has fun and learns something special.

I won't be at the Chapter Gathering this month – I will be heading down to Texas picking up riders on my way down. But I will be thinking about Chapter Y as the air is in my face and the asphalt is passing under my feet. May you have the air in your face and the asphalt passing under your feet.

Taken from GWRRA INSIGHT newsletter

Written by Bruce & Barb Beeman, Deputy Directors

**Where Do You Think Our Chapter Directors Come From?**

If you said from our GWRRA Chapter Members, you are right. I'm sure you all are aware they are all volunteers. They, like us, come from all walks of life---factory workers, salesmen, homemakers, clerks, managers, office workers, and the list goes on and on, but we all have one thing in common---we all love to ride motorcycles.

They, like us, joined GWRRA for one of many reasons, which we all did. I would be willing to bet none of them joined because they wanted to be a Chapter Director. No, it would be a safe bet that it was the furthest thing from their mind. But, after being a part of their Chapter, like me, they felt they needed to give back for all they received from their GWRRA Chapter. They stepped up and said yes they would serve. I have said it many times and I will continue to say that the most fun I had as a Director in GWRRA was when I was a Chapter Director. That is not to say I'm not having fun now, because if I weren't having fun I would have stepped down a long time ago. Any time someone takes on a leadership position in any organization, they take on certain responsibilities, some good, some not so good, and some just because. The one thing they all share when they start is deciding the best direction for the Chapter. I don't know one person that has stepped up as the Chapter Director with the intent to destroy the Chapter, but I have seen Chapters fail in part because of the Chapter Director and in part because of the Members not supporting the new Chapter Director.

We all need to remember why we joined GWRRA, and for the most part it was to have fun with other motorcyclists and maybe learn something along the way. Sometimes we need to be a little more understanding and supportive of our volunteer leaders, like that new Chapter Director who is trying so hard to do the right thing for the Chapter, and not be so critical and negative. Remember the old saying, "walk a mile in my shoes." We are all humans and we are all going to make mistakes. None of us are going to do the same task the same way, but we are all hoping for the best results that will help our Chapters prosper. So please remember that your Chapter Director was a Member first, was a friend, and shared the same love each of us has, and that's riding a motorcycle. Each of us as GWRRA Members should be supportive and willing to help that Chapter Director succeed; because when they succeed the Chapter will succeed, and be willing to help them through the growing pains. An old friend of mine says, "If you want to experience an awesome GWRRA Membership, participate, participate, and participate." That might mean stepping up to help with a hand, or your talent, or some time, or maybe some positive feedback or opinion. Where do you think our Chapter Directors come from? I can tell you; it's Members like you.

Bruce & Barb Beeman, Deputy Directors

Taken from the GWRRA "INSIGHT" national news ...

## **Becoming A First Responder ... by Ray and Sandi Garris**

When you receive a flyer announcing a Chapter, District or Region event, or any communication that asks you to RSVP, what do you do? Most of us just push it to the back burner for a while. We might think about it, maybe check our schedules and perhaps talk to our spouse or just do nothing right then.

Did you ever stop and think about what we just did by doing nothing? We just slapped the event planner in the face. This poor soul (who, by the way, is a Volunteer) has the huge job of planning how to entertain us at this event, be it a ride, dinner, rally or even Wing Ding. Their job is to make a myriad of arrangements on our behalf, making sure that our experience is positive and fun-filled.

These events include many opportunities for us to really enjoy ourselves and the people around us. These incredibly talented and dedicated people in our organization have devoted many hours of blood, sweat and tears to arrange the meeting place, route, rest stops, places of interest, meals, entertainment and, of course, an affordable and comfortable place to stay. Their job is really difficult when you consider that most of their planning is done without the answer to the very important question: "How many Members are going to attend?" The answer to this mystical and important question rests solely with you and me.

These hardworking Volunteers have been forced to make many, many decisions involving you and me with only an educated guess, at best, about who will attend. They have even been forced to make reservations for meals, lodging and meeting space with mandatory deposits, many of which are non-refundable. Many a sleepless night has been had by these dedicated planners and volunteer leaders trying to outguess the rest of the group. What can we do to avoid this dilemma?

It's really very easy! We can become a First Responder "when we see that flyer or invitation asking for an RSVP by responding immediately. The dictionary says RSVP is a French phrase that translates to "Please respond." It is a standard practice to reply to an RSVP request confirming attendance or declining. Yes, even if you can't or don't want to attend, let us know, please. Here is a wonderful opportunity for you to have your voice heard by the event planner. Let them know in a positive manner about your concerns regarding the timing (hour, day, month,) location, distances, type of event, cost, activities, type of food or anything that would cause you not to attend. This is very valuable information for our volunteer leaders and planners.

