

GWRRRA, REGION N, VIRGINIA DISTRICT

CHAPTER VA-E



www.battlefieldwings.com



BATTLEFIELD WINGS, VA-E



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CHAPTER E DIRECTOR'S NEWS

April 2010



The month of April seems to bring out the best in everyone. Why do I say that? Simply because as I travel to and fro and hold many conversations with people of all walks of life, I find that everyone is in a better mood because they can finally work outside and enjoy the freshness of spring air. I began working in my yard raking dead grass, leaves and picking up sticks along with some tree branches scattered in my yard, and also observing my neighbors working in their yards diligently trying to make each yard more beautiful than the next, I just stare into space sometimes and wish "Oh how I would love to be on my wing right now rather than spending time out here sweating and doing something that has to be done rather than something I want to do. It just doesn't seem fair but someone has to do it.

Although I mentioned in my previous paragraph the fact of working in my yard, I must also mention that I have had a joyous month spending time with my GWRRRA family and friends. On Sunday, March 14, sixteen Chapter-E Members along with Tina's Mom and her Male Friend went to Riverside Dinner Theatre to see the musical "Smoker Joe's Café". If you haven't seen it you should. It brought back many memories of Motown's best music. We had a delicious dinner and were very pleased with our seating arrangement. Everyone enjoyed the entire show. The show was not our only joyous moment for the month. I will elaborate in my next paragraph.

Our general gathering/meeting was the most special we've ever had. Why do I say that? When we look back at the winter and all that it has brought to us not just weather wise but also illnesses, we are always happy to see someone who's been sick and shows sign of getting well, that's why we were elated when we saw Karen Kestner join us at our meeting. It was so nice to see everyone stand and give her a round of applause, we love you Karen. It was also special to announce our official new Chapter Couple, Charlie & Ellen Smith, and to crown them King & Queen. As you all know, now they will receive another zero (0) to their pay checks for all the duties they will perform (Thank you guys for taking on this task). I was also happy to learn that Chapter-E won the Best Dressed Chapter at Wingless Weekend this year. Thanks Sylvia for making the costumes and thanks to those who wore them.

In the month of April we will also have some fun as a chapter where everyone can participate. We are looking forward to our Ladies Night which is on April 17 @ 4:00PM. We want all members to come and bring your spouse or friend and have a wonderful time. I will emphasize again that the HUSBANDS/Male Friend will serve our wives/girlfriends dinner and soft drinks. It will be fun just like last year, even better now that we know what we're doing. Then on Sunday, April 18 some of you will take the ERC Course at Germanna Community College. So you see we have plenty to do. Also on April 10 there is the MS Walk held here in Fredericksburg. We are looking for volunteers to assist and to participate.

Thank you Ed & Wanda for the beautiful Roses you brought to Tina after her surgery.

As usual, we are willing to serve anywhere, anytime and are proud to be members of such a great organization.

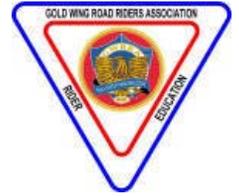
Sly & Tina

Chapter Directors

Chapter-E

CHAPTER E EDUCATOR'S NEWS

Pothole Avoidance



I haven't done this before but I'm going to repeat much of what I discussed at our last chapter gathering. You may remember I ended that talk knowing I was leaving something out. I'll make sure I include it this time.

After winter, there are usually a number of potholes on our roads. This year I think we have a bumper crop. Potholes are caused by freezing. If there is a small crack in the pavement and it fills with water, the water can freeze and expand. You've probably tried freezing a glass jar full of soup or something else that is mostly water and later found the jar in pieces in your freezer. Or, maybe you have tried to quickly cool a warm can of soda in your freezer, forgotten about it, and later found the can bulging at both ends when the soda froze. The expansion of freezing water is powerful enough to break the pavement. Subsequent traffic further loosens pieces of pavement and they end up completely breaking away and getting kicked off the road leaving a hole. This can all be avoided by keeping the water out in the first place and that is why road crews try to seal cracks before winter with tar leaving "tar snakes," something we can talk about in a future article.

