

September 2010

GWRRA, 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,

Wow, August got started off with a lot of riding as I put over 600 miles on my bike on the first Friday and Saturday.

On Friday evening August 6th, 19 of us were blessed and honored to witness the evening parade at Marine Barracks Washington D.C. The Marine Barracks Washington was established on March 31st, 1801 and is the oldest active post of the United States Marine Corps. Located just north of the parade deck where we watched the parade stands the historic "Home of the Commandants", the oldest continuously occupied building in the capital. It has been the residence of every Marine Commandant since its completion in 1806. The Marines assigned to the Barracks fulfill a number of duties, including performing parades and ceremonies, providing Presidential support, and maintaining infantry proficiency. The military ceremony we witnessed is a standard for Marine units throughout the world, with adaptations to showcase the unique ceremonial and musical units of Marine Barracks Washington. This event was set up for us by our very own Joe Pittman who is a retired Marine. Unfortunately, Joe had to go out of town and could not go with us, but Joe, we thank you so very much for your thoughtfulness. In the Denny's parking lot at 4:45, Ray & Kathy, Gordon & Julie, Frankie & Delores, Nolan & Liz, Larry, Jeff, Bob, Keith, Debbie, Richard and Dave Miller from Chapter U gathered around for a pre ride briefing by our Educator Larry, then saddled up and headed out to I95. As we approached the Stafford Airport entry ramp, we thought we saw a disabled white box truck till we realized it was Dan & Martha Jo with Karen in the side car. They fell into formation and we continued on where Greg fell into line at the Dale City rest area, then on to the Barracks where Sly & Tina (along with 2 friends of Ray's) were waiting for us. We were bused over to the Barracks where we waited till the parade started at 8:45. I know I speak for all of us when I say it was a very patriotic experience and one we will not soon forget. Every Marine we came into contact with was very professional and courteous and we could not have had a better experience.

The next day started way to early and ended way to late since we did not get home till after midnight from the Marine Barracks ride. But there we were at 5:45 am meeting at WAWA for a ride to Chrome World after only four hours of sleep. Claude, Larry, Bob, Gordon, Danny & Carole, Jeff, Anthony & Joy, Charlie & Ellen, Greg, Butch and Dave Miller from Chapter U (he spent the evening at my home) got our pre ride briefing from Larry and off we went. We took I95 to I495 across the Woodrow Wilson Bridge to Route 50 East. At the Route 50 / Route 301 intersection Tony fell into formation. We crossed the Bay Bridge and rode to Easton where we stopped for breakfast. After getting our bellies full, we continued on to Selbyville, Delaware, where Chrome World is located (only a few miles from Fenwick Beach and a few more from Ocean City). As always, the staff there was very accommodating, providing us with cold sodas and helping us fulfill our shopping lists. Then out to the parking lot to install newly purchased items, Anthony had a small crowd gathered as they in-

stalled new foot pegs on his bike, and Charlie and Ellen were struggling with a new cup holder (the holder won, they waited till they got home to install it). We had some newbie's in the group (first time to Chrome World, Anthony & Joy, Charlie & Ellen, Danny & Carole, Jeff) and Joy was telling me how the actual store layout was not what was she expected as it is a warehouse. I can relate Joy, as I remember how excited I was the first time I went. I was going to go down every aisle and look at every item only to find out you can't do that at a warehouse. I remember how disappointed I was but I made the most out of it and melted a credit card anyway. After gassing up, we parted company with Anthony & Joy, and headed back happy, that is, until we got close to the Bay Bridge and heard about a 2 mile back up on the radio. We spent a little over an hour "walking" our bikes up to the bridge on a very hot day. By the time we got to the bridge and the traffic started moving, we were spent, so we got over to Route 2 after Annapolis and stopped for dinner where Ellen's sister and brother in law caught up with us on their 2005 Gold Wing. The diner where we ate will definitely be a future dinner ride destination as it was great and had a fantastic selection of desserts. After dinner, we continued on down Route 2 along the Bay and worked our way over the Patuxent River and its bridge, over to 301, across the 301 bridge and home. Now if you were counting, that was twice over the Bay Bridge, the Patuxent River Bridge and the 301 bridge. That was 4 times that Carole freaked out as she apparently does not care for bridges. Now, you may hear a rumor that I was leading and I was on the radio telling Carole how wide the grates were on the bridge, but don't you believe it. We arrived home around 9 pm tired but happy and safe. Over 600 miles in 2 days. WOW !!

On Thursday, August 12th, 8 team members got our new ride schedule off to a great start despite rain all over the area. Dan & Martha Jo, Danny & Carole, Ron & Linda, Jeff and Karen all met at a new Ice Cream place that Dan "sniffed" out called Moo Thru in Bealeton. I was told that the "cream" was fantastic and that Dan is already "addicted" (we were already planning an intervention to get Dan weaned from Cold Stone Creamery). In case you didn't know, Dan thinks that ice cream is one of the four major food groups and he counts Ben & Jerry and Eddy as some of his best friends. Thanks team for coming out in bad weather.

