

GWRRA Ohio District July 2018 Newsletter

OHIO, It's not the Destination, it's the Ride.



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2018

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District Directors

Roy & Becky Jones

From the Director's Corner

As most of you know we officially took the positions as District Directors on July 1st and we have spent most of the last couple of weeks assimilating everything and deciding on what to work for first. National's goal is recruiting new members and retaining old members. So let's start there.

GWRRA is losing membership at an alarming rate. If we don't turn this around in 10 years there won't be anyone left. Our numbers were down at Buckeye Rally this year. Although I know of at least 4 members who were first timers at this Buckeye rally, and if you talk to people who attended everyone had fun.

Everyone is different and has a different idea of what is fun. So what is it that might make you or someone else want to attend next year's Buckeye Rally or Cabin Fever in February? If you are still thinking "been there, done that", then you need to really take a look at what has been going on the last few years. Shiny Side Up is new, training modules are new, and if you haven't sat in on some of the new modules you don't know what you are missing. The guided rides were new, the unguided rides were new. The Poker Run through the vendors all new. Sure we kept the old favorites, who wouldn't. They're favorites for a reason. So our **FIRST GOAL** is to try to get older members involved again, attending rides, and events.

How do we accomplish this? We start by contacting those who aren't active and asking why. We also ask what we can do to help them have fun again with their chapter and friends. Ask if they are still riding and find out what type of rides they enjoy. Have them set a ride up, not necessarily to lead the ride but to encourage them to ride to their favorite place with the chapter.

As ADD's we visited a lot of chapters, gathering, fund raisers, picnics other events. One thing stood out to us in our travels. The strongest chapters all were wearing their colors at every event they attended. From a simple ice cream ride to an officers meeting-the strongest chapters all had their colors on and their vests. What better way to tell the world who you are.

Our **SECOND GOAL** is to increase membership. How do we accomplish this? We as chapters set up special recruiting events such as Mall Shows or have a Motorist Awareness event at a Wal-Mart or perhaps in a plaza, or at a restaurant. Have a computer on with the



District Directors

Roy & Becky Jones

From the Director's Corner

Motorist Awareness videos playing. Have hand outs and the Ride Ohio magnets and kick stand plates to pass out. Kids love stickers, sometimes you can find "Watch out for Motorcycles" or other safety stickers to give to the kids. Talk to the motorcycle dealers in your area and put welcome packets in all of the Gold Wings, new

and used. Set up a table with all pertinent information about your chapter and about GWRRA. Not all sales people are well informed about GWRRA, and even if they are they may not remember to mention it to a new Gold Wing owner. But if the information is there, then the new owner will have all of the info he or she needs to contact us.

A goal without a plan is just a wish. So make your plans to increase your chapter's membership and to get the old members active again. Set your goals the same as you set your rides, knowing that it's going to be a fun time for all. If it isn't fun, there's no sense on doing it.

Let's have fun.

Remember:

"It's not the destination, it's the ride."



Assistant District Directors

North Central Section

Doug & Lynn Kerst

What a busy month June has been with Buckeye Rally and sectional picnic going on. It was a great time at Buckeye Rally and the weather held out and was all most perfect. We would like to congratulate Roy and Becky Jones on becoming the next District Directors for Ohio.

Lynn and I are staying on as the north central assistants which includes chapter C3, P, I, V, B, and Y. The north central picnic weather was not suppose to be good but it turned out to be a good day for a ride. We had 18 members and we enjoyed the ride to get ice cream. I would like to thank Nancy Lantz from chapter I with the suggestion for ice cream. The place was located at route 30 and 511 on the southwest corner. Here is a couple of things that are coming up in the north central section or in the district that you might want to attend: July 14 Ride for Kids in Marysville, Ohio July 14th at 12:30 North east section picnic at Berlin Reservoir July 28th Chapter F Hobo Breakfast July 29th Chapter I Teddy Bear Ride.

Doug and I are sorry that we weren't able to announce the winners for the poker game at Buckeye Rally but we got a lot more members (27) playing and took longer to get thru all the hands. We both were busy from 3 to closing and we wanted to make sure that we did everything right. Here are the results: First place is Wendell Gundy from B3 had straight flush, second place bill ford from B3 with 4 aces king high, third place gene Wallace from f with four eights with king high, fourth place rob Stufflebeam from B3 with four fours with king high.

