

# CHAPTER E BATTLEFIELDWINGS NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2007

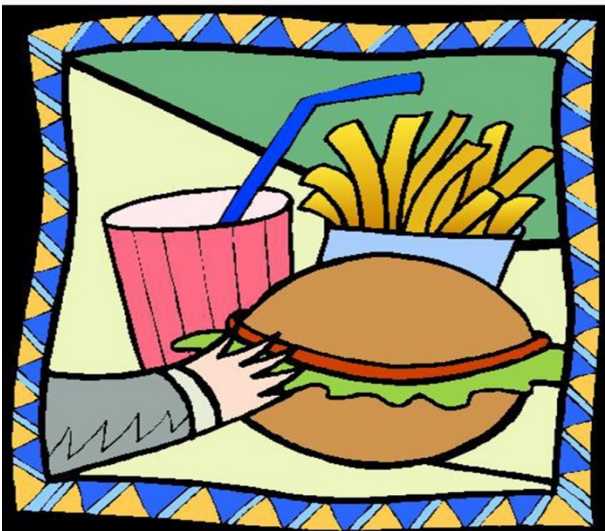
[www.battlefieldwings.com](http://www.battlefieldwings.com)

## CHAPTER E HOME OF THE REGION N EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

REGION N



FUN SAFETY KNOWLEDGE



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

## BATTLEFIELD WINGS, VA-E



### **CHAPTER STAFF**

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### **OTHER MEMBERS AS ASSIGNED**

sorry not to mention you!@I'm sorry.diana

### **Assistant Ride Coordinators**

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Greg Kestner 540-439-2408

Mike Nelson 540-368-3187

Ed Hoferkamp 540-898-7258

Dave Calahan 540-786-6168

Greetings and Merry Christmas to all of you,

To start, I would like to thank Anthony and Althea for hosting a Thanksgiving celebration meal at their home on 11/25. Julie and I were unable to attend due to family in town for the holiday, but I was told that in addition to Anthony and Althea, chapter E was represented by Sly & Tina, Ron & Linda & Mark, Ray & Kathy, Jim & Bev, Mike & Carol, and Butch & Nancy. I was told that everyone had a good time and enjoyed a bounty of wonderful food.

On 12/1, members of chapter E met for breakfast before we headed out to ride in both the Bowling Green and the Spotsylvania Christmas Parades. We had Dan & Martha Jo, Ted, Gordon, Larry, Claude, and Bob eating at Golden Corral, then as we went to mount up we found Ed hanging out in the lot. Larry and Martha Jo peeled off as we headed to Bowling Green where we met up with Frankie and staged for the parade. After the parade, we all headed off the Spotsylvania parade where we found Tom and Diana waiting in the staging area. During the parade we spotted Nancy and Sharon cheering us on. Everyone really enjoyed themselves as we decorated our bikes and rode in the parades. Many thanks to Frankie for registering us in Bowling Green and also to Ed for registering us for Spotsylvania.

On 12/15, we will be having our Christmas party at Wilderness Presidential resort. I have very fond memories of my first Christmas party there with chapter E. Everyone was so welcoming and we had a lot of fun. Please come out and party with us as we make merry fun. A big thanks to Mike and Carol for securing our party room.

On 12/17, come meet your friends for our annual Red Lobster dinner. As a reminder, this is a non GWRRA event, just friends going out for a Christmas dinner together. A round of applause to Kathy for setting this up for us.

On New Year's Day, we will be meeting at Golden Corral in Massaponax for breakfast. This has been a great way to start the new year with your biker buddies. Weather permitting (except Butch who rides in any weather), many of us will ride our bikes.

As the year comes to an end, I would like to thank everyone for their support of us as your chapter directors. It has been a joyous ride and I could not have completed it without each and every one of you. Julie and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I leave you with the following poem I wrote for you:

Christmas is approaching with all the joy that it brings,  
Replacing the summer joy we had while riding our wings,  
The wind rushes past the sleigh full of gifts it is bearing,  
Just like the wind that streams past our fairing,  
On New Year's Eve the corks fly from the bottle,  
Only a few more months till we can twist the throttle,  
Valentine's Day comes with Love from our heart,  
We get out the maps and trips we begin to chart,  
And then it gets warmer as we move into Spring,  
It's time to crank her up and go riding our Wing.

