



# Battlefield Wings

Chapter E  
Fredericksburg, Va

Region N      GWRRA  
[www.battlefieldwings.com](http://www.battlefieldwings.com)

## CHAPTER STAFF



May

2005

Next Meeting

May 18th

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**Come to our Chapter  
meetings the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday  
Of Each Month**

**Dynasty Buffet  
Four-Mile Fork**

**Meet at 6:30pm to Eat  
Meeting begins at  
7:30pm**

### **2005 COY**

Dan & Martha Jo  
Fritz

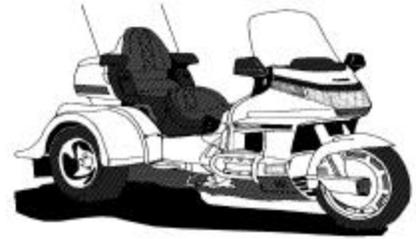


## Chapter Director News

## Jim &amp; Bev Travis



**Jim and Beverly Travis  
Chapter Directors  
GWRRA Virginia Chapter E  
"Battlefield Wings"**



Well it has been quite a month. I think it was just a month ago that I commented that things were going to liven up as we moved into the riding season, and I was right! It's been fun in the sun and on the go every weekend.

It started off Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April; away we went to Wayne and Lynette Stewart's home in Amissville, VA. For the Saturday Leadership Training Seminar. It was a very instructive seminar. Angie Mitchell presented the "Newsletters" topic, Mike Mitchell presented "Listening and Communicating", Lynette Stewart, "Motivating Volunteers" and Bob Renner. "The Nature of Leadership". Not only was the seminar extremely informative, we had a great Submarine Sandwich lunch with some terrific desserts.

Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, was time for the Fredericksburg, M.S. Walk. Mike Lucas, Mike Nelson, Greg Kestner, Tony Boone, Gordon Combs, Bob Jones, Butch Groves, Ed Hoferkamp, Ron and Linda Hardisty, Lloyd Messner, Norris Jones (former CD of Chapter E) and myself, stopped for breakfast at Hardee's before heading out to set up the route signs for the walk. Sharon Brooks, Jodi Brooks, Garret Brooks and Beverly came out afterwards to help out where needed. We provided support for the people walking, by patrolling the route to see if any of the people needed help. Afterward we picked up all the route signs and joined in for some pizza.

Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, thirteen (13) Chapter E members traveled to the Chapter W meeting in Chester, to obtain the Virginia Traveling Plaque and the Region N Traveling Plaque. The following Chapter E members braved the drive to Chester: Ed and Wanda Hoferkamp, Tony and Tracy Brooks with Katelyn Green, Ray Hitt, Kathy O'Neal, Dan Fritz, Mary Messner, Sharon Brooks, Beverly, myself and Sean Travis. Needless to say we did not come away with either plaque. Chapter NC-E2, from Fayetteville, NC captured the Region N plaque and Chapter B from Virginia Beach captured the VA Traveling Plaque. Oh well, there is always next time!

Friday, April 15 and it was time to hit the road again. Six Chapter E members traveled to Yorktown to spend the night at the "Do Drop In", the home of Bob and Sandy Renner. Mike and Carol Lucas, Ed and Wanda Hoferkamp, Beverly and I made our yearly sabbatical to visit the Renners and spend some time gabbing and playing dominos.

April 16<sup>th</sup> and we were off to Chapter C for the "Spring Thaw". Chapter E members were Mike and Carol Lucas, Ron and Linda Hardisty, Tony and Tracy Brooks with Taylor

Boone, Ed and Wanda Hoeferkamp, Ray Hitt, Kathy O’Neal, Sharon Brooks, Jodi Brooks with Garrett, Brittany and Ryan Brooks and of course Beverly and myself. We all had a great time playing the games that were set up, and most of our members came away with some great prizes. Tony Boone was awarded a certificate for the “Bike With the Lowest Mileage” and Tony, Tracy and Taylor were awarded the “Largest Non-GWRRR Group In Attendance” (they are members of the Harley Owners Group as well as GWRRR). Saturday evening was, again, spent at the Renners playing the ongoing domino game.

On Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Renners, with Beverly and I in tow, attended the Chapter L “Tax Day poker Run” in Chesapeake. The sun was out and the weather was cooperating for a wonderful day. As we were in Chesapeake, our daughter, Christine brought the grand children, Zachary and Samantha, out to play with us. We all enjoyed the fun and games, especially the grand children. They thought it was great when they won some of the prizes.

April 24<sup>th</sup> and it was time for the Chapter D “Magical dragon feast”. Attending members from Chapter E were Tony and Tracy Brooks with Katelyn Green, Sharon Brooks, Jodi Brooks with Garrett Brooks, and Beverly and myself. See the write up by Tony and Tracy further along in the newsletter.

As you can see, we have been having nothing but fun, Fun and more FUN. For any and all of you that have missed the enjoyable and entertaining times to be had when visiting other chapters at their meetings or events, you have missed some wonderful times that can never be recaptured.

See you down the road

Chapter Educator News

Gordon Combs



**The rally season is upon us. Some of us will travel long distances to attend some events. Fatigue is a powerful element that must be addressed.....**

## **You Are Getting Very Sleepy . . .**

*by Robert Vaughan*

It's our two archenemies, fatigue and drowsiness, talking to us again in their usual monotones. They are indeed powerful, but they can be beaten with a little knowledge and



planning. Let's practice the old adage--know your enemy. What are fatigue and drowsiness?

Fatigue is a weakness or weariness resulting from physical exertion or prolonged stress. It can be both physical and mental. Drowsiness is a state of lowered consciousness, reduced alertness, and dulled perception.

Knowing what they are is only the first part. We also need to know what causes them and how to fight them. They usually occur in prolonged riding because of monotony, tight schedules, heavy traffic, or bad weather. After two to four hours of continuous riding, the central nervous system becomes fatigued, senses become dulled, and perception is lowered.

Highway hypnosis can sneak up on you. Highway hypnosis is the drowsiness caused by lack of visual and physical stimulation while riding. Several things contribute to it--straight, unvarying roads, riding alone at night, few riding operations and being surrounded by the monotonous engine sound.

How can you fight these enemies? If you've had a hard day, physically or mentally, you need plenty of sleep before riding. Don't plan to start for Big Bend after work. Go home. Sleep. Leave the problems of work behind and get a fresh start in the morning. Plan the trip for no more than two hours of straight road at a stretch. Vary your speed, lane, and lane position. Listen to the radio, or better yet, talk on the CB or to your co-rider. Take rest breaks. They help to raise alertness levels.

Riding demands more attention and requires more skills than driving. You need that extra edge--not just when you start your trip, but always. A little planning can keep you sharp and safe for the whole trip.

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## 2005 Chapter Couple

## Dan & Martha Jo Fritz

Oh, for the want of another member or two, or for a few members to have ridden their bikes, Chapter E could have brought home the VA traveling plaque. Dan went with several other members of VA E to the monthly meeting of Chapter W in Chester, VA. Their intent was to capture either the VA or the Region N traveling plaque. The race was close but no wood came home to Chapter E.



Dan had the opportunity to try to capture Ginny again at Chapter W's meeting as well, but he declined in order to give another couple the pleasure of entertaining her for a while. I'm sure we will get the chance again soon.

The inspection stickers have been updated, the oil changed and the tires checked. We are ready for a ride. And ride we will. Dan is already wining about the 470 +/- miles that he is going to have to ride to and from Maggie Valley, NC for the Region N Rally. If he has his way, he will find a way to trailer both bikes, plus the camper and all of our paraphernalia. If he figures out a way to do it, don't be surprised to see a rocking chair strapped on the top. All I can say is that I don't want to hear any more stores about all the Iron Butt rides he use to take. We will be camping in the camp grounds right at the rally and invite y'all to come on down and visit with us'ns a while.

