

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION CHAPTER NH-G

THE LAKES REGION WINGS

December 2014

Our 26th Year



From the Chapter Director

Here we are again, another year coming to an end. I have to say that I am extremely pleased as to how Chapter NH-G has recovered and I am looking forward to 2015. Chapter participation has improved immensely and I think it is safe to say that we all had a Great time in Chapter NH-G in 2014.

That being said, there is a lot of planning to be done for the 2015 Riding Season. Not only will there be an overnight ride next season, but also a trip to Wing Ding in Huntsville, Alabama, to Lewiston Maine for the New England States Rally, and a day trip to Americade in Lake George, New York.

Over the next two months, the Greenside Restaurant will be closed for January and February. During that time, I will host a Pot Luck Dinner at my home on Saturday Evening, January 10th at 6:30 PM. There will be some social time, as well as some videos, and we will also discuss the 2015 Ride Schedule. The Chapter will provide the beverages, and you can email me with what you are planning on bringing at: gwrra.nh-g@comcast.net.

The February Gathering will be held on Saturday evening February 14th at Bob & Beryl Reid's home in Alexandria at 6:30 PM. That will also be a pot luck event. Again you should email me what you are planning on bringing to the email above. That evening we should all plan on putting our heads together for the upcoming 2015 Ride Schedule.



On December 4th, the Chapter Christmas Dinner was held at the Greenside Restaurant. The food was wonderful, as was the wait staff. Restaurant owner Linda Nixon also treated everyone to dessert as a way

of thanking us for all the breakfast Gatherings that we held at the restaurant in 2014. Thanks Linda.

After dessert was served, NH/VT District Director Ed Heath presented our own Ernie & Donna Brown with their Level IV patches. Great Job Ernie & Donna. That's a big commitment.



Ernie and Donna with Ed Heath

Afterwards, I got up and spoke a little about the Couple of the Year program and how it was an honor to be chosen as a couple to represent their Chapter.

That honor this year is given to a couple that has totally given themselves to the Chapter and has played a big part in Chapter G recovering in 2014, and that honor goes to **Bob & Beryl Reid**, our 2015 Chapter NH-G Couple of the Year. I think they were very surprised. Both Bob & Beryl have been there and done much more than asked for in 2014. I think that we will all agree that they are a very deserving couple.

Nobody has more Fun than "G"!



**2015 Chapter NH-G Couple of the Year
Bob & Beryl Reid**

On November 30th, I went to the final Chapter NH-E Gathering of the year where Bob & Hazel Young nominated NH-E Directors Ron & Suzie Black as their 2015 Chapter Couple of the Year. Also at the Gathering, were NH Chapter Directors Dave Bolster, from NH-A, myself from NH-G, and Brian & Dee Thomas from VT-A.



It's not very often that you see that many Chapter Directors at one Chapter Gathering. While we were there, The NH/VT Chapter Flag was stolen from NH-E by NH-A. Well I guess where we'll be going as a Chapter in January to get that flag back!



On a final note this month, I want to talk about Staff positions that need to be filled. We are in need of an Assistant Chapter Director, a Chapter Ride Coordinator, a Chapter Trainer, and Chapter Activities Coordinator. Remember many hands make light work.

I also want to thank all of the current staff members. We couldn't have come this far without you.

To all of my GWRRRA Friends and their Families, I wish you all a *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

See you at my house on January 10th at 6:30 PM.



Mike Vaillancourt
Chapter G Director



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2014 NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

A – Concord/Manchester David & Bonnie Bolster 603-624-0268 gwrra.nh.a@gmail.com

G – Laconia/Lakes Region Mike Vaillancourt 603-276-0715 gwrra.nh-g@comcast.net

E- Keene/Monadnock Region Ron & Suzie Black 603-532-9342 darkcat1@myfairpoint.com

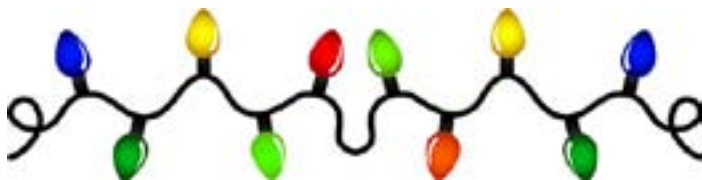
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The November Chapter NH-G Gathering was held at the Greenside Restaurant in Tilton as usual. It was a cold morning with three diehards showing up on their bikes, Charlie Collins, Dick Boucher, and myself. There were 24 participants in attendance including two guests from Chapter NH-E, Ron & Suzie Black.

