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If you are interested in filling a staff position in Chapter H, please contact any of the Chapter Staff listed above.

GWRRA GEORGIA CHAPTER H

January 2013



Happy New Year!!!

Your entire staff of Chapter H would like to wish you a very happy and healthy New Year. As we began the 2013 riding season, we kicked it off with a great ride with some very tasty food with a trip to Seminole Wind in Thomasville on Saturday, the 12th of January. The weather could not have been better for a January day. Temps in the lower 80's and lots of sunshine. 15 hungry riders left the Flash Foods on Hwy 19 south with visions of the best seafood in South Georgia. Bill and Betty led the ride with Raymond Jones, Jimmie and Betty Strickland, Jeff and Maud Verner, Gary and Katherine Sapp, JT Norris, John Hyde, and John and Sheila Andrews riding drag. Frank Barron and Larry Mclemore met us at the restaurant and we all took great joy in stuffing ourselves beyond our limits. The ride home had little chatter on the CB, so there must have been a lot of sleeping co-riders and maybe even a few riders. Friends, fellowship, food and riding our bikes on a beautiful day; it just doesn't get any better than that. If you were not able to make it on the ride, you were missed and we hope you can make to the next one. The scheduled rides for February are listed on page two of this newsletter.

Your Chapter staff had a meeting to discuss the future of Chapter H and plans for 2013. The overall theme for

the upcoming year included two primary goals. Training and recruitment. We will be planning more rider education and leadership events that will provide you opportunities to refresh your skills and improve your confidence in riding our Gold Wings and seminars to increase your knowledge of motorcycling. Seminars will also be given to enhance your knowledge of the inner workings of GWRRA and how you can get more from your membership. In an effort to bring more members into the Chapter, we will be planning events to meet other Wingers and riders of other brands of bikes and provide them with information about GWRRA and we hope you will join us in bringing more motorcycling enthusiasts into our GWRRA family. We would also like to hear your ideas on improving your Chapter life and any rides you would like to share with all our members. Please talk to any of your Chapter staff with your suggestions.

Ride Safe

As we begin a new year and a new riding season, it is a good time for all of us to take time to think about riding safety. There is nothing like going out on the road on a Wing. But from the time we put the key in the ignition, until we put the bike back on the kick stand, we expose ourselves to many

dangers. Riding safe involves reducing the risk and limiting the potential for harm to our body. The following are some points to think about regarding making a ride as safe as possible.

ATGATT (All the gear all the time) – Our bodies don't fare to well when they impact a hard object or tumble and slide on pavement. Wearing the proper gear all the time can greatly reduce the amount of bodily harm done should we come off the bike at any speed. 1st – Wear a DOT approved helmet. The more of your head that is covered the less potential there is for head trauma. Got a \$5 head, wear a 5\$ helmet. 2nd – Wear long sleeves and long pants. Armored Jackets and pants are even better. It's easier to replace clothing than the hide that would be peeled off in a slide. 3rd – Full fingered Gloves. Hide peels off of fingers too. 4th – Over the ankle shoes. Your ankles are a weak point in your legs. If they are twisted the wrong way something is going to give. Over the ankle shoes, or even better, boots, will give your ankles a lot of extra support and could save a sprain or break when you try to keep the bike vertical at a stop.

Ride within the bike's limits and yours - The bike does have performance limits. Bikes hydroplane very easy on water covered roads, slide on gravel and debris covered roads, etc. You must control the ride. Obey speed limits and road signs. They are there for a reason. Don't tailgate or weave in and out of traffic. 4 wheel motorists often react like a squirrel crossing the road. Weaving and tailgating makes you a good target.

Be Seen and be Obvious – Wear colored clothing that contrasts with the bike color. Don't ride in blind spots. Position yourself on the road so that you are in the other motorists field of vision or rear view mirrors. You need to do everything within your control to catch and keep the eye of every motorist on the road. Use turn signals and brake lights so that it is obvious that you are changing lanes, turning, or stopping. The best surprise is no surprise when it comes to riding.

Always use proper braking technique - Your bike has been designed to brake using both the front and rear wheels. Consistent and even slowly increased pressure on both the front and rear achieves the fastest stop. Over pressure can cause a slide. Yes just one brake can slow you and even stop you but when you get into that emergency stop

you will be in a heap of trouble. Remember we are creatures of habit. What you practice intentionally will be what you do when you have to instantly react to a situation.

Just as prior planning can prevent poor performance, prior thought and practice of good riding technique can prevent an accident and save your life.

Be Smart and Ride Safe.

Rich Morgan

Birthdays and Anniversaries

January Birthdays

Frank Barron 1st

Sheila Andrews – 3rd

Janie Weaver 19th

Jo Ann Cannon – 31th

Up Coming Rides and Activities

Feb 14th Moultrie—Leave Moree's at 6 PM

Feb 18th Tifton—Leave Enmark on Clark at 6 PM

Feb 23rd Diner Rider to Yoder's—Leave Enmark on US 19 North at 4 PM

Feb 28 Chapter H monthly gathering

Ride Safe

Want to learn how to build an all-day camp fire?

Jimmie Strickland can show you how!!.