Assistant District Director

South East Section

Robert Vogel

Good Evening all,

This is your new South-East Assistant District Director, Robert Vogel.

Buckeye Rally was a great experience for me this year. I met many new people and had the opportunity to expand old friendships. I feel that the friends I've met and continue to meet along the way is what

makes GWRRA so amazing. I look forward to more new friendships in my time as your SEADD.

Another great experience at Buckeye Rally was the Amazing Race. This was my first time participating and I loved every challenge. We have so many exceptional riders from every chapter and I was honored to be out there with some of the best. I will be back next year with new skills and more confidence to take on the course again.

Since being selected as SEADD, so many of you have offered words of encouragement and a helping hand. Every chapter I've visited has welcomed me with open arms and great enthusiasm. So, to all of you I say a much heartfelt thank you! You all are Rockstars in my book.

Stay safe and enjoy this great riding weather.



District Treasurer

Karen Ballou

As the District Treasurer, there are a few reminders that I want to pass on to all Treasurers and CDs taking care of the chapter finances.

1. Have you changed Chapter Treasurer in 2018?

They should have. The completion of a financial report at the end of one person's time in office allows the new Treasurer to start with a clean plate and cleared finances. Additionally, a copy of this term end report should be forwarded to the ADD to be forwarded to the District Treasurer, me. If you are the outgoing Treasurer, you don't want to have someone blaming you for an error that appears during the next Treasurer's term. Balance and close out the year's months, if mid-year, and pass on a reconciled situation. Just use the same form as year-end reports.

2. Did you update the signers on the bank checking account with that Treasurer change?

My guess is that you did. Any time a bank signature card is updated, be sure to remove all out of date signers.

3. Did you get a new ADD this year?

If you did, the signature card must also be updated to include that ADD. Banking regula-

tions since 2001 have made it a little more challenging to get signature cards updated since all signers must be present at the same time. Many banks are open on Saturday mornings or have full branches in markets. Everyone take a ride to a convenient branch and "get 'er done".

Being Treasurer is a trusted position and while we may all trust you, the paperwork still has to be done.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me by email at kballou@gmail.com. Don't use the link from the website as it is properly forwarded. And if I don't know the answer, I will find out. **KEEP RIDING!!!**



District Membership Enhancement Coordinators

Rob & Amanda Stufflebeam

Greetings everyone!

At the recently-concluded 2018 Buckeye Rally closing ceremonies, Amanda and I were sworn in as your incoming District Membership Enhancement Coordinators. It was suggested an introduction might be a good thing to do, so here's a few tidbits about us.

For myself, I grew up in Logan, OH and joined the Air Force after high school in 1980. Over the course of my military career I was a warehouseman, supervisor, recruiter and computer mainframe operator. After getting out I pursued and achieved my college education goals, acquiring a Master's degree in Information Technology. After that, I went back to work for the Department of Defense as a civilian, holding positions first in Alabama and currently here in Columbus, OH where I'm an IT Specialist for the Defense Finance & Accounting Service.

Amanda grew up in Alabama, and has been a military spouse, worked in the church, and held many jobs/positions over her career including dental assistant, airframe mechanic, counselor, preschool director chaplain and children's minister – a true jack-of-all-trades. She graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with a Master's degree in Christian Education.

We've owned many bikes over the years – too many to count almost – from Suzuki to Yamaha to Kawasaki to Harley and Honda. One day we were talking about what bikes make the best fit – so I said to Amanda the very best bike I'd ever

had for 2-up riding was a Goldwing. We then went and got our current bike – a 2012 GL1800 which we subsequently converted to a Roadsmith Trike.

Since getting our 'Wing and joining up with GWRRA some years ago, we've ridden many miles and greatly enjoyed the fun and fellowship of an active Chapter. We worked with our local Chapter (B3) on their community support activities and were eventually asked to hold an office. We've been ACD and are currently the Chapter Directors. Additionally, Amanda was an Assistant Ride Educator and currently is our Chapter Ride Coordinator.

