

GWRRA
Friends For Fun,
Safety, and
Knowledge

Alabama B
Rocket City Wings
Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 1 Issue 4

August 2013



Watch out, school starts
this month!



CHAPTER B

We are the International **Chapter** of the Year.

We have the International **Couple** of the Year for 2012/13

And We have the International **Recruiter** of the year for 2012

It will take some time for another chapter in GWRRA to match this feat.

Our Chapter Directors

Steve & Shirley Kremer & their Team

Chapter Educators / News Letter
Editors Aaron & Pat Lambert

MEC/Photographer Avery Howard

Treasurer Kathy & Jake Lawyer

Historian/Scrapbook Faye & Walter
Gersch

Couple of the Year Faye & Walter
Gersch

Webmaster John & Elizabeth Gris-
wold

Country Store
Kevin & Darlene Kennemer

Ways & Means Jay & Connie Jensen

Social Dinners Steve and Shirley
Kremer

Technical Coordinator Michael
Kremer



Visit us out at
www.rocketcitywings.org

Nation, Regional and District Team

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What's Missing from this page?

I would love to post your articles in this space.

Send them to
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Southeast Region "A"

Convention

September 12-13-14 2013

LAKEPOINT RESORT LODGE &

CONVENTION CENTER

US-431 NORTH, EUFAULA, AL

CONTACT: Sone' Kornegay 800-544-5253 or
334-687-8011

Lodge Rooms, Cottages or Cabins

Director Notes

-- From the Chapter Directors



Can you believe July has already passed us by? And what a busy month. We started out July, with of course, Wing Ding and the Fourth of July was right in the middle as usual. I think if anything, the trip to Greenville was anything but uneventful. We started out at 2:30 AM (long before the butt crack of dawn), dry, and arrived safe (picking up an additional rider on the way), sponge soaked wet. Lessons learned: Always go with your instinct when it comes to the weather and **don't sweat the small stuff.** In other words, be sure to always stay on the lighter side of having fun. Wing Ding, overall, was a great time to reflect on our accomplishment as **GWRRA's International Chapter of the Year.** Although we did catch quite a bit of rain while we were there. Shirley and I had a chance to get out and get up into the mountains one day. I even met some great folks from local chapters around our area. We even had a chance to visit one of those chapters, Chapter S (out of the Russellville area), after we returned

from Wing Ding. On 13 July, we had the Lynchburg and Jack Daniels ride. And then on the 27th (one ride. **I couldn't make), there was the great Hamburger Run to Georgia.** This Summer has been unpredictable with the weather, remember to be prepared with rain suits, lots of water, and a good plan when you are riding in the heat.

Well, August has a lot of activity itself. We already **had the ride to Colbert's Ferry Landing,** which turned out to be a beautiful ride and picnic. Even with a lot of rain blooming all around us.

Shirley and I want to thank all the people that are taking advantage of our meetings, the fun they are having on rides, the dinners and breakfasts. We got a lot coming up in August and you know, of course, next month. We have the **District convention's down in Eufaula** again next month and were looking forward to a great time down there. Shirley and I usually take off to Florida to visit friends before the closing ceremonies

Well, I am getting ready to do some maintenance on both of bikes and trying to get them back up to hundred percent before I take off on a long trips again. Remember, if anyone needs any technical assistance. We have folks in the chapter they can give us some

advice and hopefully point you in the right direction. Our next meeting is the second Tuesday of August. Hope to see you there.

Make an appointment for our next event and remember to ride safe and cover everything you want to use later in life....

Thanks,

Steve & Shirley Kremer

Do you have an article that should have been posted here?



Faye and Walter Gersch

JULY NEWS FROM 2013 COUPLE OF THE YEAR



The month of July was exceptional because of Wing Ding in Greenville SC. We actually left early to be there in time for the International Couple of the Year Selection, which was on Tuesday July 2nd. The couple from Region N won, which was Tommy and Gayle Wilson from Virginia. There were certainly a lot of good couples and it was very hard to choose. Opening ceremonies on Wed. and also working along with playing. Walt and I worked the Recruiting desk and information. At opening ceremonies our Alabama Chapter B, International Chapter of the Year got special seating up front, which was nice. Lots of vendors and plenty of money spent there. The highlight to me was the entertainment Vocal Trash. We saw them last year and they were just as good or better this year. I think we would not know how to act this year without rain and Greenville had their share of it. It poured rain most of the time we were there. But we are troopers and we toughed it out.

