

## Chapter "L" February Newsletter



**We meet the first Monday of the month at Golden Corral**

**2632 NW Cache Road In Lawton**

**Meet to eat at 6:30 meeting at 7:30**

**First Monday of the month**

**2632 NW Cache Road In Lawton**

February is here and soon along comes **RIDEING** Season. This could be a very busy year for those wanting to get involved and wanting to ride. Along with the conventions listed below we also have Chapter L Movie rides and Dinner rides, and any ride our chapter members may want to sponsor. Let's hear your ideas.

March 29 – 31, 2012 – Region H Convention ( Marshall, TX)

April 12 - 14, 2012 - Louisiana District Convention (Lafayette, LA)

May 17 – 19, 2012 - Texas District Convention (New Braunfels, TX)

May 24 - 26, 2012 - Arkansas District Convention (Harrison, AR)

August 23 - 26, 2012 - Kansas District Convention (Manhattan, KS)

October 4 – 6, 2012 – Oklahoma District Convention (McAlester, OK)

Attend all the convention with a full paid admission and you can enter the Region H contest to have all of next year's (2013) conventions paid for.

Along with the District conventions there are a lot of Chapter conventions.

Chapter X Stillwater - February 25, 2012

Chapter E Tulsa - March 4, 2012

Chapter B Shawnee - May 3-5, 2012

Chapter J Edmond / Guthrie - May 12, 2012

Chapter N Norman - June 2, 2012

More chapters will be adding conventions during the year.

And we can't forget Wing Ding July 4 – 7, 2012 in Fort Wayne, IN

Let's ride to someplace new or good old places. Let's just ride and ride safe.

It's official!! We have a new Oklahoma chapter now located in Bixby Oklahoma!! Their first Chapter Gathering will be held on Monday, February 27 where the chapter officers will be sworn in. The time will be 'eat at 6:00pm/meet at 7:00pm' at the East China Buffet in Bixby OK, address is 13202 S. Memorial Drive. We are encouraging all chapters and their members to attend this gathering to show their support and to offer words of encouragement to our newest chapter.

Regards, Larry Cowan OK District Director



## Chapter "L" Staff

### Chapter Director

Tom Clouse

704-0329

Paula Clouse

704-0328



### Assistant Chapter Director

Phil Cook

917-6641

Wynona Cook

917-2607



### Treasurer

Linnie Davis

383-7377

LaVoyd Davis

574-5703



### Couple of the Year

Lee Tompkins

284-5095

Vickie Tompkins

284-9076



### Rider Educator

Max Rowlett

536-0928

Mary Rowlett



### Ticket Master

Vickie Tompkins

284-9076

### Membership Enhancement Coordinators

Paula Clouse

704-0328

Wynona Cook

917-6641

### Motorist Awareness Liaison

Lee Tompkins

284-5095

### Newsletter Editor

Vickie Tompkins

284-9076

## Planning the Ride

By Max Rowlett

The last several days have been more like days of Spring, rather than Winter days. This makes a Gold Wing rider begin to day dream about upcoming rides to Region and District Conventions, and Team Rides to places like Black Mesa, Kansas Salt Mines, and Amarillo's Cadillac Ranch. Whatever our destination as a Chapter group or team may be, the ride will be more interesting and enjoyable if we use prior planning.

**Plan your Route.** You've come up with an idea for a great destination that you're sure your friends will enjoy. Ride the possible routes to the destination ahead of time if possible. Remember you aren't required to do all this on your own. You can enlist other Chapter members to help you explore the route and interesting sites along the way. Scouting new routes can be a lot of fun for everyone. Once you have decided on a route prepare a copy for each rider you expect to go on your ride. It doesn't have to be an elaborate route map, maybe a strip map you've drawn by hand, or a Map Quest map with the route highlighted. You will want to include any helpful notes.

**Plan your Breaks.** As you layout your route identify possible break areas along the way. The break areas should be selected based on the smallest fuel tank capacity, and by individual special needs. Some of our riders are under medication that requires frequent stops every 30 to 50 miles. Ask if any of your riders have special needs.

**Plan your Speed.** State your intended speed. (Highway, Rural Roads, etc.) You'll have different age groups who may wish to drive the faster speeds, and some that may wish to drive slower. You may want to use this information and break the riders into groups.