Saturday, August 14th, was the day my diet came crashing down as 34 team members descended upon Frankie and Delores's home to enjoy tremendous pot luck. In attendance were Tom & Diana, Dan & Martha Jo, Mike & Carol, Gordon & Julie, Ray & Kathy, Bob & Ella, Danny & Carole, Butch & Nancy with Pop's, Mary Lynn & Justin, Sean & Debbie with Kelsey, Keith, Greg & Karen, Sly & Tina, Jeff, Larry & Kathy, Charlie & Ellen and our hosts, Frankie & Delores. Also in attendance were numerous family and friends of our hosts. As I mentioned, my diet went into shock as I entered the food line as there was SO MUCH FOOD. And if that wasn't bad enough, after we all went through the line (some more than others), Frankie kept bringing platters of food around to the tables "encouraging" you to eat more. I heard that many a member had to adjust their rear suspension for the ride home. Anyway, Julie and I arrived a bit before 4 pm and we did not leave till just after 8 pm and most people were still there (probably because friends and family kept showing up with the best desserts ever). The bottom line... you don't ever want to miss a Frankie/Delores pot luck if you like FOOD, FRIENDS & FUN, as they had it all. Thank you both for opening your home to the E team.

The next day, Sunday, August 15th, we had planned a plaque attack to Chapter Y in Leesburg. We were going to meet at 3 pm, but as the sun rose that morning it was raining and it rained right up until about 1:30. As I checked the radar and made sure there was no more rain to the west, I hit the phone lines and called the people who told me they were going to go to confirm we were a go. On my way to our north meeting place, I heard some CB chatter, so I broke in and spoke with 5 members from Chapter W Chester on their way to Chapter Y. I invited them to stop at WAWA north with me to catch our group and they took me up on my offer as they needed to gas up. At WAWA, I met up with Claude, Mike P and Danny & Carole and off we went. As we rode up Route 17, Dan & Martha Jo fell in, then a little farther up, Bob, fell in line. When we merged onto Route 29 we caught up with Greg, Butch and Jeff. By then we had 12 bikes, so we stopped and formed 2 groups to ride into Leesburg. Well, we went to capture the Virginia District Traveling Plaque and we did, but just by about 40 miles over Chapter W. I would like to extend a very large and heartfelt thank you to the E Team members who gave up their Sunday afternoon to go get this plaque. It turned out to be a BEAUTIFUL day to ride, Chapter Y was a gracious host chapter, and we had a great dinner and a good time. Please join us on our next plaque attack.

On Monday evening, August 16th, Butch and Frankie met up with Mike P in Front Royal for the ride to Camp Fantastic to give “special kids” rides on their bikes. Frankie brought along over 70 stuffed animals his mom collected to pass out to the kids and I was told the kids were overjoyed with them. This was Mike P’s first time and he told us he will not miss another ride to Camp Fantastic.

On Saturday August 21st, Charlie and Ellen ventured down to Chapter O’s Casino Picnic. Ellen said they had a great time playing the games and visiting with the other chapters.

On Saturday, August 28th, eleven team members had a great time at Charlie and Ellen’s annual Family Picnic and Pool Party. In attendance were Ray & Kathy, Ron & Linda, Gordon & Julie with Christian, Jeff, and Debbie, and of course our hosts, Charlie and Ellen, along with their family, friends and co workers. I’m sure all in attendance will agree that we had a wonderful time and left with very full tummies. Our thanks are extended to Charlie and Ellen for inviting the Chapter to their home.

On Sunday, August 29th, 14 team members got together for a dinner ride to Clearwater Grill in Locust Grove. I met up with Mike P, Norm & Pat, Tony & Sharon and Danny & Carole at our meeting point at Sheetz and we headed out to the Grill where we met up with Butch & Nancy, Greg & Karen and Ron & Linda. Our waiter was excellent and the food was great. I can say that for the second day in a row my tummy was full and I made my scale work overtime the next day. We all had a great time just enjoying each other’s company and talking.

As you can see from the length of my newsletter, we had a very busy month. It is your team’s intent to get out and ride as much as we can. Keep checking your email box for the next scheduled ride, then it’s up to you come on out and have fun.

I look forward to seeing you in my mirror soon.

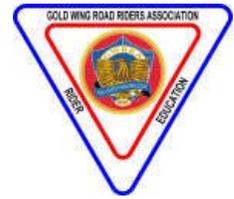
Gordon

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>



Tires

There are several sidewall markings on your tires you should know about. Some are obvious (brand, model, size, rotation direction) but some may be a mystery. Let's talk about those.

The first marking I'd like to mention is small arrows pointed radially out toward the tread. These indicate the position where wear bars have been molded into the tread. Look at the tread where the arrow points and you should be able to see a small raised area in one or more of the tread grooves. If the tread is worn down to this raised portion, your tire is worn out.

