

GWRRRA, REGION N, VIRGINIA DISTRICT CHAPTER VA-E BATTLEFIELD WINGS FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

DECEMBER 2009

www.battlefieldwings.com



BATTLEFIELD WINGS, VA-E



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CHAPTER E DIRECTOR'S NEWS

December 2009



Once again we are embarking upon another end of year. It has been a safe and enjoyable riding season. We have been very fortunate in our chapter to have been blessed with several successful events as a chapter. The list went as follows:

In January we started off our year with breakfast at Golden Corral Restaurant. We also had the first Pot Luck Dinner of the year at the Savages where we had 36 members in attendance.

In February many of us went to Wingless Weekend. We participated in fun and games and had the opportunity to take a few classes in safety to improve our motorcycle skill.

In March we had a very successful Ladies Night Out when we (husbands/boy friends) served our lovely wives dinner and presented them with a rose and some of us even sang a song and had a skit or two.

In April we had a Mystery Dinner given by Larry and Kathy White. It was very successful. We thank Kathy, her daughter Christy and also Larry's daughter, Shaneil along with Tina for serving us such delicious food as Larry stood guard at the door of the kitchen with a wooden rod.

In May we rode to Surry, VA for their annual Pork, Pine & Peanut Festival. It was a joyous ride and we enjoyed the Pork and also bought some Arts & Crafts.

In June we rode to Chrome World in Selbyville, Delaware where many of us bought White Helmets and Safety Chrome for our bikes. A few of us made a complete circle coming back through the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel and on through Norfolk, Va. Since I grew up on the Eastern Shore of VA I suggested that we stop in my home town of Accomack, VA. As we stopped to eat, I saw one of my High School Class Mates that I hadn't seen since 1963.

We also had our annual Tour De Burg event. Although it was almost rained out, we still had a successful turnout with 35 Chapter-E Members and 9 Members from Chapter-C.

In July, 9 Chapter-E members rode to Tulsa, Oklahoma for Wing Ding #31. Frankie & Delores, John & Helen & Tim & Eva and I set out on Sunday at 6:00AM. We rode until dusk dark and found a motel in CUBA, Kentucky. The second day we stopped for lunch in Illinois at a Subway and Ray & Kathy recognized our bikes and stopped for a conversation. We then continued on to Missouri and bedded down for the night. We arrived in Tulsa on the third day to a warm and friendly group of people. Wing Ding was great.

In August we went to the All Chapters Cook-Out. On our way there Tony decided to follow the same path as Butch which is to hit a Deer. Luckily he did not go down at the time he hit the deer however after he came to a complete stop, he decided to drop his bike. We are very happy that he did not get hurt. We are very thankful also that Butch did not break any bones when he went down from hitting the deer. It was quite scary to watch the nurses and doctors clean up his scared hands and knee. It really makes you think about wearing all the safety gear that's offered.

In September many of us went to Fall Sprawl and had a wonderful time. If you enjoy eating delicious steaks that are over an inch thick and a Very Large Baked Potato cooked to perfection, Fall Sprawl is the place to go. Many times it is very difficult to attend functions given by GWRRA members, but if you ever go where we are you will always have a good time.

In October, we had Fall Fantasy and once again experienced the threat of rain however we had a wonderful day and were blessed with sunshine. We had many Arts and Crafts that were auctioned off but the best part of it all was the delicious Chilly Cook-Off along with the Soups. As I was told, it was very difficult trying to judge such fine cooking as to which was best because they all were very good. Over all we thank all who participated and all who came. We also thank those of you who wanted to come but couldn't make it. We also traveled to CH-Y to capture the Traveling Plaque and were successful. It took us three attempts to get it, but

We are now in November and have experienced another Thanksgiving. I pray that all of you were blessed with a safe healthy and family oriented setting during your holiday. I also pray that you didn't forget to be thankful for all that you have, be it health, wealth, children coming around to show you how much they love you as parents and or just spending time with friends and sharing thoughts of what a great Country this is. Remember there are many people who have suffered this holiday and will continue to thru the New Year, be it the loss of a loved one or maybe some one you know over seas who may be in harms way.

