

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

JANUARY 2010

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



# BATTLEFIELD WINGS, VA-E



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# CHAPTER E DIRECTOR'S NEWS

## January



**H**appy New Year Chapter-E members! I wish a Happy New Year for anyone who takes time to read our News Letters. We have now entered into a new year and are continuing to emphasize the importance of getting together for Fun, Safety & Knowledge of how to ride our motorcycles. As we look forward to a prosperous year in riding, I do pray that everyone will have a safe riding season in 2010. Just think we are in the year 2010. Who would have thought it would come so soon. Time is passing us by so rapidly that we need to enjoy ourselves and our bikes as much as possible. It may seem a little premature for me to talk about riding while there is still snow on the ground, but there's no time like the present to prepare for the riding season.

**L**ast year was a very busy year for me and my wife. We became the Chapter Directors and as in any new job it takes you approximately six months to figure out what's going on. Within the six months I thought I had it down and rewarded myself with a trip to Wing Ding in Tulsa, Oklahoma. While there I took a few classes and met members from GWRRA Headquarters. Of course I was excited and couldn't wait to come back to share that information with the chapter. In my August News Letter, I stated that I met Stu Oltman and was very excited to do so. Well on Sunday January 3, I received an e: mail from Stu reminding me of (what I thought was a well written News Letter) the contents of that News Letter. In the e: mail he stated that I said I met him at Wing Ding, however that would have been impossible since he wasn't there. So the moral of the story is: I didn't meet him but I did meet Nick Hoppner and this time I'm sure of the right name. Maybe at the time of my writing I had a SENIOR MOMENT. The old saying,

"Charge it to my head and not my heart".

**A**s our bikes set idle in our garage/shed/trailer with the Trinkle Charge connected, you should ask yourself, what you/I will do different this year that can help the chapter become more successful in group participation. I have learned that if I assist, prepare, involve myself, and ask for direction I have no other choice but to feel that I am a part of and belong to any organization. If you do the same, you will find that you will make a difference as well.

**W**e are looking forward to the many planned events such as dinner rides/ice cream runs/pot lucks/ dinner theatre/ Tour De Burg/Fall Fantasy and other things to keep us united as a group this year.

**A**s usual we are willing to serve as needed anywhere and anytime.

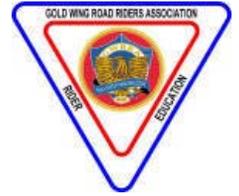
**T**hank you

Sly & Tina

Chapter Directors

Chapter-E

# CHAPTER E EDUCATOR'S NEWS



## Status Updates Requested

At the District level, much has been accomplished to bring the Rider Education database back. When I first took over as Chapter Educator from Gordon, the database was being maintained and was distributed to CEs on a regular basis. Later, I quit getting updates and nobody updated it for months. The database is now coming back thanks to the efforts of District staff and I would like to solicit your help in making VA-E's entries current. I'll tell you how in a minute.

GWRRRA prides itself on the promotion of safety. I think we all appreciate that fact and value it at least as much as the fun and knowledge aspects of membership. Most of us have found it worthwhile to join and advance through the Levels program and GWRRRA uses the database to track how the organization is doing in promoting safety. CEs use the database to see how their chapter stacks up compared to others. Maintaining the database is a lot of work for the District Educator and it can't be kept current without inputs from each CE.

In January and February I will bring to our chapter gatherings status sheets for each VA-E member recorded as enrolled in the Levels program (I may not have sheets for members who have enrolled recently since they may not be in the database). These sheets are handled as confidential information (they include your phone number and address if you have provided this information) and I will give you yours if you are at one of these meetings. I will ask you to look them over and update them where appropriate and then return them to me the same night. They indicate your current level (1, 2, 3, or 4), the dates of any GWRRRA seminars you have attended, the dates of any classes you have taken (e.g. ERCs, first aid, CPR), and your current safe miles and total miles. I do not have information on dates for seminars or classes you have taken at rallies or community colleges. If you can find completion cards for any of these events so you can accurately report these dates, that would be a big help. I do have dates for all of you that have attended seminars VA-E has hosted since I became CE and I will enter those dates for you. Anyway, please find what you can so you can help me make District's efforts a success.

For those of you that may be new to GWRRRA and have no idea what the Levels program is, let me give you the quickest of summaries. The Levels program is GWRRRA's way of promoting motorcycle safety through commitment, education, and preparedness. It pertains to both riders and co-riders. Participation is voluntary but certainly encouraged. Here is what is involved in each level:

Level 1: 1) The rider or co-rider simply affirms he/she is committed to safety (who can't do that?). 2) There is no cost (VA-E pays \$6 to District and you get a patch).

Level 2: 1) Level 1 plus: 1) Participation in a day long, riding course such as MSF's ERC (co-riders can participate in a class that allows 2-up riding or can attend GWRRRA's Co-Rider Seminar). 2) Hold a valid motorcycle license endorsement (riders only). 3) Have accumulated 5000 safe miles since joining GWRRRA. 4) Pay \$5 if you wish to receive a patch.

Level 3: 1) Level 2 plus: 1) Have current CPR or first aid certification from a recognized training provider. 2) Carry a first aid kit on your bike. 3) Pay \$4 if you wish to receive a patch.

Level 4: Level 3 for at least a year plus: 1) Have current CPR and first aid certifications. 2) Have 25000 safe miles. 3) Always wear full protective gear when riding. 4) Pay \$35 (you get a numbered patch and free breakfasts at rallies).

If you are interested in learning more or have questions about the Levels program, please let me know.

And, thanks in advance for help in updating the database.