As riders, we can't do too much about pothole creation or repair. I'm afraid we must live with them. While driving a car, potholes don't often present life threatening danger. But, they are a more serious concern (or should be) to a motorcycle rider. A pothole can have sharp edges that could deform and cut a motorcycle tire causing it to immediately lose air with obvious consequences. (Butch pointed out at our last meeting that you can even dent an expensive rim by hitting a pothole.) Or, the forces on the front fork of a motorcycle could be too much for it if the front wheel drops into a deep pothole at speed. Even at low speed, a deep pothole could be a problem because the chassis could bottom out on the pavement when a wheel drops in – motorcycles have less clearance than cars. And we are just talking about straight line riding. Imagine hitting a significant pothole while leaned over in a corner. Or even a not-so-significant pothole if you've invested a large portion of your traction budget in cornering forces.

Our strategy as motorcyclists must be pothole avoidance rather than pothole negotiation after we find ourselves in one. Our first line of defense should be to maintain sufficient following distances so we can easily steer around potholes that appear in our path. Riding in the center track may be helpful. But, potholes do sometimes form in the center track too so this is not a surefire way to avoid them. And, if there has been a snow recently, there could be sand in the center track left over from the road department's sanding and salting. You could ride in the left or right track and watch for movement of the car ahead indicating it hit a pothole but the movement may be too subtle to notice. Don't take any chances, just keep an adequate following distance so the pothole becomes visible in time for you to avoid it.

We may work hard to see potholes early and avoid them but if you see one too late you will either have to ride through it (hoping it isn't very deep) or swerve around it. To ride through it, rise off the seat a bit and keep your weight back. To swerve, look where you want to go (this first step is crucial), decisively countersteer to alter your direction, and once past the pothole quickly countersteer in the other direction to resume your intended direction of travel. The swerve will be accomplished more quickly if you don't try to lean with the motorcycle. Letting the motorcycle lean underneath you while you stay relatively vertical will speed things up because no energy is being "wasted" to move your body. Sometimes a little difference makes a big difference – missing a pothole (or other obstacle) by a single inch is superior to hitting it.

Now, here is the part I forgot to mention the other night. Practice. Committing the proper technique to your intellectual memory is nice but mostly ineffective. You need to commit (or, more likely, re-commit) this to "muscle memory" so the proper reactions occur when needed without any conscious thought. And, now is perfect time to practice skills that may have been dormant over the winter. Spend some time in a parking lot practicing quick stops, swerves, and anything else you think needs work after being off the motorcycle for a couple of months. Practice could pay very big dividends later in the riding season, next month, next week, or even on your next ride.

Larry

CHAPTER E'S MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT COORDINATORS' NEWS



We ended February with a wonderful dinner ride to Ledo Pizza & Pasta at Massaponax. In attendance were Dan & Martha Jo, Tom & Diana, Sly & Tina, Larry, Danny & Carol, Tony & Sharon, Terry & Elaine, Ron & Linda, Butch & Nancy, Gordon & Julie. We really enjoyed the private room and the owner personally saw to it we had great service. Our server made some of us dizzy as she scrambled repeatedly to get our meals served. Many of our group had such large portions they needed to go boxes. What a wonderful way to end dreary February...great friends with great food. We hope to see you on our next dinner ride.

In March, we had members go to Chapter A's Chili cook off and a large group went to Riverside Dinner Theatre to see Smokey Jo's Cafe.

Below are the upcoming events for your chapter.

April 6th, Staff Meeting at Ledo Pizza in Massaponax

April 10th, MS Walk, downtown Fredericksburg

April 17th Ladies Night @ Harrison Road Community Center

April 18th ERC @ Germanna

April 21st General Gathering @ Dynasty Buffet

May 1st Chrome World Ride

May 8th 9 am Maintenance Day and Co Rider Seminar @ the Smith's

May 22nd Bike Blessing at Sly & Tina's Church

June 12th Tour De Burg

Our upcoming dinner rides.

