

On The Road With The Chapter MI-G Midnight Riders

Gold Wing Road Riders Association CHAPTER MI-G



Our monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at O'Malley's restaurant located at 5080 Alpine Ave NW at 7:00 PM. Dinner is ordered from the menu at 6:30. Saturday, Sunday and week night rides will leave from central locations and will vary with the destination. For more information, or to be added to our phone tree, please contact one of our Chapter Staff. See page 2 for contact information. We hope to see you out there.....Ride Safely.

August 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Chapter K2's Anniversary Party in Paris 11:00 am
5 Susie's Café 9 AM Ride at 10am	6	7	8	9 Monthly Gathering O'Malley's 7:00 pm	10	11 PRE-RIDE Meijer's at 10 Mile & US 131
12 Breakfast at Susie's Café 9 AM	13	14	15	16	17 THE MIDNIGHT RIDE	18 
19	20	21	22	23	24 Region D Rally Indiana	25 Region D Rally Indiana
26 Susie's Café 9 AM Ride to Dean's Gov't Lodge for lunch	27	28	29	30	31	

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Chapter G Website www.mi-gmidnightriders.org	Stop by our website or the District or National websites to see what's new.	If you have any suggestions for the chapter site, e-mail Jim or Len.
Walt & Deb Crosby Region D COY Year 2006-2007  We are Walt & Deb Crosby, your new Region D Couple Of The Year. What an exciting year this has been for us. First being named Ohio District Couple and meeting so many wonderful people in our District. Now Region Couple of the Year, and an opportunity to visit two more Districts and that many more great people.	Ezra & Marilynn Bostic Chapter Mi-G's COY 2007  Ezra & Marilynn, members of Chapter G. Ezra serves as our Ride Coordinator, and Marilynn serves as our Newsletter Editor, now our Couple of the Year.	Ken and Rita Moffitt Michigan Couple of the Year 2007  Ken and Rita were selected as the 2007 Michigan District Couple of the Year at our 2007 Wingless Weekend. Please give them your congratulations when you see them.

August Schedule

August 4: We will be riding to **K2's Anniversary Lunch**. Please meet at the Mobil gas station on 14 Mile and Northland Drive at **11:00 am**. For more details, please see the K2's flier in this newsletter.

August 5: We will meet at **Susie's** at **9 o'clock** for breakfast and take a ride at **10 o'clock**

August 9: is our Monthly Gathering at O'Malley's on Alpine NW. Come early **6:30pm** for dinner or come at **7:00pm** for our discussions.

August 11 For those who can go on the **Pre-Ride**. We will be meeting at Meijer's parking lot on 10 Mile and US-131 at **8:00 a.m.**

August 12 Breakfast at Susie's at **9 o'clock**. For those who made reservations for Sarah Andro's wedding reception, we will ride to Wabasis Lake to the reception at noon.

August 17 The Midnight Ride: For those going in the morning at **8 a.m.** meet at the Meijer's parking lot on 10 Mile and US-131. The rest of us will be leaving at **11:59:59 pm** from the Meijer's parking lot on 10 Mile Road and US-131. ***Please don't forget that this event helps to support JDRF in their fight for a cure.***

August 24 and 25: The **Region D Rally** in Indiana is scheduled for this weekend.

August 26: We will meet at Susie's for breakfast at **9:00 am** for a ride to Baldwin after breakfast at **10 am**. We plan to visit Lynne's brother, Dean, at his restaurant in Baldwin. Dean's place is about a mile north of where US-10 comes into Baldwin from the east. It is on the west side of M-37. The place is called **Government Lake Lodge** and is a log cabin style building in front of a lake.

Labor Day Weekend: Don't forget to reserve Labor Day Weekend for a long weekend Ride to Metamora Indiana.

These are the rides for August. I will be working on September's. Just remember, if you have any favorite ride you would like to share, please send me your suggestions.

I hope we have fun on the MIDNIGHT RIDE and hope that we will have good weather. For those who would like to be a **tail gunner** or a **lead bike**, please contact Jim Meredith or me, Ezra Bostic, at my number 616-791-4587. We will be happy to have all the help we can get. Thank you very much

Ezra Bostic
Ride Coordinator

For Sale:

1995 1500 SE Honda with DFT Trike Conversion;

excellent condition; 36,000 miles \$15,250.00

and

Bunkhouse camper trailer \$ 1,250.00

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Call Marty Schneider @ 616-866-4952

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Price: \$7,500.00 (FIRM)

Please call: 616-835-0351

For Sale:



1983 GL1100 Aspencade, 44000 miles, in excellent mechanical shape. Lots of extras. \$3000.00 or best offer.

Contact Len at 443-5084

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Future Rides:

METAMORA, Indiana

We are planning a chapter ride to Metamora for Labor Day Weekend. Please keep this date open.

