



WISCONSIN GWTA

APRIL 2007

Springtime is upon us or—weather willing—soon will be. That means it's time to get your motorcycle ready to ride. The Gold Wing Touring Association has the people you'll want to meet and the places you'll want to visit. Use the information here to plan your upcoming season. Ride safely, and ride GWTA.

State Director's Corner

“In like a lion and out like a lamb! Wow! It has been a very nice spring so far. I hope everyone has had a chance to get the batteries charged and out to enjoy the weather. Be cautious – drivers in Wisconsin have to get readjusted to seeing motorcyclists on the road again.

We want to welcome our new chapter, Chapter GB, in the Green Bay area (N.E.W. Riders). They are a strong chapter that was previously affiliated with another national organization. They needed a change, so after they checked out the GWTA website, they decided to give GWTA a try. Welcome to the organization of friendship!!

Just another reminder to all to make their reservations for the biggest birthday party ever – Gold Rush XX. If you have any questions about this national event you can contact us or check out the national website at www.gwta.org.

We are looking for Wisconsin members who would be willing to help organize the Meet ‘N’ Greet weekend. If you are interested please contact us. The more input the better the weekend!!

We are looking forward to a great riding season and getting to join all of you on a ride or two or three.”

–Jeryl, Sherri, and Carlee Jo Vonderheid
Wisconsin GWTA State Directors

Raffle Tickets

With the onset of another riding season comes our annual raffle for a current year Gold Wing. This year the holder of the winning ticket will choose amongst a 2007 Gold Wing, Honda VTX 1800, 2007 BMW, 2007 Harley-Davidson, or \$10,000 cash. A successful and profitable raffle is essential to the finances of GWTA, so let's try to do our best on it. We've always stated that if each GWTA member simply bought ten tickets, success would be assured, but we in GWTA don't require anyone to do anything except pay dues and have fun. Therefore, obtain a supply of tickets from Sherri and sell them to your friends, or buy a book or two for yourself. Basic directions include making sure that the purchaser's name, address, and phone number are clearly readable, and to mail your ticket stubs and money back to Sherri (3668 Oakhill Place, Eau Claire, WI 54703) to get more tickets. GWTA raffle tickets continue to be a great deal: they cost only one dollar each, the purchaser gets a chance to win a new motorcycle and yet that dollar will support GWTA, our motorcycling cooperative. How can you beat that? Buy your tickets today!

Gold Rush

This year is our twentieth anniversary so it will be an ideal time to join GWTA members there. The party takes place in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 16th to the 19th.

Gold Rush events include an 80's dance, huge birthday party, light parade, drill teams, motorcycle rides, water park, motel door decorating contest, and laser light show over the falls. Held during Sioux Falls' Hot Summer Nights annual city celebration, GWTA will also be a part of the American Association Independent Baseball All-Star Game July 17. GWTA has been asked to take part in the luncheon and the pre-game festivities. Organizers want a large contingent of motorcycles outside the stadium as well as sidecars to bring in ballplayers as they are announced, so they need sidecarists, too.

Veteran GWTA members know what a good time Gold Rush is. New members are invited to see for themselves.

New Members And A New Chapter

GWTA Wisconsin has a new chapter and eighteen new members (35 people in all), thanks to our website and quick response by our State Director. Our newest members belonged to a Green Bay chapter affiliated with a well-known national Gold Wing organization. While looking for an alternative, they investigated GWTA via computer, indicated an interest, and set a time for a meeting with Jeryl Vonderheid and Gerry Brix in early February. Soon after, they decided to join GWTA. They call themselves Chapter GB, The N.E.W. Riders of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Patrick and Barbara Williams are the Chapter Directors. Other Chapter GB members include Donald/Jean Augustson, Eugene/Joan Barbeau, Mark/Diana Baudhin, Dean/Elaine Belanger, Joyous/Carl Bowen, Jimmie/Mary Rose Clark, Delbert Delcore, Mike/Lucy Hubert, Doug/Jody Jorgensen, Donald/Elsie Long, Jon/Lynn Lovlien, Bob/Mary Mancoske, Robert/Shirley Meyer, Russell/Lila Rodrian, Alden/Marie Servais, Tom/Cheryl Thomson, and Anna/Richard Verber. (Editors Note: apologies in advance if any names have been unintentionally omitted.)

The chapter kick-off for Chapter GB will be held Sunday, April 22, at 10:00AM at the Rustic Rail in Green Bay. The address is 1996 Velp Avenue and the Rustic Rail phone number is 920-494-2755. For more information, contact Pat and Barb at 2293 Marco Ct, Green Bay, WI 54011 or phone them at 920-264-4642.