We had our regular monthly gathering at O'Brian's where I won the participation

prize. \$170. It went in the bank to cover all the stuff we bought at Wing Ding. We made a trip to Russellville along with Steve and Shirley for a chapter gathering there. Again, it was in the rain. We also went to Columbia Tenn. for their 25th Anniversary. Enjoyed seeing all the friends we made there. Walt and I left on the 18th going to a family reunion in Crystal Lake, Ill. It was very hot riding the bike. WE had to make many stops due to the heat. A nice trucker gave us a little shade for about ten minutes up in Indiana. Guess what? It stormed up there too. We missed most till we got back in Tenn. almost home and ran into more rain. This has been a really rainy month for July. My son Paul got a first Goldwing 1800 Trike and is just learning to drive. If you see him on the road, give him a wave. You will recognize him very easily since it is candy orange with a Roadsmith Trike kit, so he is ready to ride. We had the annual burger run to Randy's and not as crowded or hot this year. So many places to go and things to see. Above all, be safe and

watch out for the other drivers. Till next time. Faye and Walt Gersch



Avery Howard
Membership Enhancement Coordinator
Ride safe.....Ride often.

Well, as you know July started off with a bang.

Wing Ding 35 was held in Greenville, SC from 3 – 6 July 2013. Although there was lots of rain everyone still had a good time. There was over 9,000 in attendance. On Tuesday was the International Couple selection. A welcome party was held Tuesday evening at Heritage on the Green in downtown Greenville. Due to the weather it was held in the kids museum. There was a lot of neat stuff inside. Wednesday was opening ceremonies. The winner for International Couple of the Year was announced. Tommy and Gayle Wilson of Virginia Region N won this honor. Alabama Chapter B was presented with a plaque and I along with Tammy Hollingsworth had the honor of accepting it. The Flag was also passed to us by Linda Huggard Chapter Director of Chapter N Region H. There were vendors galore for people to spend their money. Oh, I got tagged by Sharon Stanley editor at Wing World to help take pictures at Wing Ding. What an honor that was for me. **Friday was Steven Hollingsworth's birthday. He was given a birthday party at Olive Tree. If you didn't make it, you missed out on a good time and some very good food.** Saturday morning was the Grand Parade with over 200 motorcycles participating. At 4 p.m. on Saturday was closing ceremonies. Several trailers and a lot of money was given away. The Grand Prize was a brand new Gold Wing.

July 9th was our monthly meeting. 35 chapter members participated. Seven members of AL – D visited our meeting. It was a pleasure having them.

On the 11th Steve & Shirley Kremer, and Walter & Faye Gersch visited Chapter S in Russellville. On Saturday Walter, Faye, Aaron, Pat, Joann and myself visited Chapter Z in TN for their 25th anniversary, while Steve, Tammy, Greg, Renee, Roger, Peggy, Jake, Kathy and **Ron went to Jack Daniel's Distillery.**

Other rides on the schedule were the Amish **Ride and the ride to Randy's in Trenton, Georgia.** I ended up with a mechanical problem with my bike. At first we thought it was a gear, but Steve Hollingsworth discovered it was a **problem with the shifter. I'm hoping to have that fixed soon.**

My CB was hung up in receive mode. A call to Sierra Electronics cleared up the problem without me having to pull the CB out and send it to them.

A great big THANK YOU to everyone who has participated in the rides and dinners **throughout the month. Remember.....Ride often.....Ride Safe!**

Avery Howard
MEC



Wow, can't believe its August already.

We had a great time in Greenville, we learned how to ride in the rain and on flooded streets. Glad we ride a trike!

We visited chapter TN-Z for their 25th anniversary meeting. Several Chapter B members also attended.

Pat and I spent several days in Pigeon Forge with her family celebrating 3 birthdays .

Then her daughter and her family spent 3 days with us and the grandson stayed 2 additional weeks with us.

I spent 2 weeks in Tennessee wiring a friends home addition and remodel of his kitchen.

We did get to go on the hamburger run on the 27th. We walked right in and ate, no long line and not as hot as they said last year was. Did rain a little in spots but not enough to wear the rain gear.

We test rode Renee's trike. We are hoping to sell our trike and buy hers. We rode it the night before as well, we rode with several chapter members to Gunter'sville for dinner and then on the way home Jake and Kathy had a problem with the front tire. A large

patch of rubber came off . Rescue plus was called and they made it home around 1:30 am.

I was supposed to work in Tenn. on August 3 (day of the Picnic) but things happened with the contractor and I ended up going back to my friends house and finishing up the rough in. I used over 2000 feet of wire on that project.

With August here, it will probably get hotter than it has been this year. Remember to wear long sleeves to protect your arms from the sun, wear over the ankle boots and long pants.

I found some comfortable leather gloves (at Home Depot) that are bright orange and they were under \$12!!!

Drink plenty of liquids to stay hydrated. Take plenty of breaks riding or working around your home.