I want you to think for a moment and ask yourself if you missed one of these events and if you did, think of all the fun you could have had. There have also been Pot-Luck Dinners we've attended and have thoroughly enjoyed. I'm sure you've heard about the all Pasta Dinner and also, the all Chicken Pot Luck dinner. If you haven't, please ask a Chapter-E Member.

As you read this I pray that Tina and I will still be on vacation or just returning from our first cruise together. We've had an enjoyable year as Chapter Directors and are looking forward to seeing what 2010 brings. I truly believe that my term at the helm has been very successful however I do realize that a Captain is only as good as his crew and You are the Best. Chapter-E's Staff & District Members have guided and supported us (Tina & me) 100%. You gave me assistance, encouragement, knowledge and confidence that I could be an effective Chapter Director. I do not want to over look the many members who also have assisted me in this journey. All things said above are indications of why I have agreed to continue for a second year. It's because of team members like you Chapter-E is so successful

Merry Christmas to all!

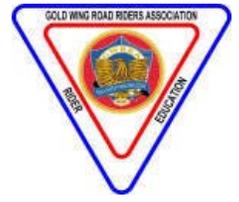
We are looking forward to our Christmas Party and the exchanging of gifts to our family & friends.

Once again, we are willing to assist anytime and anywhere needed. Until then I (we) enjoy our GWRRA Family & Friends.

Sly & Tina



CHAPTER E EDUCATOR'S NEWS



Winter Riding

At our November chapter gathering, I spoke on cold weather riding with my main point being that if you get new winter riding gear, you would be well advised to try it out in a parking lot or subdivision before hitting the highway. I won't rehash any of that but there are additional things that occur to me about "off season" riding that I thought worthy of discussion.

I enjoy riding 12 months a year but things are definitely different in the months December through March. In these winter months I'm wearing more and my movements are slightly more restricted, my "feel" of the road and the motorcycle controls is somewhat subdued due to that extra clothing, my hearing may be a little more restricted (I wear a full face helmet in colder weather), I may be chilled if I judge the temperature wrong before starting out, and I'm much more likely to be using my motorcycle for transportation on urban streets than for pleasure riding on rural twisties with a group of friends. This last factor is significant. I think a good argument can be made that winter riding is somewhat more hazardous mile for mile because it usually is on urban streets where we must deal with more traffic and where we are more often riding alone without the benefit of co-rider eyes or group visibility. And, other road users may not be expecting to encounter a motorcycle in cold weather and they may look right through us when we are in plain sight.

In these conditions, it is incumbent on us to ride even more defensively than we may be accustomed to riding (good for you if you think it would be impossible to be more defensive than you already are; I applaud you). Here are four quick thoughts on how our riding strategy or gear might be altered to enhance safety; maybe you can think of more:

Following distance: A slight increase in following distance is warranted because heavier gloves and boots translate to a slight increase in reaction distance – the distance you travel between the time you decide to apply brakes and the time you actually start applying them. Also, cold tires on cold pavement do not have as much traction as warm tires on warm pavement.

Visibility: Because car drivers may not be expecting to see us, you should try to be more conspicuous. Retroreflective tape might be a sensible addition to your helmet, jacket, a safety vest, or bike itself if night riding is in your plans. Don't neglect improving your visibility from the side. A headlight modulator is certainly attention-getting to oncoming traffic in the daytime.

Radio use: If you wear a balaclava, different helmet, or anything else that may hamper hearing, it is probably wise to adjust radio volume lower rather than higher so you don't miss the telltale sounds of nearby traffic that might otherwise be missed. (I must admit I sometimes first notice an overtaking vehicle by its sound rather than by noticing it in my review mirrors. Shame on me.)