If you haven't registered for the All Chapter's Picnic to be held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, please give it some thought as soon as possible. In years past, you have had to prepare something to bring and then figure out how to transport it without giving up the fun of riding the bike to the outing. Or you have had to make a quick stop at the local food store to buy something. Either way, what a hassle. Plus you spent good money for ingredients or already prepared food. This year will be different. The picnic will be catered and all food will be provided. If you pre-register now, you are guaranteed your meal for only \$8 per adult and \$5 for children 12 years old and under. However, if you will miss the experience of preparing and transporting food, you can still participate in the desert auction. Please come and have a good time with your GWRRA Family.



## DISTRICT & REGION NEWS



**REGION N RALLY ANNOUNCEMENT** - Mike & Angie Mitchell, Region N Directors, announce that the 2005 Region N Rally will be held on May 19 - 21 at the Eagles Nest Theater, in beautiful Maggie Valley, NC. The Mitchell's say "The Eagle Nest is an 800 seat newly built music theatre that should suit our needs wonderfully. We will have plenty of room for all activities and vendors on site. There are plenty of hotels, campgrounds and full service restaurants in Maggie Valley to take care of everyone. The townspeople have opened their arms to us and are as excited to have us as we are to be there. The Region Staff will be working the area over the next few months to secure sponsorships, host hotels and other goodies that will enhance the Rally."

**[Region N Rally Chapter Challenge](#)**

Region N announces a Chapter Challenge to all Chapters within Region N for this year's Appalachian Adventure in Maggie Valley, NC. And those of you who have already pre-registered are one up on those that haven't.

Here's the way it goes. Each participant will receive one point for specific events that they attend while at the Region N Rally. Those points are received for the following:

**Pre-Registration**  
**Scavenger Hunt**  
**Attending a Seminar**  
**Bike Parade**  
**Poker Run**  
**Best Dressed Contest**  
**Bike Show**

On Saturday evening before closing, the points will be tallied and the winner will be that chapter who has the most points by Chapter percentage. That Chapter will be announced at closing on Saturday night, and will be our Region N Chapter of the Year. They will receive a trophy that will be kept by the Chapter until the next year's Rally, their chapter events will be highlighted in Region N newsletters and on our Region N web site, and they will get preferred seating at next year's Region N Rally. Photos will also be taken and an article about the Chapter will be submitted to Wing World for consideration. Wherever they visit, they will be welcomed as Region N Chapter of the Year. We are very excited about the Chapter Challenge and hope the Chapters will be too!

Good luck to everyone!  
Mike & Angie Mitchell  
Region N Directors

**VA-B CAPTURES VIRGINIA PLAQUE** - The room was full of over 80 participants from all over Virginia - Chapters VA-A1 (Stafford), VA-B (Virginia Beach), VA-D (Richmond), VA-E (Fredericksburg), VA-J (South Boston), VA-U (Hanover). All of these people had come to Chapter VA-W's (Chester) meeting on Apr. 12 to see who would take home the Virginia Traveling Plaque. And the winner was ---- Chapter VA-B.

**REGION PLAQUE HEADS BACK TO KENTUCKY** - Chapter KY-T (Paintsville, KY) came all the way across Virginia to get to Chapter NC-K2's (Fayetteville, NC) Chapter Meeting on Apr. 24 and headed back home with the Region N Plaque. How they managed to do that without some Virginia Chapter waylaying them along the way is beyond us. Now we'll just have to send a rescue party over to their next event to bring that thing safely home.

## District Couple Chatter

Spring is finally here and hopefully some good riding weather is upon us. There are lots of events on the calendar and we plan to make as many as possible. We know spring showers bring lovely flowers, but let's all hope the raindrops fall during the week!