Larry

## CHAPTER E'S MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT COORDINATORS' NEWS



All of us just celebrated the new year, you know the saying, out with old, in with the new. Well, I plan to apply some of that to myself this year concerning Battlefield Wings. What's out with the old?... to few times I mounted my bike to ride with my friends...to few times I visited other chapters... etc. In with the new...I will make more time to ride with my friends...I will make time to visit other chapters. You see, somewhere along the line some of us (especially me) have lost sight of a fantastic motto,"friends for fun, safety and knowledge." I will address the fun part. I joined GWRRA to have fun with people who shared the same passion as myself, the passion of riding a Honda Goldwing. And boy, did we have fun. We rode a lot, ate a lot, and got together a lot. Well, that was in 2002 and since then things have gone astray. It's time 'I' got back to my roots and that is to ride and have fun with my friends. I know there are some of us that do not have bikes anymore..so what...when you joined you did, you made lifelong friends, and you still like to have fun, so come on and jump in. I only hope that when I get to the point to retire my ride that I do not retire my soul. I admire the couples in our chapter who still get in there even though they have retired their steed. Your staff is planning many things for us to have fun but we are sometimes missing one letter..U !!! Let's try to ride more this year and go places to eat and have fun. Lets get together more often and enjoy each other. As the good book says, lets try to take the plank out of our own eye instead of worrying about the splinter in our brothers eye. This chapter has over 100 fantastic members, all who bring their own flair to the group. Lets resole to make 2010 the revival year for more fun within our group. Lets get together for rides, pot lucks, trips, ice cream runs, but most of all for fun. I have been watching one of our newest couples, Charlie & Ellen Smith. They remind me of a time in 2002 when Julie and I joined and jumped in feet first and did not worry about how deep the water was. They already hosted a wonderful pot luck, they accepted the honor of chapter couple for 2010, and they are hosting a Super Bowl Party at their home on the 7th. You know why?... they told me that they were looking for other Wingers to have fun with. What a concept.

Gordon Combs  
Membership Enhancement Coordinator  
GWRRA VA-E Battlefield Wings  
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## Tech Tips From the Webdude :: Blu-Ray Disc (BD)

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### **What is Blu-Ray?**

Today's standard DVDs use a red laser to read the optical discs and convert the signal to display on your TV. Blu-Ray uses a blue-violet laser, hence the name Blu-Ray. Blue-Ray players are backwards compatible with the standard CDs and DVDs, but they are actually reformatted and displayed with a much sharper picture than the standard DVD players on the market. Despite the different type of lasers used, Blu-ray products can easily be made backwards compatible with CDs and DVDs through the use of a BD/DVD/CD compatible optical pickup unit. The benefit of using a blue-violet laser (405nm) is that it has a shorter wavelength than a red laser (650nm), which makes it possible to focus the laser spot with even greater precision. This allows data to be packed more tightly and stored in less space, so it's possible to fit more data on the disc even though it's the same size as a CD/DVD. This together with the change of numerical aperture to 0.85 is what enables Blu-ray Discs to hold 25GB/50GB. Recent development by Pioneer has pushed the storage capacity to 500GB on a single disc by using 20 layers.

### **Did you know?**

The Playstation 3 (PS3) is a Blu-Ray player? Not only is it a gaming console, it dubs as a High Definition (HD) movie player and was the first Blu-Ray 2.0 compliant device on the market, unlike it's competitor, Microsoft's Xbox.

As a side note, make sure you get a good HDMI cable. They are a little pricy but it is worth it. Try to get one where the bandwidth capability is at least 10.2 Gbs. I got mine off of eBay for \$30 for a 6.5ft (2m) cable.

### **Some devices on the market**

- [Insignia Blu-Ray Disc Player with 1080p output](#) - \$129.99
- [Sharp - Blu-ray Disc Player with 1080p Upconversion](#) - \$149.99
- [Sony - Blu-ray Disc Player with 1080p Output](#) - \$149.99
- [LG - Blu-ray Disc Player with 1080p Output](#) - \$199.99
- [Yamaha - Blu-ray Disc Player with 1080p Output](#) - \$299.98

### **Resources**

- [Blu-Ray.com](#): Your source to everything Blu-Ray Disc (BD)
- [Wikipedia](#): The Free Encyclopedia
- [BestBuy.com](#)

### **What does a Blu-Ray player cost nowadays?**

Blue-Ray players used to cost a ton of money back in the day, but today, they are no more than what a DVD player used to cost. I replaced my DVD player with a Blu-Ray over the holidays and I love it. The picture couldn't be better and I think I am addicted to watching nothing but HD movies on the Blu-Ray player. Blu-Ray movies are on the average of \$10 more than standard DVDs, but the picture is nutty good!!

### **Why should I upgrade?**

The simple answer is HDTV. If you've ever seen high-definition (HD) video on an HDTV, then you know just how incredibly sharp the picture is and how vivid the colors are. In fact, HD offers five times the amount of detail compared to standard-definition (SD). The problem with today's DVDs is that they only support SD and don't have the necessary storage capacity to satisfy the needs of HD. That's where Blu-ray comes in, it offers up to 50GB of storage capacity and enables playback, recording and rewriting of HD in all of the HD resolutions including 1080p. The format also supports high-definition audio formats and lossless audio.



## CHAPTER E NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2010

Established  
10/24/87

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

## MEMBER NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST



09 Ed & Wanda Hoeferkamp

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



- 04 Michael Griffin
- 06 Diana Evans
- 09 Marry Messner
- 10 Kerrie Pratt
- 11 Ella Dorminey
- 13 Sharon Calahan
- 13 Tony Poulakowski
- 18 Gordon Combs
- 19 Sean Travis
- 22 Warren Carter
- 24 Gary Best
- 30 Mark Hardisty

**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

<http://picturesbydianaevans.shutterfly.com/>