Another marking is a maximum pressure indication. This is not the recommended tire pressure – get that from your owner's manual or a decal on the bike itself. This maximum pressure is just that, a maximum. Inflating a tire past its maximum pressure rating is unwise because the tire becomes harder and is more susceptible to being cut by sharp road hazards.

Tires also have a speed rating. These are indicated by a letter along with the tire size. I'm working from memory (I'm on a business trip as I write this) but I think my tires have an "H" indication. This indicates a designed maximum speed of 130 MPH. This is an interesting rating and worthy of further comment. This rating has nothing to do with when a tire might fly apart due to centrifugal forces. Rather, it is related to heat buildup. Let me explain. It may be surprising to learn that your tires normally get quite hot. I've checked my tire temperature (air temperature inside the tire) on summer days and found it to be over 140 degrees Fahrenheit for the rear tire and somewhat less for the front (after sustained highway speeds, no twisties or hard braking or accelerating). This heat comes from the continual flexing of the tire as it rolls and supports you and the bike on the contact patch. The rubber materials used in the tire are formulated to withstand these temperatures but if they got hotter, all bets are off and a sudden failure is possible. As you go faster, each part of the circumference of the tire flexes more times per minute and this builds up more heat. You probably don't plan to ever approach the speed rating of a quality tire but now that you understand the speed rating is more about temperature buildup than centrifugal forces, it is easier to understand why maintaining proper air pressure is so important. If a tire is underinflated, it will flatten more at the contact patch as it rotates. These larger flexes will generate more heat than smaller flexes so even at speeds well below the tire's speed rating, there is a risk of generating more heat than the tire was designed for. Check your tire pressures regularly; the risk of a catastrophic failure of an underinflated tire is real.

The last sidewall marking I consider very important is the manufacture date. This is a 4 digit number molded into the sidewall near the bead where the tire touches the rim. Because it changes every week at the manufacturer's plant, it looks different than the other markings and should be easy to identify. The first two digits of this number are the week of manufacture (01-52) and the last 2 are the year. Rubber gets harder with time and loses its ability to grip. I'm no expert on how much grip potential a tire loses each year but if I had a tire that was 5 or more years old, I'd be thinking about a replacement even if the tread was good. This may be too conservative; if you are actually in this situation, maybe there is some authoritative information on the web (if you do find something, please share it with the rest of us). Another good way to use this marking is to make sure any new tire you are about to buy has not been sitting in a warehouse or on a store shelf too long.

This doesn't have anything to do with tire markings, but don't ride aggressively for the first hundred miles or so on a new tire. Some riders have reported that "mold release" stuff on new tires needs to be scuffed off before the tires will provide maximum grip.

Larry



Established
10/24/87

CHAPTER E NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2010

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

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



16 Ply & Kalina Savage
18 Tom & Diana Evans



11 Sheila Pittman

12 Liz Clark

15 Brooke Hardisty

18 Tom Evans

21 Dannie Hays

THE ROPE = SEAT BELT!
THE FABRIC = BLINDFOLD!

GOLDWING SUPPORT FOR TRIATHLONS

Saturday October 2, 2010: 9:00 - 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed)

Lake Anna Beach Marina - 349 Pleasants Landing Road - Bumpass, VA 23024

Race Starts at 10 AM - 24 Mile Bike

Sunday October 3, 2010: 9:00 - 1PM (3 Motorcycles Needed)

Lake Anna Beach Marina - 349 Pleasants Landing Road - Bumpass, VA 23024

Race Starts at 10 AM - 12 Mile Bike

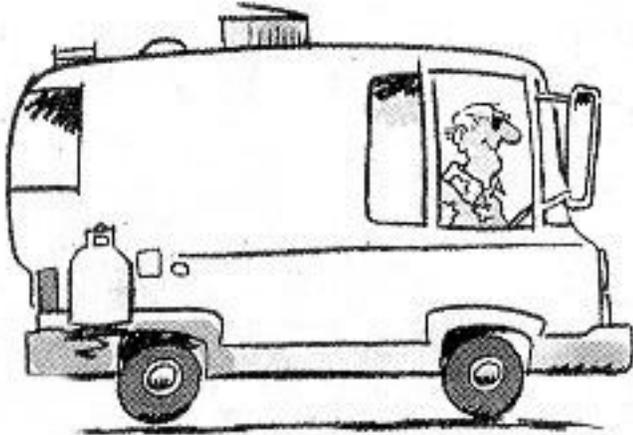
Notes:

1. All events pay \$50/bike. Lunch/food will also be provided if you can wait until the first runners come in.
2. If you could be onsite 1 hour prior to the race starting for orientation and placement that would be great.
3. Some folks will have officials on board, others will lead out the first cyclist, follow the last cyclist, or patrol for mechanical/safety issues.

Thank you very much in advance! If you have any questions please give me a call at 336-577-2801.

CHAPTER E POC: DAN FRITZ HOME: 540-286-1142 CELL: 540-903-2897

The Wheels of Life





WHAT IN THE WORLD? WHY WOULD I HAVE MISSED BUYING "THESE" AT CHROM WORLD?