We re-capped the October Gathering and then talked about how Sue Venne donated articles to be sold as a Chapter Fund raiser. These items, some of which are quite valuable, will be a big help to the Chapter. You will see photos of these items and their prices listed later on in this newsletter. It was also decided by mutual agreement that Chapter G would once again have a Tire Raffle as a Spring Fund Raiser. Tickets will be available at the January Gathering.

Bob Reid gave a talk about riding in the cold weather and how we should take precautions so as to not get hypothermia.



The upcoming Christmas Dinner, to be held at the Greenside, was discussed and Meri Hirtle came up with a great idea for the gift exchange. Kind of a Yankee Swap in high gear.

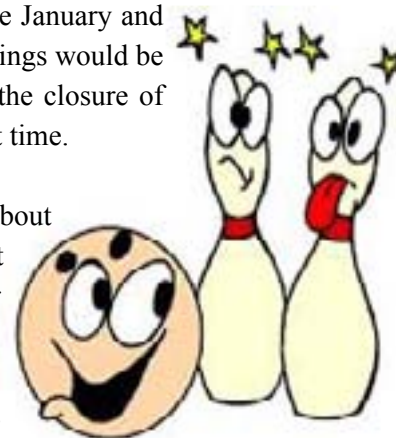
The upcoming Laconia Christmas Parade was discussed and Bob Hamel said he would get us on the list of exhibitors, weather permitting. It did turnout however, that a snow storm on Thanksgiving Eve kept us from going in that parade.

I talked about the importance of filling some staff positions that were vacant in 2015 and then Ed Heath spoke about the Couple of the Year program.

It was announced that the January and February Chapter Gatherings would be Pot Luck events due to the closure of the Greenside during that time.

It was also discussed about having a Bowling Night at Funspot in either January or February.

A CPR-First Aid class was announced to be held in February at Banks Chevrolet in Concord. More on that one at the January Chapter Gathering.



After the Gathering, Charlie Collins, Dick Boucher and Myself had a great ride up Rt. 132 north to NH 175 into Lincoln NH where we stopped for coffee at the Dunkin Donuts and then we rode Route 3 south into Plymouth and out the Tenney Mountain Highway and then down through Alexandria, Bristol, Hill, and then Franklin where we stopped again in Tilton at the Dunkin Donuts before splitting up. The day was crisp, but the riding was very nice and there was a lot of new pavement that wasn't there on our Spring ride. It's amazing how much the scenery looks different without the leaves on the trees that time of year.

Till next month.....

Mike Vaillancourt
Chapter G Director

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Chapter NH-G “The Lakes Region Wings” 2015 Ride Schedule

January 10, 2015 Chapter Pot Luck Gathering at 6:30 PM - at the home of Mike Vaillancourt, 161 Shaker Road, Canterbury NH. 603-276-0715 There will be some social time, as well as some videos, and we will also discuss the 2015 Ride Schedule. The Chapter will provide the beverages, and you can email me with what you are planning on bringing at: gwrra.nh-g@comcast.net .

February 14, 2015 Chapter Pot Luck Gathering at 6:30 PM - at Bob & Beryl Reid’s home in Alexandria. Please email me what you are planning on bringing gwrra.nh-g@comcast.net. That evening we should all plan on putting our heads together for the upcoming 2015 Ride Schedule.

