

October 2010

GWRRRA, REGION N, VIRGINIA DISTRICT

CHAPTER VA-E



BATTLEFIELD WINGS, VA-E



CHAPTER

TEAM

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CHAPTER E DIRECTOR'S NEWS

CHAPTER E'S MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT COORDINATORS' NEWS



Greetings E Team Members,

Julie and I just got back from a fabulous time at Rally in the Valley. We had four days of wonderful weather, wonderful friends, wonderful fun, and wonderful food. On Thursday evening, a group of us went to the Homeplace Restaurant for a great home style dinner and left with very full bellies. It is rumored that Greg and Larry actually hurt something inside their gut. On Friday we all enjoyed the vendors (especially Jay, who melted a credit card at the lighting vendor getting his bike all lit up), the seminars and the fellowship. On Saturday, Dan & Martha Jo and Tom & Diana hosted another superb chapter lunch at their "villa". On Saturday evening during the closing ceremonies we were in for another treat. The Spirit of Virginia Award is awarded to the person or couple who best emphasizes the GWRRA spirit in Virginia for the past year or years. It was awarded to our very own Greg and Karen Kestner for all they have done to promote the spirit of Friends for Fun, Safety, & Knowledge. Congratulations Greg and Karen. I would also like to thank all the E team members who were there and helped with the hospitality table. The E Team Rocks.

At Saturday's closing ceremonies, it was announced that Mike and Angie Mitchell will take over as Virginia District Directors effective 11/01/10. As most of you may know, they were former VA District Directors and Region N Directors. Also, Dennis and Kristen Westin, former Chapter Directors of VA-B Virginia Beach, were selected as the Virginia District Couple of the Year. Please join me in congratulating Mike, Angie, Dennis, and Kristen in their new roles.

Until next month,
Gordon

Greetings E Team,

A listing of upcoming events.

October 20th General Gathering @ Dynasty Buffet 6:30 to eat, 7:30 to meet

October 23rd E Team Fall Fantasy @ Charlie & Ellens

November 2nd Team Leader Meeting @ Ledo Pizza

November 6th Ride being led by Jim Sharkey

APPLE CIDER CYCLE CRUIZE

Vintage Virginia Apples Annual Apple Harvest Festival

2545 Rural Ridge Lane

North Garden, Virginia 22959 (Albemarle County)

Saturday - November 6, 2010

MEETUP TIME AND LOCATION:

8:30 am Stands Up

Valero / FasMart Convenience Store (with Dairy Queen)

1700 Ashland Road

Richmond, Virginia 23233

Map to Meetup Location: <http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Richmond&state=VA&address=1700+Ashland+Road&zipcode=23233>

We will take a scenic route from Richmond to North Garden at the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and will include a short Fall Colors Ride on Skyline Drive following our visit at the Festival. We will hang out at the Festival for about two hours. Vintage Virginia Apples and Albemarle Ciderworks are family-owned and operated ventures of the family of Bill Shelton, my very own boss of 17 years. Bill is excited about meeting all my riding buddies! :o)

Sponsored by Vintage Virginia Apples and the Coven Garden Ruritan Club, the Festival features tours through the Cidery, Tasting Room events, displays of crafts and skills of yesteryear, apples for tasting and purchase, old-fashioned apple butter cooking over a slow fire, cider pressing, hay rides over the nearby ridge, and instruction on growing your own fruit and your own winter garden.

Route: Richmond to North Garden via Route 6. After the festival, take I-64 to Skyline Drive and ride north to

Route 33. Route 33 back to Richmond, or you can hop I-64 for a speedier return.

Lunch Options Onsite: an old-fashioned hot dog and hamburger stand, a BBQ vendor, and Brunswick Stew cooked onsite by the Coven Garden Ruritan Club. There will also be other food vendors offering taste samplings of their wares.

NOTES: The drive up to the orchards is gravel and parking will be in gravel or grass. Admission to the Festival is FREE. Be prepared with toll money for Skyline Drive (\$10). This will be an all-day ride.

See Festival webpage here for the full schedule of events:

<http://www.vintagevirginiaapples.com/harvestfest.htm>

Gordon – Membership Enhancement Coordinator

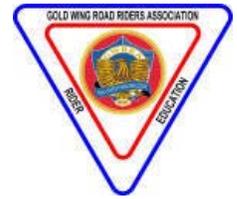


This is the website that has the listings of all of the VA District Officer listings:

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

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/Chapters.html>



Delusions



I thought some of you might be interested in my activities while I was in Hawaii on a business trip. I had a weekend off and checked out a couple of things with Sylvia who came along. First, I went to a motocross track I'd been to on a previous trip. One of the guys told me to take a lap or two on his bike and here is a picture of me getting some air during a nice jump. Sylvia could have snapped the shutter a little earlier so you could see my excellent form but your mind can easily fill in that detail so this is still a good shot for my scrapbook. Later, I went to the beach and one nice chap told me I could use his kite and board for awhile. That's me with the black kite kicking up a nice rooster tail. Sylvia could have zoomed in a little tighter so you could see my excellent form but your mind can easily fill in that detail so this is still a good shot for my scrapbook.