Please email any rides to the following address:
bosticez1@sbcglobal.net

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"We'll Get Ya Down The Road"

Chapter Director's Ramblings

August and the Midnight Ride, they just seem to go together don't they? It looks like things are coming together for the 21st annual **MIDNIGHT RIDE**. First, on the 11th, we'll meet at the kick off point, Meijer's on 10 Mile Rd. in Rockford. We'll leave at 8:00 AM and ride the route to make sure we have no surprises the following week. I'd recommend reservations if you're planning to come along. Should be a good ride and a good weekend. Then, the following week, we're off at 11:59:59 PM for **THE BRIDGE**. ***If anyone does not have a job (to do for the Midnight Ride) and wants one, please let me know. We can use all the help we can get.***

Also, on August 4th we have K2's Anniversary in Paris. In case you don't know, Paris is north of Big Rapids on Northland Drive. It runs from Noon to 2:30 PM and only costs \$7.00 for lunch and fun. Let's try and get a good group to ride up there.

At the end of the month we have the Region D rally in Lebanon Indiana. If you missed the state rally you'll have another chance to visit the vendors and get that piece of chrome you just have to have for the bike. This runs August 23rd through the 25th. It's a bit earlier than normal this year.

For those who missed the state rally you missed a really nice time. The location was great, a beautiful fair grounds with lots of trees and great camping. Not to mention the good friends to hang out with. It was just far enough to make a great ride and the weather could not have been better. It's going to be there again next year; you should mark it on your calendar and try to make it. You won't be sorry.

That's about all I have to say this month. We'll see everyone on the 9th until then ride safely.

Jim & Julie Meredith

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Assistant Chapter Director's Notes

While at the Michigan Rally, I took the Road Captains course. I learned a lot, some I already knew and somethings I had never thought of. This is a class everyone should take, even if they don't plan a ride. This could make you understand why things are done they way they are. The information I learned from this class could be used in our chapter rides. The most important thing is to plan the ride along with printed directions for all riders. This should include starting times and places to stop for breaks, gas, or anything else the ride coordinator might need to plan for. That way, if any one gets separated from the group, they will be able to join the group at the next stop. Even though most riders have CB's, it's a good idea to use hand signals and keep the ones that don't have CB's in the middle. The three most important hand signals are the hazard in road, single file, and staggered file. By doing this, it will give you a way to communicate with the group and keep them safe. You should always have a back up channel for the CB's in case there is too much talk or interference, which is at least five channels away. The ride leader should pick his or her own tail gunner (or drag) as the two can understand each other and know what the other may do in an emergency. **But, most important, do your T-clocs before you leave home.** Then, before you meet everyone, make sure you have a full tank of gas and are ready to leave with the group. I will continue this next month, as there was a lot of information to share.

Randy & Fay Vieu ACD

JDRF Walk-For-A-Cure Kickoff Luncheon

Randy and Fay View, Marilyn Bostic, and Marcia Emmert attended the kick-off luncheon for the JDRF walk on Mon. July 23. Sarah, Sophie, and Sophie's Grandmother, Phyllis, were there to greet us, as were many others from the JDRF Board. We were introduced as a corporate walk team. Judy Wagley from Regent Broadcasting introduced the speakers. Many offered assistance to the walk groups. Some asked about our Midnight Ride, it's history, how we generate money, and how do we stay awake while riding all night. We told them about the other chapters that help and also the businesses and police depts. along the way. A few people took brochures and Sarah and Sophie said they will see us in St. Ignace!

Submitted by Marcia Emmert.

Editor's Note: The JDRF Walk-To Cure Diabetes is scheduled for September 29, 2007. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The Walk begins at 10:00 AM at Ah-Nab-Awen Park downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan.



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August Rider Education Article

Ways to Have Fun and be Safe on the Road

My purpose in writing this is to promote safety, improve our Chapter's riding enjoyment and open a discussion about safe ways to ride with your friends. These are observations from several years of riding and are not suggested by GWRRA proper although I don't believe that any of these suggestions/ideas are counter to what GWRRA or any other safety conscious group teaches.

There are several general criteria that should be met by all attendees while on a group ride:

Be sure you arrive at the meeting point with a full tank of gas, your T-CLOCS inspection completed and ready to ride. Having to wait for you to get gas, have a last cigarette, etc, cuts down on the amount of time you could be riding and cuts down on your fellow members enjoyment of the ride. **BE ON TIME.** If the ride leaves at 9 be there gassed up at 8:45. If you get there at 9:05 and everyone has left, don't be surprised when they're not there - you were late...