Common sense: Let's agree we shouldn't ride on roadways that are icy or snow covered. (I hope I didn't need to mention that.) Also remember that if you feel cold, your mind will work slower and will be distracted from riding tasks; give it up and get warm before continuing.

2010 will soon be here. Let's make it a perfect year safety-wise.

Merry Christmas,

Larry

CHAPTER E'S MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT COORDINATORS' NEWS



Greetings E Team Members.

November started out with a great dinner ride to Ruby Tuesday's. This dinner ride was hosted by Butch and Nancy and their daughter MaryLynn was our server. In attendance were Butch & Nancy, Greg & Karen, Frankie and Delores, Ron & Linda, Ed & Wanda, Gordon & Julie, Dan & Martha Jo, Terry & Elaine and their daughter, plus MaryLynn & Justin. I have to give MaryLynn her props, the service was fast and pleasant and we all had a great time. Dinner rides are such a great way to get together and enjoy each other's fellowship. There are a number of you that we have not seen in a long time. Please come on out and have fun with us, you have to eat, don't you?

On Monday, November 9th, Sly, Tina, Ed, and Wanda traveled up to Burke for Chapter A's 27th Anniversary Party. Sly tells me that they had a good time and enjoyed the cake. They played bingo and Wanda won a jewelry bag.

On Sunday, November 15th, Charlie & Ellen Smith hosted their first pot luck. In attendance were Charlie & Ellen, Jeff, Ron & Linda, Dan & Martha Jo, Ray & Cathy, Carol & Mike, Danny & Carol, Ed & Wanda, Terry, Elaine and Elaine's mother, Butch, Nancy & Allie, Sly & Tina, Tom & Diana and Sharon P. I was told that everyone enjoyed looking at their classic cars. At least they had a variety of food this time. Thank you Charlie & Ellen for hosting this event. You can view Diana Evans' pictures of the pot luck at <http://picturesbydianaevans.shutterfly.com/239>

Saturday, December 12th is our Christmas Party. It is being held at the same place, Wilderness Presidential Resort on route 3. Please be there to help set up at 6:30. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish and a dessert, the chapter is providing turkey, ham and beverages. We will be having a gift exchange, guys bring a tool and ladies bring a Christmas item. Minimum value of \$10 and please bring something you would not mind receiving yourself (no gag gifts please). Santa Clause will be there so if you want him to give a gift to your child/grandchild, please bring a gift with your child's name clearly marked. We will be collecting food items for the food bank. For every pound of food (or for every dollar donated) you will receive a ticket for a drawing for one of Dan and Martha Jo's hand crafted items.

Monday, December 14th at 7 PM we will be having a get together at Red Lobster. This is not a GWRRRA event, just a bunch of us getting together for dinner. Ed and Wanda Hoeferkamp are putting this together for us. As of now they have 47 (yes, 47) people confirmed. The restaurant needs a head count by December 11th. Please let Ed and Wanda know if you want to go.

Friday, January 1st at 10 AM we will be meeting at Golden Corral in Massaponax for our annual New Year's Day

Breakfast. Afterwards, weather permitting; we will go for a ride.

Mark your calendars now... Saturday April 17th will be our second annual Ladies Appreciation dinner.

From Julie and me, have a wonderful and safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gordon Combs
Membership Enhancement Coordinator
GWRRA VA-E Battlefield Wings
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CHAPTER E NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2009

Established
10/24/87

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 STAFF MEETING	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 CHRISTMAS PARTY
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE		

MEMBER NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST



18 Dave & Sharron Callahan

21 Gary & Sheri Scholl

22 Joe & Sheila Pittman



10 Kathy White

15 Steve Jaeger

20 Jennifer Carter

23 Ray Hitt

24 Rob Hardisty

25 Robert Clark

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

**TAKE OUT
DINE IN**

(540) 373-4440

Call Ahead for Take Out Orders



2312 Plank Road
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405



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



Chapter E Christmas Party 2009