The "Couples" are having a great time with Ginny. If you have not met her, you are missing a treat. It seems she gets an addition to her attire at each stop she makes. Someone even gave her a GWRRA tattoo. If possible, please give her your chapter's bar when she makes an appearance at your meeting or event. Thanks!

We have been out and about. April was a very busy month and we began at the Saturday Seminars at Wayne and Lynette's home. The seminars were very informative and there were three Chapter Couples of the Year in attendance. The next day, we traveled across the mountains to Chapter R's meeting in Harrisonburg. Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we could be found in Salem at Chapter X's Bike show and Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> we were in North Carolina for Chapter NC E-2's Poker Run. Monday night we attended Chapter J's meeting in South Boston and Tuesday night we were at Chapter W's meeting in Chester. We took Wednesday and Thursday off to do some needed work at home. On Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Sam was working, so Kathy attended Chapter C's Spring Thaw. On Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, we attended Chapter M's meeting in Martinsville and then headed to Tennessee for Spring Fling. If we missed seeing you on any of our travels in April, we hope to see you in May.

We are counting down the days until the Region N Rally, May 19-21 in Maggie Valley. It's not too late to register. The Region Couple of The Year selection process will be Friday morning at 9:00 AM at the Eagle's Nest Theater. We hope to see lots of your smiling faces there, please. We are asking our supporters to wear either a tie dye or red shirt that morning. We'll be the ones with the knocking knees! Please feel free to stop by and visit us at our hotel, Castlewood Inn.

Now for a brief reminder about the All Chapters' Picnic, scheduled for July 23 in Richmond at Dorey Park. You must pre-register to be guaranteed the BBQ meal. The registration form is on the District website or from your COY. You do not need to bring a dish this year unless you would like to bring a dessert for the "Charity Dessert Auction". There will be a special prize for the Chef of the dessert that brings in the most money. The cost is \$8.00 per person and \$5.00 for children

8 years old and younger. The menu will include Pork BBQ w/roll, cole slaw, baked beans, corn on the cob, tea, lemonade and of course, dessert. There will be games and a "Chapter Challenge". The winning chapter will receive preferred seating at Rally In The Valley. All pre-registered participants will be entered into a drawing to win a free RITV registration (2 drawings).

*Hugs,  
Sam & Kathy*

CHAPTER NEWS

# Birthdays

Althea Davis	6
Will Davis	14
Jim Travis	16
Kathy O'Neal	18
Bob Jones	18
Jesse Baldwin	24
Bev Travis	31



# Anniversaries

George & Brenda Karhan	4
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As many of you know, I have been the newsletter editor for several (I don't even know how many) years. I have enjoyed doing it and have learned a lot. However, it

**is time that I give up this position. I can't seem to devote the time that I use to on it and so have let many of you down lately. For this reason, I will be stepping down as newsletter editor at the end of this year. I am looking for someone to take over this position. I will be more than willing to help anyone get started and "show them the ropes". I have all the needed software and information. This has been a wonderful, fun time, but as with anything it is time to move on and let someone else step up. Anyone interested please contact me or Jim. Thanks for all your help, encouragement and support. Kathy**

#### **VMAC:**

On April 23, 2005 Katelyn Green and Tony Boone attended the Virginia Motorcycle Against Cancer (VMAC) breakfast which at the ACCA Temple in Richmond. They met a group of friendly people and had some great food. The bikes were blessed by Rev. L. Jones who gathered all the riders together by their bikes and said a prayer for them and all the riders whoever they may be. One of his quotes was "If you have GOD as your co-pilot, move over and let him take the wheel". Katelyn had the honor of drawing all the tickets for the door prizes. She thought the blessing was something cool, since it was open to all different bikes.