We ride in a staggered formation. The first rider generally rides in the left third of the lane. The second rider follows a minimum of 1 second behind the first rider but offset so that he is riding in the right third of the lane. The remaining riders in each group continue this staggered pattern, each one at least 1 second behind the rider to his left or right and 2 or more seconds between himself and the rider directly in front of his motorcycle. On narrow or winding roads we go to a single file riding style to allow more room for maneuvers, re-forming once the road opens up or straightens out. When on the highway, leave slightly larger gaps between bikes in formation to allow for greater reaction time if necessary. When coming up on a highway off ramp pay particular attention to those vehicles that may be coming up along your left side as they may exit "through" your group. Try to allow them more space in case they wish to exit. The same goes for on ramps. If vehicles wish to enter the highway in mid-formation riders should slow and provide an opening to allow the other vehicle safe entry. Once the vehicle has gone by the group can re-form and continue safely on its way.

Groups should remain small. If groups of five bikes or less are formed, the chance of a car breaking into your formation is lessened. Constant attention should be paid to the distance between yourself and the motorcycles around and in front of you to keep the gaps small so a car/truck is not tempted to cut into your group. If riding with more than one group, there should be a 3 to 5 minute gap between each group. Two groups bunching up should be avoided. The larger group creates a traffic hazard by making it difficult for car/trucks to pass the long line of motorcycles. Keep up with the group.

If you aren't paying attention to your position within the ride, you aren't really paying enough attention to your riding. Being a safe rider takes concentration.

If you have more than one group of riders, have the leaders meet prior to leaving the gathering point to determine the route and stops along the way. It is best if a plan/map of the intended route is given to each rider so that if he becomes separated from the rest of the riders he can meet up at the next planned stop. Keep breaks short and if multiple groups are on the same trip, consider different stops for each group so that they don't overlap and bunch up.

Slower riders, or any rider who is not comfortable riding within the group should ride in the rear of the group. This will make it more enjoyable for them by decreasing the stress involved in riding in a manner or at a speed he/she is not comfortable and allow them to improve their skills at a rate that is best for them.

If riding through a busy city decide beforehand on a place to meet so if riders get separated from the group they can meet up and re-group. Make sure everyone knows where you are going and when you will be leaving for the return trip.

While on the road in a group each individual rider is responsible for following all appropriate traffic laws. Do not make a turn on red while leading a group. Wait for the light to turn green so that all may safely turn the corner.

Finally, when arriving at your destination leading a group don't stop short. Drive to the back of the parking lot or to the furthest corner before trying to park. Pick a spot large enough for the group. This will get all of your riders out of the street and out of the way of oncoming traffic the fastest. Also, riders who are behind the leader need to follow the leader. They should not peel off and park or stop in the middle of the parking lot. This causes confusion and may cause people behind them to end up stopped in the street making for a very dangerous situation. It is impressive to see a group of riders come into a parking area and have them park side by side in a row without any confusion or problems. That is the image we would like the public to see when we are on a ride, not one of every man for himself devil take the hindmost that seems to prevail within some groups.

Ride Safely Len



GWRRA



Chapter K2 Big Rapids, Michigan

14th Annual Anniversary Celebration August 4, 2007 12 to 2:30 PM



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See You There!

Lynne Snyder Earns Certificate

The certificate that Lynne received during the State Rally was to acknowledge that he had taken a portion of the Classroom Development Instructors Module that is required to teach and talk in front of a class. It is a Certificate of Completion. recognition for the completion of one Course Instructor Certification Program



Lynne received the certificate in facet of his candidacy in the Rider (RCICP)...

Congratulations Lynne Snyder

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Photos From The State Rally

Ezra and I enjoyed attending the Michigan State Rally this year. It was made even more special because we were chosen Chapter G's Couple of the Year. Thank you very much for the honor of representing you and our chapter. We hope that we do a good job as your ambassadors.

Everyone should consider going to the Michigan State Rally. Everyone is very friendly. It is like meeting relatives you didn't know that you had. We all enjoy the same hobby of riding our motorcycles, traveling throughout the countryside.

We participated in the Couple of the Year Party. Previous COYs were also there. We played a new version of Musical Chairs. It was fun. We were sitting in a circle. One person in the middle, states something about themselves. If it pertains to you, you have to get up and change chairs. The one left standing continues. One man said: "I have an Italian wife." So, naturally, Ezra got up, and, surprisingly no one else did. So, now, I am known as **the** Italian.

We also rode in the Light Parade. That was great. There were many people at whom to wave. On the CB, someone even mentioned that the scene reminded them of our very own MIDNIGHT RIDE!!!

Here are some photos from the State Rally:



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Jan, Fay, Julie & Ezra



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