Sunday, April 25th...Smokey Pig in Ashland

Sunday, May 16th...Dan's Steak House near Luray

Gordon Combs



Membership Enhancement Coordinator

GWRRR VA-E Battlefield Wings

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Your Virginia District Calendar

Month		Type	Event	Chapter or Sponsor
2010				
April		V	Officer Certification (OCP) - Roanoke	VA District
	10	P	Spring Thaw - Newport News Park (shelter #19) Jefferson Ave, Newport News	VA-C
	11	P	Pre-Tax Day Poker Run - FOP Lodge 9, 110 Kempsville Rd., Chesapeake	VA-L
	17	P	Dining to Donate benefiting St. Francis Service Dog Fdn - Applebee's Restaurant, 1806 W. Main St., Salem (540-389-2784)	VA-X
	17	P	Poker Run - Manassas	VA-I
		-	Spring Fling - Pigeon Forge, TN	TN District
	24	S	Poker Run for Relay for Life , Henry's Market, US60, Powhatan	VA-D
May	1	P	Ride for Cash - Liberty Fueling Station at the Mauzy Va. Exit 257 off of I-81	VA-R
		V	Officer Certification (OCP) - No. Virginia	VA District
	22	P	TBD - Bedford	VA-V
June	5	P	TBD - Winchester	VA-F
	6	-	Richmond Ride for Kids® - Richmond Times Dispatch Bldg., Mechanicsville	PBTF
	12	P	Tour de Burg - Moose Lodge, Cherry Rd., Fredericksburg	VA-E
	12	P	TBD - Charlottesville	VA-P
		-	Down Home Rally - Summerville, WV	WV District
July		-	Wing Ding 32 - Des Moines, IA	GWRRA Nat'l
	10	P	Poker Run - Chester	VA-W
	24	P	Poker - Hanover	VA-U
		V	Officer Certification (OCP) - Central / Eastern Virginia	VA District
August		-	Bluegrass Blast - Somerset, KY	KY District
	14	V	Leadership Training (LTD) Instructor Development / Certification - Central Virginia	VA District
	21	P	Casino Picnic - Williamsburg	VA-O

	28	S	Poker Run - Manassas	VA-I
September	11	P	TBD - Burke	VA-A
		S	Fall Sprawl - Simmons Farm, Whitestone	VA-C
		-	Wings Over the Smokies - Fletcher, NC	NC District
October	2	P	Poker Run - Richmond	VA-D
		V	Rally in the Valley®, Salem Civic Ctr, Salem	VA District
	23	P	Fall Colors Ride - Leesburg	VA-Y
		V	Officer Certification (OCP) - Cen- tral / Western Virginia	VA District
November	6	P	Goldwing Celebration - World of Sports, South Boston	VA-J
	6	-	28th Annual Children's Hospital Teddy Bear Run, Colonial Harley- Davidson, Colonial Heights	Blue Knights VA-III
December	11	V	Leadership Training (LTD) Instruc- tor Development / Certification - Roanoke / Salem	VA District

This is the website that has the listings of all of the VA District Chapters with Directors' names, locations, monthly meetings, etc.:

<http://www.gwrrava.org/vachptrs.html>

This is the website that has the listings of all of the VA District Officer listings:

<http://www.gwrrava.org/images/diststaff121409.pdf>

Tech Tips From the Webdude :: Windows Disk Defragmenter

I Keep Forgetting to Defrag!

Does this sound like you? What happens when you actually remember? You are already in the thick of things, surfing the Internet, shopping at Best Buy's website, or heavily involved with graphics in Photoshop when you think that a defrag is necessary. If you have been guilty of not running a defrag for several months, if ever, then you may want to schedule a defrag when it is convenient for you. I finally did.

Why Defrag?

I should probably answer this first. You always hear about doing it so that your computer runs faster, but why? Does it really help? Short answer is yes, but let me give you an analogy instead getting really technical. I have a tendency to ramble when I get technical because I always try to be thorough.

When you create a file on your computer, you create a bunch of 1s and 0s that basically make up that file. Let's say you create a shopping list of things that you need at the grocery store. At first it is just a few bytes of data that is stored in a particular location on your hard drive. Windows keeps track of the size and location of all parts of the file. When you add content to the file, you make the file larger and when the file grows, it requires more storage on your hard drive. If there is not a contiguous set of storage on the disk Windows has to find more storage space for you're the remainder of your file. And so on.