Working in the sun takes it's toll on your body faster than you think.

Ride safe and often

Aaron & Pat Lambert
Chapter Educators



Technical Corner

Michael Kremer

Motorcycle Maintenance Tips for Safety

The warmer summer weather ushers in a wonderful motorcycle season and even more motorcyclists hit the roads. In fact, there are more vehicles of all kinds on the road in summer, as families embark on vacations and day trips. As such, it is especially important to take extra measures to stay safe on the road this summer from all the crazies that never see you.

Before hitting the open road during this summer season, take the time to ensure that the motorcycle is properly maintained:

- A. Check the tire pressure, at the very least; the tires may be low on air.
- B. Inspect the tires, wheels and rims for cracks or dents. If the bike sat on concrete all winter, instead of being elevated, the rubber may have deformed producing a flat spot.
- C. Inspect cables and hoses, looking closely for kinks, frays or folds, **Test the moving parts**. Make sure the brake cables did not become loose.
- D. Test the tail lamp, head lamp, brake lights and turn signals. The humble battery is a very common cause for motorcycle breakdowns! Unfortunately they are awkward to get to and therefore do not get checked as often as they should. A battery only requires a little monthly maintenance to perform perfectly. Keep the battery charged to 100%, recharging when the lights dim, the starter sounds weak, or the battery hasn't been used in more than two weeks.
- E. **Replace the oil and fuel**. Oil gets acidic as it ages, which can damage engine parts. And any fuel stabilizer put in the tank last fall will not combust well, leading to rough engine performance until it burns off. Check the brake and transmission fluids levels as well.
- F. Review the condition of the chassis and stands. **Warm it up**. Let the cycle heat to running temperature to flush out all of the systems before heading out for that first run.

I'm sure there's many more tips to post, but I felt that these are the most prevalent. Be sure to maintain your bike mainly for your safety and the safety of others. I know firsthand how frustrating maintenance problems are when you're in the middle of enjoying a great ride.

Thanks, and be sure to see me for any questions you have concerning the health of your ride....

Mike Kremer

Technical Coordinator



Greetings!

Wing Ding 35 has come and gone with 9,243 delegates enjoying GWRRA's convention, or as we call it, "GWRRA's Family Reunion." Greenville was a great host city and the facility did an awesome time taking care of all of our Vendors, Members and guests who attended. A special "THANK YOU" to all our Officers, Event Management Team, Rider Ed folks, and Volunteers who worked so hard to take care of all our Wing Ding attendees.

If you have a story, travel tip, or fun share from your trip to Wing Ding, please send them to me here! Also remember, if you did not go to Wing Ding, but had a great trip someplace else and would like to share your travel story, Gold Book story, travel tip, or unique Chapter Fund-Raising event, send them to me also. We are always looking for Member articles for your e-Newsletter - keep them coming!

As you probably know, the next Wing Ding, Wing Ding 36, 2014, will be returning to Madison, Wisconsin. Madison is one of our Member's favorite cities and everyone becomes a "cheesehead" when they get there! You can register for Wing Ding 36 at www.wing-ding.org All the other details about Wing Ding 36 will be coming soon!

I'd also like to hear from those Members who have a four (4) digit membership number or lower. Please send me an email (eprice@gwrra.org) with your membership number, date you joined, where you live and what you ride. If you can send a picture, I will feature some of you in upcoming issues. Thanks Dave, for your suggestion!

It is great to read such a variety of our Chapter, District and Regional newsletters as they are sent in to us. Reading about all the different activities, rides, events and fund-raising activities that our Members and Officers organize is inspiring! Just to name one, I want to compliment the New York District staff for representing GWRRA so well at Americade. Thank You! Your newsletter is so full of wonderful information, including great Rider Education materials to keep our Members thinking about rider education and safety. Great newsletter!!

In last month's enews there was a broken link on where you can locate your local Chapter. We apologize for that error and hopefully this is the correct link and correct address. Please click [here](http://gwrra.org/findchapter.html) or go to this address to find your nearest Chapter. <http://gwrra.org/findchapter.html>

Remember to check out GWRRA's website for all the latest news, benefits, updates and information. One more request: please forward this copy of Wingin' It to all your friends who ride!
THANKS!!

News from Region

“A”

As we write this, Nan and I just returned from Wing Ding 35 in Greenville, SC. What a great success it was! The TD Convention Center in Greenville has got to be one of the best venues in the nation. The City of Greenville seemed genuinely glad to see us and though Nan and I along with the Region staff had daily work assignments, we heard from many delegates about the great time they had in the Greenville area. Total attendance was over 9,000 delegates, an increase from last year at Ft. Wayne.