Now while I'm being self-delusional (I like that term better than liar), let me say that being self-delusional about some things is downright dangerous. For instance, if I said to myself "Larry,

your swerving abilities are top notch and you don't need to slow down now that deer rutting season is upon us" I'd be kidding myself in a dangerous way. Statistics show that there are noticeably more deer strikes by motor vehicles in September through December and I just read that Erie Pennsylvania has determined there were 5 times the average number of strikes on the opening days of doe and buck hunting seasons. It is important to take appropriate precautions to minimize our chances of becoming a statistic rather than being self delusional and thinking we can handle anything that comes along. Maybe the biggest way to delude ourselves is to think _____ (fill in your own blank) will never happen to me.

Recently, I discovered I had overrated my cornering abilities (I was delusional). I was riding some twisties I haven't ridden in awhile and I came to one curve that was a little tighter than I was expecting. I found myself doing something that is just the opposite of what I should have done – when I recognized the curve was tighter, I initially began leaning my body less instead of more. This, of course, requires that the bike lean more and that increases the risk of a slide. Have you done this? Or, tapped the brakes? Even for a moment? If so, use the experience to adjust your rating of your abilities so you don't get in over your head on some future ride.

I've used up most of my allotted space for this month but I want to repeat something I said during last month's chapter gathering. I said we shouldn't make snap decisions. They could result in movements (e.g. lane changes) that are unexpected by other road users and could result in a collision. One situation that is ripe for a snap decision is during a group ride when the group gets separated at a light or leaving a parking area. "Left behind" riders want to catch up and may feel some pressure to catch up as soon as possible (the first left behind rider might feel the most pressure). During a group ride I was on since our last gathering I think I observed just this phenomenon – a left behind rider pulled out in front of traffic that was too close for my comfort. He had a better vantage point than I and nothing bad happened so I may be wrong. But it may have been an instance of making a decision that in hindsight was an imprudent, rushed decision. Any time you feel rushed is a time to remember quick decisions may be risky decisions and you should resist the urge to decide too quickly.

Another event during the aforementioned group ride caught my interest. One rider got something in his eye and radioed that he needed to stop. The lead rider began looking for a place that had water in case it was needed. This sounds like great team coordination but the fact is the stricken rider needed to stop NOW and the lead rider didn't understand that. This kind of thing is nobody's fault but it is preventable. If you are on a group ride and need an immediate accommodation, make that clear. If you are leading a group ride and someone asks for an accommodation, question them until you understand if something is needed immediately or within the next several minutes.

Larry

MEMBER NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

TEAM LEADER 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



October

02 Mike & Jennifer Plaughter
09 Dan & Martha Jo Fritz

November

01 Claude & Debra Revely
03 Rob & Brooke Hardisty
19 Charlie & Ellen Smith



October

11 Charlie Smith
12 Frankie Chapman
22 Dave Callahan
25 Richard Wilson
28 Jeff Burke
30 Mary Cole
31 Maurice Keller

November

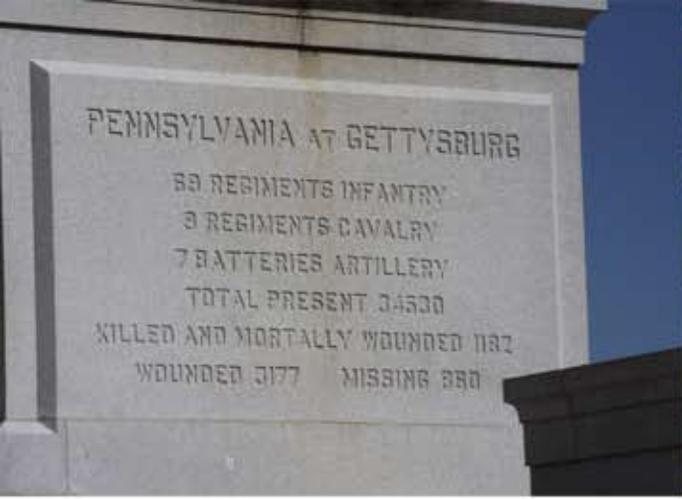
15 Kimberly Clark
26 Wanda Koeferkamp
30 Ellen Smith



Established
10/24/87

CHAPTER E NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5 TEAM LEADER MEETING	6	7 RITV	RITV	RITV
10	11	12	13	14	15	19
17	18	19	20 GENERAL GATHERING	21	22	23 E TEAM FALL FANTASY
24 ----- 30	25	26	27	28	29	30



Gettysburg today 2010
Pictures property of Diana Evans



Pictures from Gettysburg Cyclorama with lighting changes. Group arriving on left, leaving on right. Pictures property of Diana Evans.



Trip to Gettysburg, PA on September 25,

was uneventful HURRAY! Going and coming. It was a lovely day for a ride. Dan & Martha Jo led with Mike Plaucher, Danny & Carol Hays, Tom & Diana Evans following. Due to physical problems Tom & Diana decided not to ride but followed in a car (Shucks!).

The Park is a wonder to see. There are statues everywhere of men that fought gallantly. The park seems to go on forever over hills and valleys and I wonder just how much blood was spilled on the land. It is somewhat hard to visualize the battles fought in today's view, but the Cyclo-rama gives a great view to what is called the "High Tide of the Confederacy"¹. Cycloramas traditionally measured 50 feet high and 400 feet in circumference².

For the complete virtual tour, please visit:

<http://www.nps.gov/archive/gett/getttour/main-ms.htm>

(You will have to copy and paste)

^{1&2} Taken from The Battle of Gettysburg cyclorama by Sue Boardman & Kathryn Porch

Reprints of any of my pictures may be requested from me. I also have others I haven't provided here if anyone is interested. I am trying to get pictures of each state statue represented; I think I will need several more trips!

Diana Evans