Now think of a book with page numbers on all of the pages scattered all over the house but you know where each and every page is. Now let's say you want to read that book. What has to happen first? You have to run all around the house assembling the pages in the right order until you have your book. If these pages are all over the house (fragmented), then it could take some considerable amount of time to get all of the pages assembled into your book. I think you see where I am going with this. The larger the book, say a novel, the longer it will take to assemble it. Seems like a lot of overhead that you wouldn't want to deal with just to read a book. Well, that's how Windows works on a daily basis. Every time you want to open a program, open a file, or just boot up your computer, Windows has to scramble around and assemble these "pages" for your book. When you defrag your computer, you actually rearrange these pages closer together (or contiguous) so that your computer does not have to scramble, saving time and energy.

Naturally, it takes longer to defrag a computer that has a 500GB hard drive than a computer that has an 80GB drive. Who has time to wait for a 500GB drive to defrag? Not me!

Schedule a Defrag

Follow this link to learn how to schedule a defrag on your computer, http://www.ehow.com/how_5450893_schedule-automatically-defrag-hard-drive.html.



Established
10/24/87

CHAPTER E NEWSLETTER APRIL 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 STAFF MEETING	7	8	9	10 MS WALK
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 LADIES NIGHT DINNER
18 ERC	19	20	21 GENERAL MEETING	22	23	24
25 SMOKY PIG DINNER RIDE ASHLAND	26	27	28	29	30	

MEMBER NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

STAFF MEETINGS ARE
SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST
TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH MEET
AT 6:30 PM TO EAT
MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 PM
Ledo's Pizza, Massaponax



Visit with us for our Chapter Meetings the

3rd Wednesday of each month

DYNASTY BUFFET - FOUR-MILE FORK

Meet at 6:30 pm to Eat

Meeting begins at 7:30 pm



14 Nolan & Liz Clark
19 Lloyd & Mary Messner



02 Linda Jones
13 Robin Keller
26 Keri Nelson

Newest Chapter Couple

Charlie and Ellen Smith



NOTE: Tony & Sharon were 2009 COYs, just haven't gotten dates added to the capes

Goldwing Support For Triathlons

1. **Saturday April 17, 2010: 9:00 – 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed)**

Lake Anna Beach Marina – 349 Pleasants Landing Road – Bumpass, VA 23024
Race Starts at 10AM – 24 Mile Bike (2 loops)

2. **Sunday April 18, 2010: 9:00 – 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed)**

Lake Anna Beach Marina – 349 Pleasants Landing Road – Bumpass, VA 23024
Race Starts at 10AM – 12 Mile Bike

3. **Saturday May 8, 2010: 6:00 – 1PM (4 Motorcycles Needed)**

Lake Anna State Park – 6800 Lawyers Road – Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Race Starts at 7AM – 56 Mile Bike

4. **Saturday May 9, 2010: 8:00 – Noon (4 Motorcycles Needed)**

Lake Anna State Park – 6800 Lawyers Road – Spotsylvania, VA 22553
Race Starts at 9AM – 18 Mile Bike

5. **Sunday August 1, 2010: 7:00 – 11AM (4 Motorcycles Needed)**

Mountain Run Lake Park – 9642 Mountain Run Lake Road – Culpeper, VA 22701
Race Starts at 8AM – 16 Mile Bike

6. **Saturday October 2, 2010: 9:00 – 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed)**

Lake Anna Beach Marina – 349 Pleasants Landing Road – Bumpass, VA 23024
Race Starts at 10AM – 24 Mile Bike

7. **Sunday October 3, 2010: 9:00 – 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed))**

Lake Anna Beach Marina – 349 Pleasants Landing Road – Bumpass, VA 23024
Race Starts at 10AM – 12 Mile Bike

Notes:

- 1 All events pay \$50/bike. Lunch/food will also be provided if you can wait until the first runners come in.
- 2 If you could be onsite 1 hour prior to the race starting for orientation and placement that would be great.
- 3 Some folks will have officials on board, others will lead out the first cyclist, follow the last cyclist, or patrol for mechanical/safety issues.

Thank you very much in advance! If you have any questions please give me a call at 336-577-2801.

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