



Goldwing Touring Association

April, 2008

The Official Newsletter of the State of Wisconsin



Letter from the Editor

Welcome to Spring!!

Winter 2007 was like the winters I remember as a child. Plenty of snow and cold. We could play for hours in the cold. I hope summer is more kind so we can enjoy many hours of riding.

Join me in congratulating Randy Nelson and Jen Lipe for accepting the role as Region C Director's.

On the State level, Bruce and Bev Roehrborn are the new Assistant State Directors. Marcus Baudhuin is our State Educator and Dean and Elaine Belanger are Member Recruitment and Retention Director's. We look forward to their leadership and knowledge they will bring to their positions. You will find their phone numbers and email addresses listed in each State Newsletter. Congratulations to all of them. Please call or e-mail them with your concerns or feedback. Enjoy that first ride of the season.

Barb Williams
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State Editor

State Director's Corner

The calendar says it is the second day of Spring, but as I look out my window, Mother Nature is making it look like the second day of Winter!! UGH!! Don't get me wrong; I enjoy winter weather - in the WINTER!

Raffle tickets are here!! If you have not received any, please contact me and I will get them out to you. Lets sell, sell, sell!!! Bob Johnson, Chapter Y, was top salesman last year. I wonder who will be top salesman this year? I am hoping to sell more than we did last year. I have the goal set at 2100 this year. Lets work together and reach that goal!!!

I want to thank all those members who helped make the Winter Weekend in the Dells fun!! I am still picturing Pat in that Speedo!! Just kidding Pat! It was a fun productive weekend.

We now have State Assistant Directors, a Member Recruiter and Retention Officer and a Rider Education Officer. Our new State Assistant Directors are Bruce and Bev Roehrburn. You can contact them at 920-526-3305. Dean Belanger is the new Member Recruiter and Retention Officer and Marcus Baudhuin is the Rider Education Officer. Dean can be contacted at 920-826-7287 and Marcus at 920-865-1672. Thank you very much for accepting these positions.

The Region C Rally is June 6th-8th in Nebraska City, NE. I hope you have all made your plans to attend. It is going to be a

great weekend. Wisconsin is in charge of the pool party that is going to be held on Friday. If anyone has any ideas for games or other fun stuff for the pool party, please contact me. Also, if you are planning on attending the rally, also let me know, so I have an idea of how many volunteers I have for the pool party games and such. If you have never been to a Region C Rally, I highly urge you to attend - it is the best family reunion you could ever attend!

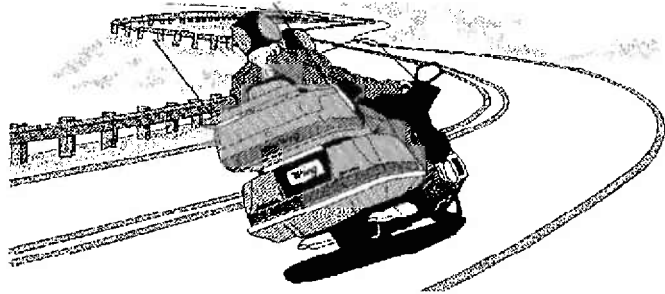
Gold Rush is July 14th-17th in Billings, Montana. Unfortunately, we are unable to attend this year, due to Jeryl's work schedule. For those of you who are able to attend - I am jealous! Gold Rush is always another good time to meet new friends and get reacquainted with old friends.

That gets us to August! The Meet 'N' Greet is scheduled for August 1st-3rd. Camping and hotel accommodations will again be at St. Joseph's Resort and the picnic at the Friendship City Park. Attached to the newsletter you will find the flier. If you are planning on camping this year, you must make your reservations thru me. You can call me at 715-839-9986. We have a limited amount of sites for the bigger campers, but we will be able to double up again on the smaller ones. All hotel and camping cabin reservations will be made thru the resort 608-565-7258. Friday night will be Pizza and Dirty Bingo!! (Last year we divided up the pizza bill equally among diners and that worked well, so we will do the same again this year.) We are asking that all bring at least one wrapped fun Bingo prize for Dirty Bingo. Chapter GB will be hosting an Ice Cream Social on Friday night as a fundraiser for their chapter. Saturday will be the

picnic/annual meeting in the park with the BANGO ride to follow the meeting. We are also going to have a raffle again at the park as a fundraiser for our state treasury. If you have any raffle prize that you would like to donate contact me. Chapter Y will host the walking taco dinner on Saturday night as a fundraiser for their chapter. All other meals are on your own. We are still looking for more fun ideas for the campground - any ideas contact me. Thank you! If you have not been able to attend a Meet 'N' Greet in the past, I urge you to mark your calendars and come to the best picnic in Wisconsin! I promise you will have a great time with great friends!

Thank you to all those who help make Wisconsin GWTA such a fun organization. We are great because we are member owned and member driven and Wisconsin has some of the greatest members!!

Hope to see you all soon-
Sherri Vonderheid



Region Director's Corner

Friday, February 01, 2008

To Region C and our other GWTA friends,

A month ago, we would have said that our GWTA life was very complete and full of adventure and we wouldn't think that it could get much better or fuller. A few phone calls and now we find that it is about to get much fuller and busier. Randy and I are both looking forward to this new adventure as your Region C Directors and hope that we can follow up Barb and Tom and keep Region C rocking. Thank you to Barb and Tom and also Bruce Keenan for the vote of confidence. We will do our very best to fulfill those expectations.