**Chapter D's picnic**, The Magical Dragon Feast was April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Dorey Park in Richmond. A few of Chapter E's members participated in the festivities. Tony and Tracy Boone, Katelyn Greene, Sharon Brooks, Jodi and Garrett Brooks, Jim and Beverly Travis. They held a Wizard Riddle Competition with prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25. Each person was given a riddle to solve, to find a Wizard. Once a Wizard was found, he gave the person two riddles. One riddle, if solved, earned the person a coin. The second riddle was used to find the next Wizard, who then gave you two more riddles ...and so on. In the end the coins were turned in for tickets, which were drawn for prizes. The youngest player, Katelyn Green, 12, won the Grand Prize!!! GO Katelyn!!



The FEAST was great and everyone had their fill of Dragon, Dragon Eggs, Knights Cabbage, Kings Beans and Nectar.

Hear is a sample of the riddles from the game, can you figure it out?

Voiceless I cry, Wingless I flutter, Toothless I bite, Mouthless I mutter. What am I??????

**CHROME WORLD RIDE:** Gordon called me on a Wednesday to see if I wanted to go with him and others to Chrome World on Saturday. Maybe he remembered I said I'd like to make a trip like this when I heard about it last year (after the fact). Anyway, I was able to go and I document the trip from a first timer's point of view.

I met Gordon at 04:30 in his driveway; this is a ridiculous hour to be out of bed. Ten minutes later we were tooling down I 95 and Butch joined us as we passed an exit (perfectly coordinated via CB). A few minutes after that we were at the Flying J at Exit 106 where Frankie was waiting for us. Greg should have been there too but he wasn't, so I had time to get a cup of coffee. (Lesson: If others aren't getting coffee or another diuretic, you shouldn't either.) Greg arrived and we all gassed up -- except possibly Frankie. Maybe he gassed before we got there but sometime later he was whimpering about a yellow light on his dashboard while the rest of us were content.

At this point you may be wondering why we were headed South (assuming you know that Chrome World is in Delaware). Well, the story I got back on Wednesday was that we wanted to take a longer, scenic ride to Chrome World but would take a more direct route for our trip home. As a bonus, this longer route would take us over/through the Chesapeake Bay Bridge/Tunnel (for a mere \$12 toll) and provide a nice riding experience.

We got to the tunnel about 8 AM and paid our toll. This took longer than it should have because we each had to stop, find neutral, take off gloves, find \$\$, stow receipt, don gloves again, and get out of the way for the next guy. Seems to me for a small group like this we should have given the leader our toll \$\$ at the previous gas stop and let him pay for all of us at the toll booth. Wouldn't that be more impressive to the traffic waiting



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behind us? After regrouping on the other side of the toll booth we headed out for our 20+ mile over-and-under-the-bay experience.

I guess I should have mentioned the weather before now. It started out in the 30s and everyone was dressed for it (or was too macho to complain). Gordon pointed out we looked like Michelin Men. Wind was the more interesting weather factor. It was so windy on the bridge/tunnel that we got a saltwater mist shower as we exited one of the tunnel sections. The mist was just from waves crashing into rocks but we could also see the tops of the waves being blown off in one section of open water. The waves were at least 6 footers and could have been much bigger, I was too busy watching the road to examine them closely. The wind wasn't particularly gusty but we did have to take care entering and exiting the tunnel sections.

When we got off the bridge/tunnel we gassed up (to Frankie's relief), visited the men's room (to my relief), and got breakfast. Then, we headed North on routes 13 and 113 to Shelbyville, DE arriving at 11:30 or so. I had a mental list of things I wanted to get and I think this was typical of the group. But one of us (who I don't have permission to identify) had a written list, a Chrome World catalog with numerous items highlighted, and a supply of empty duffel and other bags secured to his passenger seat and trunk rack to hold his purchases. (Why didn't he just bring his matching green trailer?) If you remember the scene in *Pretty Woman* where Geer takes Roberts into a Rodeo Drive clothing store and tells the manager they are about to spend an obscene amount of money, you know what Chrome World looked like when this unnamed rider produced his list. Half the sales force worked with him leaving the rest of us at a service disadvantage. We all did eventually get everything we came for (except I bought the last pair of brake pads and Greg had to have his shipped later) but the manager's smile and thank you were directed at just one of us as we left.