Remember the reason for the season, the birth of our Lord;

Gordon

## Dealing With Common Motorcycling Risks

In my quest to bring you something new each month, I Google “Motorcycle Safety” every now and again. On my most recent search I found two National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports on fatal motorcycle crashes. They were not new reports (published in 2001); maybe you have already seen them. They were written to provide safety officials with summary statistics (e.g. percentage of fatalities occurring on divided highways vs other road types) so those officials could choose how to focus safety programs and get the most bang (fewer future fatalities) for the buck (your taxpayer buck).

It's not my main purpose to repeat those statistics here but they do set the stage for this article so here are a few (I've left out statistics on licensing, helmet use, and alcohol use since I know none of us have any doubt about these areas and the trends are exactly what you would expect):

- The number of fatal crashes in urban and rural area is about equal.
- Single vehicle fatalities accounted for 45% of all fatalities.
- 70% of the fatalities were on non-divided roadways.
- Speed was a factor in 40% of the fatal crashes.
- Half of all single vehicle fatalities are related to negotiating a curve.
- 60% of single vehicle fatalities occurred at night.
- About 30% of single vehicle fatalities were non-collisions – falls, overturning, fires or explosions.

In sum, we shouldn't speed around curves at night in or out of town on non-divided highways when carrying dynamite in the trunk or saddle bags (especially if we are unlicensed and forgot to wear our helmet after leaving the bar).

Speed, curves, darkness and a few other factors were the risk factors the NHTSA identified for motorcyclists. But this is surely just the tip of the iceberg. Other external factors such as road conditions, traffic density, the presence of animals (e.g. deer), and various weather conditions (rain, wind) obviously present risks to us. And, internal factors such as how tired we are, whether we are taking medications that impact judgment or muscle skills, our mental state (angry, euphoric, or otherwise distracted), and whether we are too cold or too hot must also be considered for starters.

We must somehow deal with all these risk factors plus the ones I haven't thought to include. Not every factor every moment of every ride, but probably several of them at different times on most rides.

The first step in dealing with risks is to identify them -- the above is a start and you may have thought of others. As we identify risk factors during a ride, we must have a strategy to deal with them. (The only way we can eliminate them is to stop riding – unthinkable for some of us.) The MSF espouses their “ladder of risk” as a technique for managing risk. In this analogy, you step up one additional ladder rung for each additional risk

factor you assume at a given time. To avoid getting too high on the ladder, you must sometimes “give up” one risk before you assume another. For instance, if it’s getting dark, you must slow down a little or accept the fact that you have taken another step up the ladder. None of us can safely ride if we have assumed too many risks at one time because our mental and motor skills can do only so much and because sooner or later the luck of the draw will not be in our favor.

I like the ladder analogy because it’s easy apply. We have to take a few steps up the ladder just to get out of the driveway. And, additional risks will present themselves during the ride. What we need to do during each ride is keep a mental note of all risk factors we are currently assuming and be careful to not assume too many at one time. This is easier said than done and it won’t be done at all unless you make up your mind to consciously do it. In the relaxed comfort of your home or wherever you are reading this article, decide how you will deal with common risk factors and just how much risk you are willing to assume. Then, each time you assume a new risk during a ride, decide if you need to drop one to keep yourself at a comfortable rung.

Larry





## DECEMBER 2007 COY NEWS LETTER

Hello to all my GWRRA Family and Friends. The leaves have almost finished falling and the coldness of Winter has approached with a quiet but powerful whisk. As I write this letter, we are receiving our first snow and it is beautiful to watch falling on the trees although we are not expected to get much accumulation.

This has been a rather slow month as far as activities; however, we experienced a hardy Pot-Luck at Joe & Sheila's at the beginning of the month and what a wonderful time we had. I often say that you do not get to know someone unless you spend time with them, and GWRRA has afforded us (Tina & I) that opportunity to meet so many wonderful people and enjoy wholesome fellowship.