Positive feedback is one of the most important parts of any successful organization. In order to become a First Responder we must do a couple of things ourselves. When we receive an invitation we need to consult our calendar, communicate with our spouse and then make a commitment to attend and, most importantly, communicate that information using that flyer, registration or invitation. In first aid and CPR a First Responder can make a difference in someone's life. With a registration form, flyer or invitation, your response can also make a difference!!

Sandi and I, along with all of our volunteer leaders and planners thank you in advance for your support on this note. We congratulate all of those Members who are ready to become First Responders.

Ray & Sandi

**Pennsylvania District Directors...**

*Rick and Andi Riek*

Greetings everyone,

So how many of you are looking at the calendar and saying to themselves, "Where has the time gone"? I guess the saying is correct that time flies when you're having fun.

Andi and I have been very busy since the beginning of 2017. Planning the 2017 District Rally in State College took a lot of our time but we were still able to meet with other PA District members and have fun.



We a-ended All Chapters West in June and had a fun and relaxing time. A big congratulation to Chapter W for organizing a fantastic weekend. It was great to see everyone ge2ng together and having a great time. There were games being played, some members went on rides, and everyone enjoyed themselves. We especially like seeing people from different chapters that we haven't seen in several months and feeling like we only saw them a few weeks ago.

Don't forget that All Chapters East will be here before you know it. The date is July 28, 29, 30 at Roxbury Holiness Campground in Orrstown, PA. This is being hosted by PA Chapter C. Let's hope Mother Nature cooperates like she did with All Chapters West. Either way, it will still be fun ge2ng together again.

Andi and I took a ride to visit the Park Inn in Uniontown, PA, home of the 2018 PA District Rally. It is a very, very nice hotel. The hotel staff invited us to take a walk through the facilities and look around. The first thing we saw was a large atrium and indoor swimming pool with tables and chairs around it, a lot of video games for kids, a snack shop, and pool tables. Also close by was a nice restaurant and meeting rooms. On our way along Route 40 to the hotel we also passed a number of nice restaurants close by if that is what you prefer. And for anyone who may have forgo-en something when they packed (Andi), there is a Walmart right across the street. We made our room reservation and were told that there were quite a few who had also made reservations. So I don't think I would wait too long if I were you. The hotel has two floors but does not have an elevator. That may be a factor for some people.

Recently, we mailed tickets to all our PA District chapters from the Region B Educators John and Pam VanDeusen. These tickets are for a chance to win a set of Dunlop motorcycle tires. The proceeds of this drawing will go towards the Region B Rider Education. The winning ticket is to be drawn either at the Region B fall meeting or at another region meeting but no later than December 2017. I know I wouldn't mind winning a set of tires for my Wing.

***Rick & Andi Riek***

***Pennsylvania District Directors***

*Go for it now. The future is promised to no one.*

[groundshark@atlanticbb.net](mailto:groundshark@atlanticbb.net)

(814) 255-3147 Home

(814) 659-4247 Cell



\*\*\*\*\*

Vests are not a requirement for GWRRA, PA-Y. It is a personal preference. You can have as much or as little on them as you prefer.... Vests typically show pride in the GWRRA organization, in your personal chapter affiliation and in your personal accomplishments. Vest color is a personal preference. Chapter Y members typically have black vests... but denim and leather vests are also acceptable... again personal preference. Basic GWRRA & Y patches are all that are requested... add others as you wish.

**VEST ADORNMENT...**

**Left side of vest... generally reserved for GWRRA honors.**

Top to bottom... **American Flag**, optional but always atop all other patches/pins.

**Charter Member**... if applicable, this denotes those who were original supporters when the chapter was opened.

**Team Member**... this denotes chapter officers... Chapter Director, Assistant Chapter Director, Membership Enhancement Coordinator, Rider Education Officer.

**4" round GWRRA patch with griffin in center**... Black & Gold – or Red, White, & Blue... all members.

Officer Designations... Black with blue lettering and griffin denotes chapter officers

**Rockers** (fit with 4" GWRRA patch) denotes chapter team/staff... Chapter Director, ACD, MEC, Rider Education, Treasurer, Roll for Dough, Web Editor, Newsletter Editor.

**Small WING pin**... pin color corresponds to Team position

**GWRRA Membership Pin**... griffin pin with bars for each year of membership attached.

**RALLY Pins**... available for each state... and each Rally you attend, your registration packet usually contains the Rally bar. The Rally Bar has the location and year on it.

**Wing Ding**... available at Wing Ding... can be an individual pin for a specific year or main pin with bars indicating location and year.

**Rider Education** presents the following as requirements are completed:

Rider Ed patches and University patches... Level I, II, III and IV patches/rockers and pins.  
Rockers for RIDER and CO-RIDER

Various GWRRA pins, i.e., Officer Certification Program, University, Leadership, Wing Ding, etc.