The addition of Chapter GB to Wisconsin is a tremendous boost for Wisconsin GWTA and we welcome each and every one of the N.E.W. Riders to GWTA with open arms. Please make them welcome whenever you meet them. Guide them in the ways of GWTA and be open to the new ideas they bring. It will be great to see them come rolling in to our Region C Rally or our Meet 'n' Greet. Consult the ride schedules for each of our chapters below and see if a ride with a fellow chapter is a possibility for you.

Welcome aboard, Chapter GB. Welcome to GWTA!

Ride Schedules

GWTA Wisconsin is about riding motorcycles. Listed below are the schedules—at this time—for our two chapters. Use this information to plan a ride with another chapter or bunch of your GWTA buddies. The riding season is always too short, so use your time wisely. Phone the Chapter Director listed for ride updates.

CHAPTER Y, RIVER VALLEY RIDERS—Bob Johnson/Ginny Zittel, Eleva, Wisconsin, 715-287-3263.

April 29—First Ride of the Season

May 20—Brotten Spring Ride

June 23—Buffalo County Dairy Breakfast Ride

July 7-8—Chapter Y Camp-Out at Kruger's Resort

July 16 thru August 5—National and State GWTA Events (see Dates To Remember, next page)

August 25—Dave Jansen Ride

Sept. 15—September Fall Ride

Oct. 7—Fall Color Ride

CHAPTER GB, THE N.E.W. RIDERS—Patrick/Barb Williams, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 920-264-4642.

May 16—Wednesday evening ride originating from Green Bay Bowling Center

May 30—Evening ride originating from Fleet Farm East, Green Bay

June 6—From Green Bay Bowling Center

June 20—From Fleet Farm East

July 11—Green Bay Bowling Center

July 25—Fleet Farm East

August 8—Green Bay Bowling Center

August 22—Fleet Farm East

September 5—Green Bay Bowling Center

September 19—Fleet Farm East

Ride For Kids

GWTA Wisconsin continues to be part of the Ride For Kids series of events. Ride For Kids is the motorcyclist fundraising arm of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the United States. RFK was begun in 1984 by Mike Traynor of Asheville, North Carolina, and has since grown to include nearly 40 RFK events across the USA each riding season. The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation is now the largest provider of research funds toward the cause and cure of childhood brain tumors, outside of the federal government. Traynor has obtained the full support of Honda motorcycles. It is the official charity of the Honda Riders Club of America.

So what does this have to do with GWTA? We have for too long been considered “the best kept secret in motorcycling” and to end that secrecy no better vehicle exists than RFK. GWTA has to become a larger part of the current motorcycling scene. The positive press generated from RFK is an ideal promotion. But larger than that are the hearts of our GWTA members, who look for meaning in their motorcycling. For Wisconsin that means that our western members look forward to the St. Paul, Minnesota, event July 22. For our eastern and southern members Madison, Wisconsin, holds its RFK August 5, immediately after our Meet ‘n’ Greet. If our members can’t actually ride in the event, we encourage them to give donations to riders taking part in it.

Let’s put GWTA on the map and have some fun at the next Ride For Kids event. More importantly, let’s help some innocent children live a normal life. Let’s work to end childhood brain tumors.

Miscellaneous

Be sure to include a few GWTA enrollment forms (tri-folds) with your motorcycle gear. Give them to fellow riders and suggest they read it. That’s a very low key way to get the word about GWTA to fellow motorcyclists.

Make it a habit to read *Touring News* each month. Stay in the know and learn about GWTA by reading it regularly.

Contact Sue Engel at 715-570-9588 or engels09@hotmail.com to order your state shirt. Let’s try to have everyone wearing a Wisconsin GWTA shirt.

Have your voice heard. Write a letter to *Touring News* and contact your directors with suggestions or a word of praise. Remember, we are a member-owned organization.

Want to be the next GWTA Wisconsin newsletter editor? You’ll work closely with our State Director to prepare our quarterly message to all Badger GWTA members. Give Sherri/Jeryl a holler at 715-839-9986.

Dates to Remember

July 16-19–GWTA Gold Rush. Sioux Falls, South Dakota. 800-960-4982.

July 22–Ride For Kids. St. Paul, Minnesota. 800-253-6530/www.rideforkids.org

Aug. 3-5–GWTA Wisconsin Meet ‘n’ Greet. Friendship, Wisconsin. 715-839-9986.

Aug. 5–Ride For Kids. Madison, Wisconsin. 800-253-6530/www.rideforkids.org

Feedback

Let us know what you think of GWTA things by contacting the State Director (threewingers@sbcglobal.net/3668 Oakhill Place, Eau Claire WI 54703/715-839-9986). There are no dumb questions and no bad ideas. We need your input and we don't mean maybe! Thank you.