On Thanksgiving Day, we were invited to Ed & Wanda's house for dinner although Wanda was not allowed to cook; we had a hardy meal there as well. We had to make her take it easy and not do more than the doctor allowed, but you know Wanda, she has so much energy she couldn't just sit and do nothing. It was great to see her doing so well after getting out of the Hospital. The food was once again great. It was also good to meet some of Wanda's family and Ed's son. Ed made sure that everyone was comfortable by allowing us to watch his new HDTV. What a beauty. On Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> Wanda turned a year older ??, she requested that I sing a song that she loved so dearly for her birthday. In order to do that I had to go to her house. So on Monday the 26<sup>th</sup>, we surprised her along with some others and sang her the birthday song and cut the cake then I sang "Tiny Bubbles" by Don HO to her. Ed and Tina didn't object.

Our next adventure was spent at Anthony & Althea's on Saturday, 24 November. That was my first time attending but it will not be my last. I met many members of his family and found out that his father grew up in my hometown and knew many of the people/families that I knew. His mom made Dumplings that would melt in your mouth. I asked her if I could come to her house the following week to eat, but she kept telling me that she wouldn't be home (I wonder why). The preparation and serving of the food was unbelievable when you have approximately 35 to 50 people to be served. Anthony had everything under control and Althea was busy making sure everyone was comfortable and the food was being served as needed.

It seems as if all of our activities in the month of November centered on food. I'm not complaining.

We are in our last month of the year to be your COY. We have enjoyed serving you and as always are willing to assist anywhere and anytime.

Much Love

Sly and Tina



## TECH TIPS FROM THE WEBDUDE

Email has reinvented the way that we communicate with others. We send email to friends, family, or co-workers, just to name a few. We use email to communicate feelings, conduct business, or to say hi. You may have just placed an order with an online business and sitting in your inbox is the invoice or you get a picture of your newborn grandchild. These are some of the pros associated with email, but there are many cons out there too!

We all get it! We all hate it! Spam! Though we like the feeling of someone taking the time to send us an email, spam is usually generated by a program written and designed to get the attention of as many people as possible in a short amount of time. Spam has become the biggest annoyance among most email users, not to mention it is against most laws. Most email programs, i.e. Outlook, Yahoo, or MSN, contain some sort of spam filtering algorithms where the message may never reach your inbox, but career spammers find ways to circumvent the filter and land that dreaded email right into your inbox. Not cool!

When this happens, a lot of people get the feeling that, "If it made it through my spam filter, then it is a legitimate email." This may be the case a lot of times, but what do you do if the email in question looks good, feels good, but deep down you aren't so sure? There is just something about the email that doesn't seem right. Is the message asking for personal information? Is the message asking you to update your credit card information? Or is it asking you to buy something? In any of these instances, you should just stop. Think. Was there anything that I did recently that might have generated this email? If not, then go straight to the source. You don't need to reply, don't click a link within the email, or anything. Go directly to the bank's website, eBay, or whatever it is. Verify what the email is claiming is accurate. A simple phone call can set your mind at ease.

### FOR EXAMPLE

You get an email from a trusted source (Mother, brother, cousin). The purpose of the email is to share an electronic coupon with you and your friends. You might say to yourself: "This is pretty cool! A coupon for free stuff (or discounted stuff)!"

You immediately print the coupon and forward it to your entire address book. You run right to the store to take advantage of what the coupon was offering. You get all of the items that you need, walk up to the check out and hand the cashier the coupon (Of course, you have a huge smile on your face because you are about to save a bunch of money). Upon further inspection of the coupon, the cashier tells you that the coupon is not valid and has already been used, based on the barcode. With six people standing in line behind you, your face turns red and you sincerely apologize and leave the store.

This scenario is all too common and could have been prevented because it has probably happened to someone else in the past. There are websites out there that can break down the facts and inform the casual Internet user about such situations. Below are just a few websites that I have run across in my days of trying to determine if an email or website is legitimate. Just keep in mind if it seems "Too good to be true" then it probably is. Use common sense. Spammers and phishers take advantage of the ones that don't.