We have met so many truly great and wonderful people in our travels so far and hope to continue meeting and befriending even more. By volunteering to hold a District position, our hope is to help GWRRA grow and evolve, moving into the future as we continue to love this hobby of riding and finding others to enjoy it with.

See you on the road!

District Ride Coordinator

K. Gregory Smith

“Cherryhair”

I became a member of GWRRA June 1998 after I bought my Garage find 1985 Honda Aspencade with 30K on her. We have ridden in forty eight states and seven Canadian Providence's, being in each location for days.

On April thirtieth of this year, I now have a 2018 Gold Wing Tour DCT in my stable!

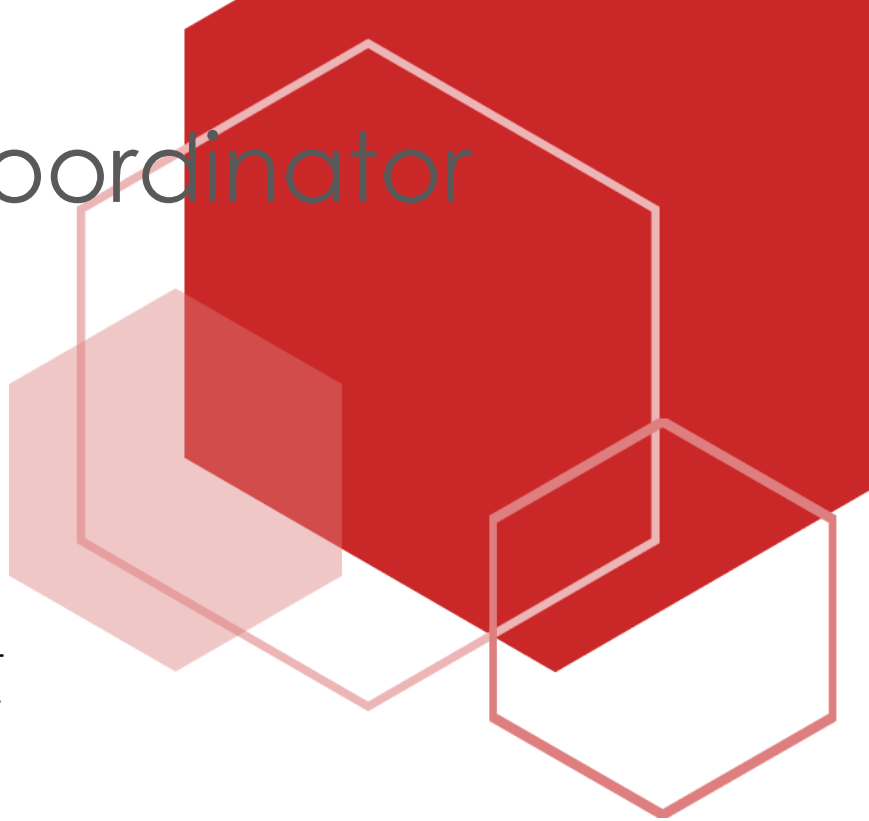
At the same time I joined Chapter I (eye). This Chapter was formed in January 1985. I am the first to become a Master's in this Chapter. I am now a LIFE Grand Master.

I live in Western Holmes County wear the Amish live among me. Currently Single. I have a small homestead. The family farm is approximately seven miles away where I do the maintenance on it.

First half of my professional career, I was involved in Swine Nutrition Research. Last half I was involved in Field Crops Genetics Research.

I was down sized on July thirty first, 2011. In 2012 thou Gold Wing & I went on our Dream/Adventure Trip. We were gone two hundred and two days and thirty five thousand nine hundred seventy six miles. We rode through seventeen Western States and also rode the Alaska Highway. Spending from five to ten days per state. Fantastically AWESOME!!! Numerous memories stories.

It was an Honor & Privilege for me to be asked by Linda & Rudy Copeland to be on their staff. Looking forward to being on Becky & Roy Jones Team.



District Educators

Bill & Pat Stiles

I've written a lot of articles for my chapter, V-2, but this will be the first for another chapter's newsletter. This will be the first thing that we will do as the new District Educators. As the time goes by my articles will be about motorcycle safety, the levels programs and other things that are relevant to the safety of operating a motorcycle.