**Plan your Teams.** At your starting point break the riders into teams of 3-7, with a Lead and Drag/Trail bike for each team. Due to increased braking distance, conventional thinking puts sidecars and bikes pulling trailers in front, bikes in the middle and trikes in the rear. Recent testing of various trikes' brake stopping distances has opened this up for further discussion.

**Plan your Stops.** Plan for extended breaks for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and points of interest. Estimate how much time you may allow at each stop. If this is an extended ride (2-3 day ride) where you are stopping for the evening. You'll want to make this decision early on in your planning, so the other riders may make motel reservations.

**Plan your Starts.** Plan what time the group is leaving at the start of the ride, and the departure time at extended stops. Make sure each rider is aware of the departure time and politely encourage them to meet the schedule.

**Start Prepared.** Do your homework! The better you have prepared the better the ride will go. Full fuel tank, empty bladder, T-CLOC bike/trike, proper attire, and well planned route. Prepare for emergencies. (Tools, First Aid Kit, Fire Extinguisher, and cell phone) Oklahoma may be experiencing a drought, but let me get caught without my rain gear and we will have flash floods!

**Plan to Inform.** Choose a CB channel and announce it. Have an alternate channel in case of interference. Do a Radio Check with all team members with CB radios prior to leaving. Refresh team members memories of the GWRRA hand signals to ease communications with members who may not have CB radios. It's a good idea to exchange cell phone numbers with the Lead & Drag bikes in case the team becomes separated.

**The ride is the reason for the destination!**



**Friends For Fun, Safety & Knowledge.**



## Couple of the Year

It may not seem like it but, the new year has kicked off! Vickie and I enjoyed a night out at Stroud. We made an early ride with stops in OK City for dinner and shopping while staying the night at Stroud. This allowed for sleeping in and getting a big country breakfast before other Gold Wings began showing up for the District meeting.

The closed meeting for directors went on as the rest of us ate and talked renewing friendships. The changes from last year are few and that left lots of time to hear from each member of the District Staff. The biggest item is that we not only need to work at bringing in new members to GWRRA but, remember to reach out to others and work at maintaining our members. Membership Enhancement is so very much more than the people in that position. Each one of us needs to be an ambassador and if we enjoy GWRRA then share it! Tell others as you see them and by see them I mean on motorcycles. Yes, this is Goldwing Road Riders Association only any make of motorcycle may be ridden by an Associate Member. Come on, how much difference is that? They are just like the rest of the membership with the exception of not being able to hold some officer positions.

As the Couple of the Year for our Chapter I really feel this is a very big part of our representing the group. I talk up GWRRA often and go looking for others to tell. This fits in with the sign up five and get a year paid membership for yourself. I don't mean that everyone should go out of their way just remember how much you enjoy yourself and let others hear of it.



First Aid Great Plains Technical Center

PUB 01601S12 2/8/12 6-10 PM 4 HRS. \$19.00

PUB01602S12 3/7/12 6-10 PM 4 HRS. \$19.00

Basic Rider Course Great Plains Technical Center Friday (6:00PM - 9:00PM) Sat./Sun. (8:00AM - 4:30 PM)

PUB0401S12 3/02/12 - 3/04/12 \$150.00

PUB0402S12 3/09/12 - 3/11/12 \$150.00

PUB0403S12 3/30/12 - 4/01/12 \$150.00

Region H Convention - Marshall, TX.

Medic First (MFA) CPR/First Aid (First Class) \$25.00 Friday 8 HRS.

Medic First (MFA) CPR/First Aid (Renewal) \$25.00 Sat. 8-Noon 4 Hrs.

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Chapter "L" Gathering 6:30 pm Golden Corral	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Movie ride
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Dinner ride
26	27	28	29			

February 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	Ch	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

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February 25, 2012 - Chapter X Anniversary: at the Cushing Youth Center 7th and Little in Cushing, Ok from 12 noon to 3 pm. Come join in the fun with Chapter-X. More to come.

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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March 4th Chapter E Tulsa Chapter Convention.

Region "H" Convention (Marshall, TX)

April 2012						
SUN	MO	TUE	WE	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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Louisiana District Convention (Lafayette , LA)

I know that the weather can't be counted on but, if it is decent I suggest: Breakfast at Golden Corral at 0900 and kick stands up at 1000 hrs.

Let's just head south and find our way to Wichita Falls where we take a tour of the museum there. Then before we head north again. We find that little silver Dinner under the new raised highways. Nothing like some good hot food to fill up on before braving the ride home! As MAD Liaison I have been busy spreading pamphlets and bumper stickers at businesses dealing with motorcycling around our area. I try and keep some always on hand at the Driver's Testing office and at tag offices.

