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Fun

Safety

& Knowledge

**GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION
MICHIGAN*REGION D*CHAPTER MI-G***MIDNIGHT RIDERS**

MEETING PLACE, DAY, and TIME.

PLACE: Arnie's Bakery 710 Leonard NW Grand Rapids Mi. 49504

*******NO MEETING THIS MONTH*******

Look for the SUGGESTION BOX at our gatherings. Tell us what you would change, keep the same, and ideas for rides, etc.

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.

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Wingless Weekend	7 Wingless Weekend
8 No meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Chapter Dinner	23	24	25	26	27	28 G2 Medic First Aid

Feb. Schedule
CD's Article
Birthday's & Anniversary

Page 03
Page 04
Page 05

Riders' Education
Wingless flyer

Page 06
Page 07

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GWRRA National Website
<http://www.gwrra.org>

Chapter G Website
www.mi-gmidnightriders.org

Ken and Rita Moffitt
International Couple of the Year
2008-2009



Ken and Rita were selected as the International Couple of the Year at Wing Ding 30.

District Directors
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TBD

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Region D Website
<http://www.gwrra-regiond.org>

Stop by our website or the District or National websites to see what's new.

Randy & Fay Vieu
Chapter Mi-G's COY 2008



Randy & Fay, members of Chapter G Randy and Fay serve as our CD's and our Couple of the Year.

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Photographer

To Be Announced

Michigan District Website
<http://www.gwrra-mi.org>

If you have any suggestions for the chapter site, e-mail Randy or C.J.

Brad and Connie Garner
Region D Couple of the Year 2008-2009



Brad and Connie Garner were selected as the 2008-2009 Region D Couple of the Year at the Region D Rally.

February Schedule

February 6&7: Wingless Weekend at the Double Tree Hotel Bay City Mi.

February 8: No meeting due to Wingless Weekend

February 22: Chapter Dinner at the Victory Club 396 Pettis Ave. SE Ada Mi. 5 PM. Please RSVP to Jim and Julie at 616-696-3482 or jamesme@chartermi.net.

February 28: Chapter G2 is hosting a medic first aid class at Turk Lake Restaurant on M-91. If you missed the last class here's your chance to keep up with your levels requirement. Class begins at 9:00 am and cost is \$20.00 per person. If you plan on attending contact Randy & Collette Houtman at 616-754-0615 or Randy at 616-662-1399.

PLEASE READ: If you weren't at dinner at the Olive Garden we need to know what you can commit to bring to the Anniversary Party in the way of food. We want to find out what everyone is bringing so we don't duplicate and have a wide variety. Please contact Randy & Fay. You can give them a call at 616-662-1399 or send them a email at r.vieu@att.net. Thanks for you help.

CD Article February 09

Here we sit in a deep freeze thinking of the warm days to come when we can again get on our bikes and ride. Until that day arrives we will need to come up with other things to do. For those of you who might not know the whole story on bear and her travels. Here is her story. We know that she is a female because she had a baby. Paulette came out at our anniversary party last year. Her Father, Paul Revere, is getting to old to go on the adventures. K2 ended up taking her home after the party and she was rescued, and then went to visit R2, rescued, then K2 came to our meeting and they managed to persuade Paulette bear to go home with them again. Next, Chapter Q2 came for a visit in September along with visits to chapters R2 and N. Harry, Marcia, Fay and I went over to Caro MI to get bear back and to our surprise we also brought back the traveling plaque. Hamburgler Jr and Paulette bear were together at this time, possibly unsupervised. At this gathering we, R2 and G agreed to swap mascots until our next gatherings. Chapter G went to R2 to bring bear back home and the next week R2 came to our gathering to bring Hamburgler Jr back home. Chapter K2 was at our gathering and took both Paulette bear and Hamburgler Jr with them and put both of them into the trunk of a red trike. We weren't able to go and get bear back until November. That is when we learned that Paulette bear was a she because she had a baby with her. Now that the chapter is parents to a child we needed to know who the father was so we sent for a DNA report that showed that Hamburgler Jr was indeed the father. At this point we need to work with R2 on child support and visitation rights. We had them served with the proper papers for child support. We also had chapter K2 served, suing them for an undisclosed amount of money for child endangerment and not providing proper supervision of a minor child. As you can see some of the chapter members have had a great time traveling around the state getting our mascot back or taking some other chapter's mascot. We hope to do a lot more of this over time and also want to travel to get our name on to the traveling plaque more. Anyone in the chapter can go to events for other chapters and get their mascots. You then must take great care of their mascot and bring it to the next chapter gathering for them to retrieve it. If you do get someone's mascot you will need to let Fay and I know so that we can send a ransom note. Fay and I plan on visiting our chapters around the state this coming summer and some we will make chapter rides. This has been a lot of fun for everyone that has been involved and we hope more of you become involved in our fun.