Motorcycle Safety Tips

Be Ready: mind, body, and bike.

There are three ways riders should ready themselves for a ride. First, there is mental readiness. Before taking your bike out, your mind should be clear and drug and alcohol free to focus on the ride you have ahead of you.

Second, you must be physically prepared. Protective gear is a must in protecting your body while riding a motorcycle. Protective gear includes: a good fitting helmet, gloves, eye protection, jacket, long pants, and sturdy boots or shoes. Note that reflective or bright colored protective gear will help you stand out in traffic. Physical fitness will help your riding in countless ways including, comfort on longer rides and better and sharper reflexes. Also, try some stretching exercises before you ride.

Third, you must check the condition of your bike. This includes fixing the parts that break, as well as regular maintenance, such as: regular oil changes, properly adjusted controls, a properly adjusted chain and suspension, good tires, working turn signals, and checking of tire pressure. A quick walk around the bike before riding could point out leaks, loose bolts, tire problems, or anything else out of place

Know where you are.

Being aware of what is in your immediate space cushion will always help you guide your ride safely. Failure to be aware of your position in relation to those around you can cause dire consequences when faced with the need to make a quick lane change. Pay special attention to what's in front of you, especially oncoming traffic. It's easy to disregard traffic traveling in the opposite direction but that is where the greatest threat lies.

District Educators

Bill & Pat Stiles

Use Your Head to Look Where You're Going.

This may sound slightly remedial, but it is an under-appreciated habit of a skilled rider. As you round a turn, keep your head and eyes up, looking through the corner as far as you safely can, at least three to four seconds ahead. (If you can't see that far ahead, you need to slow down until you CAN see three to four seconds ahead).

When your line of sight or path of travel becomes restricted, reduce your speed and use great care.

Simply put, if you can't see, slow down. Rain and fog are examples of situations where less speed = more reaction time = safer riding. Curvy forest and mountain roads' sightlines are shorter; you need to reduce your speed to be prepared for surprises like deer or big rocks.

Before proceeding through any intersection, check left, check front, check right, then check left again.

As you enter an intersection, whether turning or proceeding through, you need to know what your hazards are and where they can come from. The highest priority is to check your left. Why left? The left is the highest priority because that is the lane of traffic you first cross and therefore would be the first to impact you. After the left you continue to check the intersection in a clockwise pattern, and then check left again. Always check the left twice.

Check your rearview mirror before you slow your speed.

Too often, what is out of sight is out of mind. As you slow down for any turn or a stop, you need to be aware of what is happening behind you. Now you begin braking or rolling off the throttle, you need to check your mirrors. (Your attention up to this point has been primarily in front of you, so once you start braking, you are already minimizing any hazards in that direction). This is part of your general awareness of what is happening in your surroundings on the road. The habit to acquire is to check your mirrors every five to seven seconds, and any time you roll off the throttle. Combine that with gentle application of both brakes and rarely will a stop be anything more than routine

Keep a 2-4 second following distance.

When traveling on a highway, the minimum distance to keep between you and the vehicle in front of you is 2 seconds, but that is the bare minimum. Keep in mind two seconds is the distance needed on clear sunny days.



District Educators

Bill & Pat Stiles



At night or during inclement weather you need to increase your safety margin to four to eight seconds. You should maintain these cushions as best as possible including the time you find yourself riding in traffic or with a group of motorcycles.

To figure your distance correctly pick a point on the road, like a sign or a seam in the pavement, watch the vehicle ahead of you pass it and count the seconds it takes you to reach that point. The number of seconds you count is your following distance

Have a great day and be safe



District University Coordinator

Margaret Moore

Hello everyone. I am your new **District University Coordinator (DUC)** as of June. In the June newsletter I gave some basic information about my involvement in GWRRA, but now I will let you in on a little secret - I have been a trainer/instructor while I was active duty in the Air Force, while I worked for the American Red Cross Disaster Services and a presenter of GWRRA seminars upon my completion of the “old” UDTP.