For those of you that do not know us, we will give you a brief synopsis. If you already know us, skip the next few paragraphs.

We have been members of GWTA for a little over 5 years, first with Chapter R/NE and then for the past four years, with Chapter G/NE. The more caught up we became with Chapter G, the more involved we become with GWTA as a whole. We enjoy going to Gold Rush, Region C Rally's, visiting neighboring states and regions and especially our local events. Seeing so many people at every event, from those we only have just met for the first time to those we've known for years, we count everyone as our friends! This participation with the chapter of course eventually evolved into state and regional involvement as time went on.

Between the two of us we have five children, two son-in-laws and two granddaughters. Both of our son's have their own motorcycles and one of our son-in-laws also rides with us when he gets the chance. My son Richard is in the Navy and is currently home with the Reserves waiting for his next assignment. Randy's son Andrew is a Marine and is in Iraq in his first month of a 12-14 month deployment.

Randy has been riding since he was 8 years old. Starting with a little Honda 50cc and later upgrading to a 1976 Honda XL350 which is still being used by his son Andrew. After a long break Randy started riding again about nine years ago; when his father, Roger Nelson, asked him to ride one of his many bikes on several poker runs around Pandora, Iowa. Ultimately he ended up on the '99 Valkyrie that he currently rides with pride and a lot of noise! I rode a 750 Suzuki when I was 18 and 19, but hung up the helmet for children. In 1996 I tried a crotch rocket and a succession of several bikes I am hooked on riding my 2005 "Black Cherry" Gold Wing and GWTA.

We really look forward to getting to meet so many more of you as we get out to all of the other events within the region. Feel free to contact us at any time if you have any suggestions, a problem, if you need anything or just want to visit. We are not always home in the evenings, but we will get back to you, even if we have to play phone tag a few times. We encourage each chapter to put us on their email list. We love to get info from other chapters and you never know when we might be on the road in your area. Thank you all for being such a great region and we will do all within our power to continue on with

this tradition of making Region C one of the strongest in GWTA.

See you all in Friendship,
Randy Nelson and Jen Lipe

..more from our new Region Directors

Hello all,
We realize that there are rumors flying around concerning the financial state of Region C! Let us start out by dispelling any negative rumors. The Region is not on the brink of financial ruin or collapse.

This past weekend was the annual Regional planning session that is held each year at the upcoming Rally site. In previous years, the Region supported all costs for this session that included hotel rooms, travel expenses and one meal for the Regional Directors, all State Directors, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster and the Safety and Education Director. The previous two year's expenses averaged slightly more than \$2100 for a single weekend. Unfortunately it was realized only just before this year's meeting that there was not enough funds to support this endeavor. Despite this drawback, most of the States were able to help out and finance their director's participation. And we are very grateful to everyone that was able to make the planning session through either support of their state or through their own financial backing.

Furthermore, plans are well underway for a VERY successful Region C Rally in Nebraska City, June 6, 7 and 8th. We have already made the initial deposit payment for Catron Camp and Retreat for our meeting facility. The city officials are very excited about our

event and look forward to helping with the light parade, public auction, show & shine and more. It is very important that everyone show up in force and put our best foot forward. Nebraska City has many wonderful attractions, fantastic roads in the area and is very close to Omaha & Lincoln for even more exciting activities.

The rally should always pay for itself and cash flow positively. It should not be a burden on Region funds to conduct our Family Reunion, but should break even and also provide financial support of the Region to serve all our members properly! Help support your region by registering early and promoting the event to everyone you would like to be a part of our club. This is a fantastic event!

If you have any questions about our Region C operational process or issues, please look at the Regional Web Site or contact us direct (rd@gwta-c.com, ranelson@caos-consulting.com or Jenlipe@cox.net).

Take the time to visit with your State Directors instead of operating on a rumor mill that churns out trouble every time it fires up! We expect to see everyone being responsible and adult enough to focus on the positive in our public communications, address negative issues directly with those in leadership roles, respect and support all the people who stepped forward in this VOLUNTEER organization to be leaders and serve GWTA! They are taking the time and effort without compensation to keep this organization running so you can enjoy riding and visiting together. So take a little time to reach out, provide support or just simply thank your Chapter, State, Regional and

National Staff next time you see them!

If you have specific issues that need to be addressed; be responsible and put the problem in writing (e-mail or signed letters) identifying the problem, providing a couple of possible solutions and directing it to the individual responsible for that item. For general issues or situations that require additional support our general chain of command starts with the Chapter Director, then if the issue is not resolved pass it up to State Director, then if not addressed pass it up to Regional Director and then once everyone has had a chance to address the issue if still not resolved take it to the National Office for discussion and possible resolution. Keep in mind though not all issues and personal ideas can be resolved or accommodated. Make every effort to make the best out of every situation and find common solutions.

Remember that your membership in GWTA is not a right but a privilege; a privilege that carries a responsibility to put our best foot forward and support the organization even when we may not as an individual agree with what is happening. The leadership is focused on what the majority needs and what will provide success for GWTA as an organization.

See you all in Friendship,
Randy Nelson and Jen Lipe

For more information on Region C go to
<http://www.gwta-c.com/>