Everyone please remember that we will not be having a meeting in February because of Wingless. Watch your newsletter for the date of our **February Dinner. March 8th** at Arnie's Bakery and Restaurant at 9a.m. is our next gathering. Doors are open at 8:30a.m.

Randy & Fay View
Chapter Directors MI-G

Rider Education

A while ago, I was sitting and looking out the window, trying to figure out what to write for my February article. The way the snow outside looks, I have some doubts that the weather will actually warm up enough that riding a motorcycle will become possible again. Intellectually I know it should get warmer, it has always gotten warmer in the spring and I'm sure it will this year despite Global Warming.

After all, it's been doing this for millennia and there's no real reason that it should stop now... I hope. These days when I start out on a spring ride I put on my long underwear, the electric vest, four or five layers on top of that and then cover it with a heavy leather jacket. When it starts to get above 75 I can start taking off layers. The sad thing about it is that I'm only half kidding.

Anyway, I've been riding for 40 plus years and have probably ridden through every combination of wet, dry, hot, windy and/or cold weather up to and including a tornado. As I've become a more experienced rider I've found that it's much more fun if you take your time and dress properly for the weather you're going to be riding through (although there's probably no proper attire for tornadoes).

I've also learned that it's safer. Unlike a car where you are protected from the elements, on a motorcycle you're right out there in the middle of whatever weather you come across. If you've taken the time to dress properly, you'll be more comfortable and because of that better able to pay attention to what's going on around you. That equates to being safer and gives you a much better chance of coming back from your early spring ride in one piece.

Just in case you've forgotten some of the salient points during this long forced lay off, below are a few things to keep in mind.

- * Seventy five percent of all motorcycle accidents involve another motor vehicle
- * 2/3 of the accidents were caused by a motorist who failed to yield right-of-way
- * Over 40 percent of all accidents occur at intersections
- * The most common reason given by the motorist is, "I didn't see the motorcycle."

Some causes of accidents involving a motorcycle and a motorist:

- * Left Turns in an intersection: (over 40 percent of all accidents).
- * The motorcyclist has to change lanes/slow down because of road hazards.
- * The motorcyclist is in the blind spot of a motorist who changes lanes.

Put yourself in the best position for the other vehicles around you to see you. You're only a third the size of a car, make sure you're not in someone's blind spot.

Be Seen - Wear bright colors, reflective clothing, and light colored helmets.

Be safe out there. Len.



February Birthdays
February 2nd Randy Vieu
February 3rd Dave Doyle
February 3rd Ken Byxbe
February 27th Mike Sinke

February Anniversaries
February 22nd Dave & Karen
Doyle

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For Sale:

2000 Ford Mustang GT Spring edition, lots of extras, well taken care of; never been in snow.

Call Randy 616-293-2680

2006 Ford F-250 Amarillo Diesel, 17000 miles.

Call Randy 616-293-2680

If you have something to sell, please contact our newsletter editor for information. The email address is:

jamesme@chartermi.net

Please remember to let the editor know when you would like to have the ad removed, especially if the item has been sold. Thank you.

Future Rides & Ride Suggestions:

Please email any rides or activity ideas to the following address: JKlein@iserv.net

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GWRRRA Chapter MI- G's 26th Anniversary Party-March 21, 2009



The Swing Tones will be playing at the Boat & Canoe Club in the public area beginning at 8:00. Join us for some old fashioned dancing after.

Come one come all, join us for a night of fun, frolic and all around good cheer. Chapter G is having a birthday party at the Boat and Canoe Club. Ten (\$10.00) per person gets you a dinner and lots of fun. We'll be waiting for you with our bells on at 401 North Park St. Corner of Monroe and North Park in Grand Rapids.

What is going on?

- Potluck Dinner with Chicken and Pork Loin.
- Hodge Podge theme — decorations will include, western, mardi gras, las vegas and more.
- Games
- 50/50 drawings
- dancing

Gold Wing Road Riders Assn. Chapter Mi-G Anniversary Party 2009

Get to know you from 5 till 6, dinner begins at 6, band starts up at 8. Join us for a great time. Please call us prior to March 7 to let us know how many people you're bringing., It'll help us out.

Contact person: Fay Vieu 616-662-1399 or Len Snyder 616-676-1964

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Date: March 21, 2009



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