I enjoy passing on my knowledge to anyone who wants to learn. My current part-time job at a local auto auction requires me to teach new hires and temporary drivers brought in for the Sales. They need to learn the “safe” way to drive through the auction barn and return to the proper lane and safely park a vehicle.

While I have not yet taken the ITCP I look forward to attending as soon as I can. I will not be available to present any modules, but I can still contact any of the Trainers to help your chapters by presenting any modules/seminars that are of interest to the members. Please email me with any requests **AND** continue to forward me copies of any attendance sheets so that I can submit them on up the line.

I have attended many of the old seminars and a few of the new modules and have enjoyed them all. No matter the subject we can all learn something so please consider attending any and all modules/seminars that are available.

Either way, please ride safe and BE safe out on the open road while you enjoy this nice weather we are finally having.

Quack, Quack



District COY/CHOY Coordinators

Doug & Lynn Kerst

Well I hope that everyone is enjoying their summer so far. Buckeye Rally 2018 has come and gone and it is time to start working on Cabin Fever 2019. I am looking forward to the Couple of the Selection. It is my hope that we will have some couples going thru the selection.

If you know your chapter couple and think that they would be a good district couple of the year, please in courage them to go thru the selection process. It is a very fun time and they meet a lot of member thru out GWRRA. I would like to know by the fall officer meeting which is November 10th so that they can practice and be more comfortable when it comes to Cabin Fever. I also will be sending out emails asking the couple if they are interested. It is my goal to also honor a chapter individual of the year. I hope to have more information on this in the coming months and at the fall officers meeting.

Doug and I are working on getting all the guide lines and score sheets up and ready to go by the fall officers meeting for the Chapter of the year program. As you know it is only being done at the District level. I hope is that we will have many chapters that will take part. The score sheets and guide lines will be on the

District web page. It has been our goal to make this more fun and not so much stress on the person in the chapter who is doing it.

Last but not least I hope that anyone who is going to be at Wing Ding will take the time on Tuesday July 28th to come out and cheer on the Region D couple. As they will be going thru the selection for International Couple. This is the last time at Wing Ding that there will only be one couple selected. Starting in 2019 there will be a total of 6 couples. 4 from the United States 1 from Canada and 1 from over seas.

Former District Directors

Rudy & Linda Copeland

As the 2018 Buckeye Rally comes to a close we sure hope everyone had a great time celebrating the 35th anniversary. After four years as the Ohio district directors we have many people we want to thank.

We want to thank Anita Alkire and the entire national team for all the support you have give to us and the state of Ohio.

Even though Region D hasn't existed since January 1, 2018 we want to thank Lee and Kay Tieche and Lloyd and Becky Glydewell and their region teams for all the support that was given to the district of Ohio and the help and support given to us.

KUDOS and a BIG THANK YOU to our district team members who have helped us greatly over the past four years. Over the last four years the following people have served on the district team: Gary and Karen Ballou, Doc and Jen Deutschmann, Darrin Ebright and JJ, Tim and Linda Fleming, Chuck and Melanie Geggie, Roy and Becky Jones, Doug and Lynn Kerst and their daughter Keri McCrabb, Claude and Dee Mitchell, Dave and Sheila Preston, Dave and Sally Slonaker, Gregory Smith (Cherryhair), Steve and Anne Teal, Robert G. and Angela Williams, Bill and Katie Wilson, John and Karen Wissinger, and Randy Young

All the help and support you have given us has helped make our job so much easier.

A special thanks goes out to all the chapters and their teams who have supported us for the last four years.

Last but not least is you the members. We greatly appreciate all the help and support

you have given us. Your friendship will always be special to us.

As we step down as your district directors we ask you give the next district directors, Roy and Becky Jones and their team the support you have given us. We have been members of GWRRA for 30 years and we intend on staying active through chapter life, district events such as Cabin Fever and Buckeye Rally, and national events such as Wing Ding. Motorcycling is a very important part of our lives. As we have heard many people state we bought the bikes to ride; however we stay in GWRRA because of the great friends we have made. The GWRRA motto of "Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge" does an excellent job of summing up the importance of this organization and why we have stayed so active. We will see you at future events.

Rudy and Linda Copeland
Ohio Senior District Directors