**Right Side of Vest... generally has chapter designations.**

4" Chapter Y patch with griffin in middle

**Name Tags** ... GWRRA Griffin... Name, Title, Chapter

**Individual State Pins**, i.e.,

Pennsylvania... hanging under the state are individual chapter bars with chapter letter on it... they show the chapters the member has visited... Can be in alpha order or in order as they are received. Each time you visit a chapter, you can purchase their chapter bar for \$2. Chapter Y is first one.

Every state has their own State pin and chapter designations, and their chapter bar can be bought from them.

**Other Pins** that are special to you... may be from a place visited, a benefit ride, or military/police/fire designations... pins that mean something to you personally.

**BACK OF VEST**

Center Back... large 10" GWRRA Griffin Patch

Above the 10" patch... Rocker indicating chapter affiliation, i.e., (all capitals) CHAPTER "y"

Above or below... Large Rocker patch or embroidered... Couple of the Year and year chosen.

Below the 10" patch... Large rocker indicating the State affiliation, i.e., (all capitals), PENNSYLVANIA.

**OTHER PATCHES** ... may be placed on front, back, or side of vest as desired.

GWRRA Region B Patch, special GWRRA designation patches (Trike, Ladies Sig, etc.)

Pin Backs... black rubber grabbers.....\$2 for 20.

Belt Buckles.....\$5

Contact Barbara Silverman with any questions or orders. 215-256-0432

**GOODIES.... CHAPTER STORE**

**Contact:** Barbara Silverman, [bsilv1055@gmail.com](mailto:bsilv1055@gmail.com)

The Chapter Store has various items available for purchase.

- 4” GWRRA Griffin Patch**, (placed on front left of vest)  
Black & Gold or Red, White & Blue..... \$5
- 10” GWRRA Griffin Patch** (placed on back of vest)  
Black & Gold or Red, White & Blue ..... \$12
- Chapter Y Rocker** (1” lettering & gold edging...above 10” patch)  
Black & Gold or Red, White & Blue..... \$7
- Chapter Y 4” patch** (placed on front of vest)..... \$5
- Visit Pennsylvania ... Pins** .....\$4  
  - Y Bar...** (white with black Y with hanger loops)..... \$2  
(When you visit other chapters, you can purchase their chapter Letter hanger bars for \$2 to add to the PA pin).
- Motorcycle & Trike embroidered patches**... various colors..... \$7
- American Flag** embroidered patches ..... Lg. \$5.....Sm. \$2
- NorthEast Region Patches**..... \$5

**Chapter Shirts:** T-shirts only available as group order due to screen printing.  
Polo shirts, woven shirts & sweatshirts can be ordered at any time.  
You may take your own shirt/jacket in for logo embroidery to

Nyce Shirt Company, 310 D Broad Street, Harleysville, PA 19438... 215/256-1080...  
[www.nyceshirt.com](http://www.nyceshirt.com), [nyceshirtco@verizon.net](mailto:nyceshirtco@verizon.net).

**Chapter Jackets:** Black Tri Mountain jackets can be ordered from  
Nyce Shirt Company, 310 D Broad Street, Harleysville, PA 19438... 215/256-1080...  
[www.nyceshirt.com](http://www.nyceshirt.com), [nyceshirtco@verizon.net](mailto:nyceshirtco@verizon.net). \$55 not including embroidery.

- Embroidery on left front.. \$6
  - Liberty Bell on back (TBD) ... GWRRA 4” patch in center of bell... \$5
- Other heavier jackets are available from catalog.

**VESTS**...Color: Black, Blue, White... most wear Black but it is personal preference

Material: Denim, leather, polyester ... personal preference

Light weight “wait staff” type or Heavier weight denim, two pockets.

DREAMERS FASHIONS, 1895 w. Beresford Road, Deland, FL 32720 386-740-9952

[dreamersfashions@yahoo.com](mailto:dreamersfashions@yahoo.com) .....Laura Williams

Original Denim Vest... Black or Blue with or without lace sides... \$32 + shipping

Ads in Wing World

Ron and Peggy Kratz have this type... check them out.

AFFORDABLE UNIFORMS, 2617 Street Road, Bensalem, PA 19020... 215-638-7025

Restaurant Wait Staff Vest... lighter weight

Mike and Barbara Silverman have this type... check them out.

### **SHIRTS and JACKETS**

Nyce Shirt Co., 310 D Broad Street, Harleysville, PA 19438

215-256-1080 ... [www.nyceshirt.com](http://www.nyceshirt.com) or [nyceshirtco@verizon.net](mailto:nyceshirtco@verizon.net)

Shirts... Chapter Y color: Royal Blue or White

Jackets... Black Tri Mountain Jacket

### **OTHER PINS, PATCHES, GWRRA GOODIES**

Check the PA District website, NE Region Website and GWRRA website.