<http://breakthechain.org> – Break the Chain

<http://www.truthorfiction.com> – Truth or Fiction

<http://pages.ebay.com/education/spooftutorial> - eBay spoof tutorial

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phishing> - definition of phishing scams

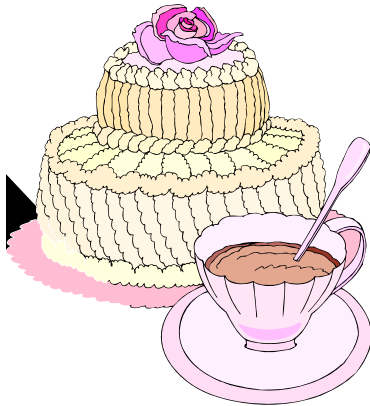
-- Webdude, "E" Team Webmaster

## December Birthdays



Kathy White 10  
Steve Jaeger 15  
Mike Nelson 20  
Jennifer Carter 20  
Ray Hitt 23  
Rob Hardisty 24  
Robert Clark 25  
Marla Kennedy 28

## Anniversaries




Dave and Sharron Calahan 18  
Joe & Sheila Pittman 22  
Don and Sharron Nissen 27

Submitted by:

Ed & Wanda Hoeferkamp

# December 2007    BATTLEFIELD WINGS CHAPTER E

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <a href="#">Bowling Green &amp; Spotsylvania Christmas Parades</a>
2	3	4 <a href="#">Staff Meeting</a> <a href="#">VINNY'S Restaurant</a>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <a href="#">Christmas Party Wilderness Presidential Resort</a>
16	17 RED LOBSTER 	18	19 NO REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED	20 <a href="#">Dinner Ride Old Country Buffet</a>	21	22
23	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

1/1/2008 Breakfast, 10:00, Golden Corral Buffet and Grill, Fredericksburg, VA

2/8,9,10<sup>th</sup>/2008 Wingless Weekend, Williamsburg, VA <http://www.gwrrava.org/images/wwreg08.pdf>

**VIRGINIA DISTRICT AGENDA FOR 2008:**

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









PLACE AND TIME ARE THE SAME, DATES CHANGE MONTHLY



[RETURN TO CALENDAR](#)

STAFF MEETINGS ARE  
SCHEDULED FOR THE  
FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH  
MONTH  
MEET AT 6:30 PM TO EAT  
MEETING STARTS AT  
7:00 PM  
ALL MEMBERS ARE  
WELCOME!

# TAKE OUT DINE IN

**(540) 373-4440**

*Call Ahead for Take Out Orders*



2312 Plank Road  
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405

Mon - Thur 11 - 10  
Fri - Sat 11 - 11  
Sun 11:30 - 9:30



Locations in Fredericksburg, Stafford, Aylett, Midlothian,  
Richmond and Lynchburg, Virginia &  
Hillsborough, North Carolina  
Coming to King George soon!

## Buon Appetito!

[RETURN TO CALENDAR](#)



**CHAPTER E CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**DECEMBER 15, 2007 7:00 p.m.**  
**WILDERNESS PRESIDENTIAL RESORT**  
**FREDERICKSBURG, VA**



**MEATS AND DRINKS PROVIDED**



**PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH, DESSERT, AND GIFT**



**SPECIAL GUESTS EXPECTED!**  
**(CHILD'S GIFT NEEDED)**



**GIFT EXCHANGE:**  
**REQUESTING THAT GIFTS BE**  
**MALE = A TOOL**  
**FEMALE = AN ORNAMENT**  
**WRAPPED AND MARKED PLEASE**



**DIRECTIONS:** From I95 take Fredericksburg  
exit 130 to SR3 (Plank Rd) West approximately  
8.5 miles to Wilderness Road. Turn left  
onto Wilderness Rd. and stop at the Gate  
House. Tell them that you are with the Gold  
Wing Christmas Party and they will direct you.  
Contact: Gordon Combs 540-840-0394  
gorcom@msn.com

[RETURN TO CALENDAR](#)

## SWISS STEAK CHEESE SKILLET

2 lbs. Boneless round steak

¼ c. all purpose flour

¼ c. butter, melted

1 (16 oz) can tomatoes

½ teaspoon salt

cheese

¼ t. basil leaves

1/8 t. pepper

½ c. chopped onion

1/3 c. chopped green pepper

1 ½ (6 oz) shredded mozzarella

Trim fat from steak; cut into serving size pieces. Dredge steak in flour; sauté in butter until browned. Add tomatoes, salt, basil, and pepper to steak; cover and simmer 1 hour. Stir in onion and green pepper; Cook an additional 30 minutes. Sprinkle cheese over meat; and heat just until melted.

Submitted by: Karen Kestner



Submitted by:

Diana Evans, copied from *Crowded Closet Cookbook*