Let’s Ride

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all those listed below



December 16: Mike Goldsmith

December 18: Carol Cloutier

Carole Sheehan

December 1: Meri & Lee Hirtle

December 19: Lynda Hartley

December 28 Mike Vaillancourt

***Chapter G Wishes You All The Best!
Remember, We can’t post your Birthdays and Anniversaries
if we don’t know the dates. Let us know.***

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Guest GWRRR Rider Education

“THE OLDER THINGS GET”

by Ace (Howie) Peterson
Guest Educator CO-Q



I was sitting in front of the computer one morning, maybe deep in thought, but can't really tell the difference at my advanced age between being deep in thought and dozing off! Anyway, the photo on my computer monitor is of a 1960 Edsel; don't laugh, my family owned one, the 1300 made of that model before production was stopped. In my neck of the woods Edsel's outsold Mercury 3/1, which may say something about the folks there, or not. Coupled along with nostalgia about that vehicle, at our weekly "Old Farts" motorcycle breakfast a few of us were discussing older motorcycles, quite wistfully I might add, and listing the merits of these units still owned or owned in prior years. It is amazing how great these motorcycles were or are in our memories and the older the motorcycle, the better it ran, etc.

Of course, we all realize that some of these units, heck, all of them had some warts as well, but never less, they live on in our memories of rides, great or not so much. In this age and time, those of us at a certain age group look back fondly at many things, whether those items in the past were that great or not. I got a You Tube batch of photos depicting the early 1900's steam driven tractors, trucks, and even cars. I can remember vividly the steam driven threshing unit that helped us harvest our grain in yesteryear. The 1947 Model John Deere brings back memories good and not so good. There is nothing like hearing a "Popping Johnny" fire up on a brisk morning with the noise of both cylinders firing one a time. A friend sent me some photos on email of World War Two vintage aircraft which I still think have more character than those of more modern years. Of course I still think the SR-71 Blackbird is the meanest looking, best ever air frame in existence. At the Antique Car Show the other night there were a lot of stories, dreams, even envy at some of those iron and steel monsters of my youth, each car distinctly

individual from the other. Heck, I can remember the day when a car could be identified as far away as could be seen by the front or rear end outlines!

So much for memory lane, and on to how this interacts with Rider Education. The thought has come to me, and I have even heard many comments on the quality of our Rider Education program. Many of our videos and even the content of manuals seem antiquated, often to the point of outright boredom. Obviously to some members these programs are getting a little "long in the tooth". However, does this make them totally obsolete? Let's look at some of our old standbys as relates to the 21st century.

One of the most watched videos, and lesson plans is the Co-Rider Seminar geared towards the interaction between passenger and rider. After the usual greetings, explaining the type of clothing, etc. we find the two persons on a motorcycle and the video progresses through several scenarios of interactions. Boredom sets in just about the time the lady gets on the motorcycle, and the video becomes an endurance marathon. The lesson plan also drags on as the Co-Rider is expected to know or learn everything on or about a motorcycle, perhaps more than some mechanics might even know! How can this be relevant in today's time frame? The lesson plan has been changed and shortened to allow the Co-Rider to become acquainted with the most important items or tasks associated with motorcycling. However, a new video would be appreciated. As Co-Rider is necessary for the level's program, it is shown to members at least every three years. Wait, what if a person watching the video and listening to the lesson plan is a new member; and even more critical, a new Co-Rider with little experience? All the "old" is new to this person, and of critical content. Thus, this is one "oldie"

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that perhaps could use a little dressing up, but is still of critical value to anyone taking the seminar.

Another program is titled Road Captain, and this program is not offered nearly enough to our members, perhaps because it mirrors the Group Riding Seminar. Perhaps it would be best to address both of these seminars together as the information for the most part is similar. These seminars address all the usual cautions, the get it together information, and how to ride in staggered formation or single file. So far, so good! Again though, we have been over most of this information many times. The crux of the program(s) is this: the competence of the Road Captain or Team Leader is crucial both to the safety, and the enjoyment of the group ride(s). It is the action, or perhaps inaction of the Ride Leader (Captain) that keeps the group together, ensures all riding situations are covered before, during, and after a ride and maintaining continuity of the riding formations. These are again "old hat" to most of us, however once more, what if another chapters members or even non-members have joined the ride? The attitudes, habits, and general ride interaction(s) overall COULD lead to members not riding with a group, or non-members not joining our organization. Remember, perception is reality! Therefore, even though we have hashed and rehashed these many times, it still is important to revisit these seminars from time to time to refresh the memories of lessons hopefully learned, and practiced. Once more, perhaps the content of both could be shortened and/or dressed up to cover all the nuts and bolts of the material(s) and still not drag the lesson plan out too long for those taking the seminar. The one crux of all seminars provided at district conventions plus Wing Ding are crowded into a one hour time frame for scheduling purposes, which really is a little short to cover the material(s) necessary in some seminars. However, a time frame of one and a half hours should not be onerous to those taking a seminar of any type. Longer seminars can be spaced to provide rest breaks, lunch, and other necessities to keep both body and mind fresh and attentive.