We headed home on a more direct route taking us over a Delaware bridge or two and then the US 50/301 bay bridge near Annapolis. I had never been over this bridge on 2 wheels and enjoyed the experience. But, this might be an experience to be avoided by those afraid of heights. The side railing allows a nice view of the water below that could be a problem to acrophobiacs. I'm currently working on a project that requires me to climb stairs to a platform 100+ feet off the ground. Two weeks ago I escorted a fellow worker that almost froze when we got partway up. This was completely involuntary on his part. He crouched down as he completed the climb, which did nothing to add to his safety but he couldn't help himself. Obviously, this level of anxiety is unsafe for a rider; we should be careful to point out ride features such as this when organizing rides.

After the bridge, we stayed on or near 301 to avoid I 495 and 95 (an excellent decision) and had a very enjoyable final segment of our ride (it was warm!). It included the bridge near Dahlgren and a final segment (for me) on Route 218 which is where I take many after work "stress relieving" rides. Gordon, Frankie, Butch, and I all dropped off at various places on 218 leaving Greg to finish his trip home alone.

I checked my odometer when I got home. 480 miles for me. I also checked my watch. Almost 7 PM. I think the "scenic ride" explanation for going to Chrome World via Norfolk and points South might have been only part of the story. Could one or more of the other riders be in training for an Iron Butt ride? Larry G.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 14<sup>th</sup>:** Ch. I Run With the Bulls Poker Run
- May 18<sup>th</sup>:** **Chapter E Monthly Meeting**
- May 19-22:** **Region N Rally**
- May 21<sup>st</sup>:** Fredericksburg Motor Sports P.R. Day
- May 28<sup>th</sup>:** Ride to the Glebe Harbor—Picnic
- June 4<sup>th</sup>:** Ch. P Fundraiser
- June 5<sup>th</sup>:** Ch. F Summer Event
- June 5<sup>th</sup>:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ride For Kids
- June 11<sup>th</sup>:** Ch. V Chicken' Pickin"
- June 12<sup>th</sup>:** Ch. D Rivah Rally Fish Fry



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Thought you all would enjoy the following article for Mother's Day.

### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO THE MEANEST MOTHER IN THE WORLD**

I have the meanest mother in the world! While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs, or toast. When other kids had cake and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich, and as you can guess, my supper was different from the other kids too! But, at least I was not alone in my suffering. My two brothers had the same mean mother as I did.

My mother insisted upon knowing where us kids were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing. She insisted if we said we would be gone an hour, that we be home in one hour or less and not one hour and one minute. I am really ashamed to admit it, but she actually punished us, each time we did as we pleased. Can you imagine someone actually punishing a child, just because we disobeyed? Now you can see how mean she really was.

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and up early the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while they slept my mother actually had the nerve to break the child labor law. She had us work, we had to wash dishes, make beds, learn to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she lay awake nights, thinking up mean things to do to us. She always insisted upon us telling the truth and nothing but the truth.

By the time we were teenagers, she was much worse and our lives became even more unbearable. No one tooting the horn of a car in front of the house for us. She would embarrass us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature ages of 12 and 13. Old-fashioned mother refused to let us date until the age of 15 and 18. Fifteen, that is if you only dated to school functions and that only came twice a year!

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. None of us has ever been arrested! Each of my brothers served their time in the service of his country, and whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out??? You are right, our mean mother! Look at all the things we missed. We have never been in jail, never used dope, never been violent, and a million and one other things that our friends did. She forced us to grow into God fearing, educated, honest adults.

Using this background, I will stand a little taller and be filled with pride, because you see, I thank God He gave me the **MEANEST MOTHER IN THE WORLD!!**