I stopped by Morris Honda in Chickasha last week and WOW! I couldn't believe how many bikes they had on hand. They have millions of dollars in the inventory. I know that they will be more than happy to be of service to our members. If you stop in make sure that you mention Chapter "L" and GWRRA.

Share The Ride, MAD!

Lee Tompkins

## FULL GEAR FOOL'S GEAR

**HELMET.** Most important piece of protective gear a rider can use. Protects against head injury, windblast, cold, and flying objects. Full-faced helmet recommended.

**FACESHIELD.** "Saves face." Any rider who's been hit in the face by stones, insects, or debris can tell you the benefits.

**GLOVES.** Keep hands comfortable, functional and protected. Come in infinite variety for all seasons.

**JACKET AND PANTS.** Long sleeves and trousers resist abrasion and protect against sunburn, windburn, dehydration, or hypothermia. Light colors or reflectivity increase a rider's visibility.

**BOOTS.** Provide protection against foot and ankle injuries and give you a good grip on footpegs or road surfaces.

**BOTTOM LINE:** Proper riding gear protects in the event of an accident and minimizes injuries, when allowing you to enjoy the sport in comfort.

**THE MORE YOU KNOW THE BETTER IT GETS**

HS 521

**HEAD.** Considered precious by knowledgeable riders; never exposed by the pros. When fully in view, allows immediate identification of untrained person not using his. Hand out rider education info on sight.

**EYES, EARS, AND FACE.** Known to experienced riders as "bug and garbage collectors." Common "bare face" symptoms include windblast-deafening and deformed, narrow-slit, watery eyes.

**HANDS** au naturale (not for long). Known to seize into curled position when exposed to cold; not genetically evolved to withstand abrasion.

**BARE LIMBS.** A phenomenon seen only on riders deemed impervious to any unavoidable accident or inclement weather. Subject to ridicule in riding circles.

**FLIP FLOPS.** Terminology for what sandals, toes and feet do upon contact with road surfaces, shift lever, brake pedal, footpegs, or windblasts.

**BOTTOM LINE:** Fool's gear identifies an untrained rider. Learn how to avoid embarrassment, ridicule, and injury, while gaining skills and knowledge by contacting the Rider Course nearest you:

800-368-9677



Illustration by John Hanks. Images from photographs: "Full" by Steve Johnson, University of Tennessee.

**• GWRRA Membership Application •**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  New  Renew Member No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First


Co-Rider Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip  USA  Canada  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gold Book™ Directory Information** (must check at least one):

- A)  Truck/Trailer B)  Phone Calls Only C)  Tent Space D)  Lodging E)  Tools F)  Tour Guide  Do Not list me in the Gold Book

<p><b>GWRRA</b>                  21423 North 11 Avenue                  Phoenix, AZ 85027                  800-843-9460                  (623) 581-2500                  (623) 581-3844 Fax                  www.gwrra.org                  www.towbusters.com</p> 	<p><b>Member Type (Select One)</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes! I want Rescue Plus for just \$25 per year.</b>                  (Non-Members \$50)</p> <p><small>Rescue Plus offers enhanced benefits and covers all registered drivers in your household while driving or riding in any non-commercial vehicle or motorcycle. Rescue Plus also covers your motorcycle trailer. Certain limitations and exclusions apply to coverage. All individuals must be registered with GWRRA to receive a membership card and coverage. Members of GWRRA must have a Family Membership to cover multiple drivers.</small></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Exclude me from email offers.</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Exclude me from mailings.</b></p>
	<p><b>Individual Membership</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> 3 yrs \$120 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 2 yrs \$85 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$45 USD  <b>Family Membership</b> (2 or more people in household)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3 yrs \$150 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 2 yrs \$105 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$55 USD  <b>Associate Individual*</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> 3 yrs \$135 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 2 yrs \$95 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$50 USD  <b>Associate Family*</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> 3 yrs \$165 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 2 yrs \$115 USD <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$60 USD  <b>Subscription Only (Wing World™ Magazine)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr \$40  <small>*The Associate Membership is for those who wish to take advantage of GWRRA and its benefits and do not own a Gold Wing or Valkyrie.</small></p>	

**New Members—Who referred you to us?** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

Make checks payable in US Funds to GWRRA. GWRRA dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.

Credit Card Number/Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_