Two other programs that seem to get a little old are the Parking Lot Practice Seminars. Just how many times can we be interested in going around in circles, dodging cones, and hitting the brakes? Remember what I have mentioned

before about our skill deterioration over time? Perhaps the best time to conduct a Parking Lot Practice is early spring after our motorcycles have set idle for a few months, along with our mental and physical skills. That first practice will expose any and all our weakness for the first portions of the practice, often to the point of embarrassment to the rider.

The lesson in all these items is of course that even though these programs have been around a while, there is still significant value in participating in these seminars, as well as others. Remember also, there are more seminars coming on line each year that we might call "value added" to our training cycles. The two main ingredients in any seminar is the Facilitator making the seminar interesting, plus the interaction of the members or attendees in participation within the information being presented. We might add that these seminars are not so much "old" as "proven" over time. The truths of the information remain valid, even if repetitive. Myself, I look at these seminars much like the Rock and Roll Oldies we grew up with in our younger years; the artists might look a tad old visually, but the words and music still resonate!

One of the goals for our chapter this coming year is to bring into the meetings if possible new seminars, or portions of seminars we have not viewed or discussed previously. I believe that if we take 15-20 minutes to just do the video portion only, we will have accomplished a great deal in making rider education more interesting, and more valuable. The other goal is more hands on seminars where we can use our motorcycles including perhaps trailers to enhance more riding skills pertinent to our riding safety. Stay tuned as we get into the coming year for a schedule of events along those lines of training. I realize not everyone will be interested in every seminar, but for those who have such interests we will make every attempt to provide the training in a format that is fun, is short enough to keep our attention, and still get all the important lessons learned.

And as always, **RIDE WITH PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE!** To all my sisters and brothers in the motorcycling world, as we partake in the holidays, be safe, drive carefully, and enjoy the season. We want to see your smiling faces in 2015.

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Member Wanted or For Sale

This is for Chapter Members to advertise for Motorcycle items that they are looking for or that they have for sale. Items will run for three months and then be deleted unless instructed to keep running by the chapter member.

Below are photos and descriptions of items that were donated by Sue Venne to be used as a Chapter fundraiser. These items can be viewed my house during the January 2015 Chapter Pot Luck Gathering on January 10th.



Kuryakyn Ultimate Heated Touring Saddle and Heated backrest. Fits GL1800 2006 to 2010. Retailed for over \$1300 new. Only \$250.00



Joe Rocket Honda Gold Wing Jacket with protective liner, protective pads, and upzips to mesh. Size Extra Large. Excellent Condition. \$30.00



Black Leather Vest with Chapter NH-G patches already on. Size Medium. \$20.00



Black Denim 25th anniversary Ride for Kids Jacket. Size Large. \$5.00



Honda Part No. 37800-MT8-008 New fuel level sending unit. Fits 1990-2000 GL1500. Retail price \$51.41. Sale price \$10.00



Honda Part No. 35020-MCA-000 New Left Handlebar Switch Set. Fits 2001-2003 GL1800 Goldwing. Retail price \$215.92. Sale Price \$50.00



New Yuasa battery No. YTX24HL-BS Maintenance Free Battery. Fits all Goldwings from 1975 to 2000. Has been kept at full charge with a Battery Tender. Retail price as high as \$144.00 Sale price \$39.00



Honda Part No. 62601-MN5-000 New left hand crash bar for GL 1500 Goldwing. Fits 1988 to 1997 GL1500 Gold Wing. Retail price \$374.40 Sale Price \$25.00

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POLARIS SUZUKI HONDA 550-000 *ski doo*



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