As you know, Region “A” had the twin duty responsibilities of staffing the Tickets Sales booth and the Poker Run. Each of the five Districts in Region A had a "duty day" to provide volunteers for these fun jobs. Each District had ample willing volunteers who had a good time at their posts and contributed to the overall success that Wing Ding 35 was.

Our thanks to each member of the Region “A” staff for their hard work and dedication, not just with the ticket sales and poker run, but with the other Program responsibilities such as Rider Ed, Membership Enhancement, Motorist Awareness and Medic First Aid. Our able Region Assistant Region Directors, Jim and Sue Jackson worked the ticket sales and poker run virtually non-stop for the whole five days of Wing Ding 35.

Our Thanks to the five District

Directors, Robert and Gail Brown of Alabama, Bill and Gina Berry of Florida, Tommy and Vicky Martin of Georgia, Bobby and Lori Bryant of Mississippi and Phil and Judy Stone of South Carolina, together with each of their District staffs and Chapter members who did such a wonderful job on each of their duty days.

Our Thanks to Bill and Trina Barden from Alabama for working each of the five days of Wing Ding 35. Bill worked at the poker run table and scored each days hands to determine the ultimate winners (8 in all). Bill was instrumental in making the poker run operate as smoothly as it did.

Our Thanks go out to Former District Director Charles and Betty Coleman and all the members of the South Carolina District who worked to complete all of the pre-Wing Ding tasks that they were given by the Home Office. There was a lot of work that went into preparing for Wing Ding and our South Carolina folks sure came through for us.

We also want to express our appreciation to Dana and Jo Voight, our Region “A” Couple of the Year who tried so hard and did us proud at the selection for the International Couple of the Year. Dana and Jo widely traveled during the last year to promote their candidacy. They were always friendly and out-going and worked hard to uphold the standards of the Couple of the Year program. Our thanks to them for the job they did and the favorable impression they created for Region “A”.

Our Thanks to the Event Management Team, folks from the Home Office staff along with Kevin and Kristi Thomas who assisted us with our assignments.

Next year, Wing Ding 36 will be in Madison, Wisconsin so start making your plans to attend. Nan and I have attended three previous Wing Dings there beginning in 1996 and are looking forward to 2014.

Region "A" was once again number ONE in recruiting for the United States according to the latest Growth Management Report from the Home Office. We're all still struggling with expiring members but our recruitment efforts are second to none.

Chapters, please continue to electronically transmit your Chapter Newsletters to everyone on your Chapter's ARL, even if you don't know them. One way to get members interested in your Chapter is to get them reading your newsletter. It doesn't cost anything to send them a link or a PDF file and it could be the best free investment your Chapter makes.

We reviewed the 30 Drop Letter Surveys for the Region that were sent to us by the Home Office. Of those 30, only 2 indicated some difficulty with the former members Chapter. We are looking into those cases. The remainders were attributed to health, age, finances; no longer own a motorcycle or death.

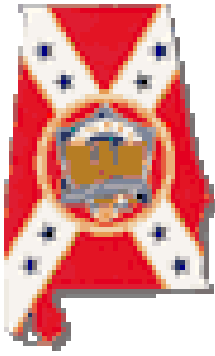
Our Region Rally is coming up fast; September 12th, 13th and 14th at the Lakepoint Lodge in Eufaula, AL. The theme is "Fiesta"! We'll serve

a nice BBQ dinner on Thursday evening, a police escorted Lighted Bike Parade, Talent Show on Friday with Ice Cream Social, lots of fun, games, seminars and classes and a performance by the Central Florida Drill Team. The Lakepoint Lodge is a beautiful location we know you'll like, so come rally with us September 12th-14th. We hope to see you there!

Senior Region "A" Directors

Bob & Nancy Shrader





-- District Directors

Robert & Gail Brown

Wing Ding, which was held in Greenville S.C., was good; it was also good and wet. Every day there was rain and plenty of it; however, that did not seem to put a damper on the event. Everyone took it in stride and made the best of the situation. Over 9300 members made the trip to spend their time, and a little money, with friends from all points of the U.S. and the world.

Congratulations to Tommy & Gayle Wilson on being selected the 2013-2014 International Couple of the Year. They will be representing GWRRA by visiting the chapters and the districts. Many thanks to Greg & Renee for all they did as the former International Couple of the Year. They put many miles on their bike and their vehicle to make as many events as possible.

Alabama Chapter B was recognized at opening ceremonies as the 2012 International Chapter of the Year. There was special seating for them, and they were presented the CHOY Banner. Thank you for the hard work and dedication that was required for this well deserved reward.

Jake Lawyer is the 2012 International Recruiter of the Year. Because of his efforts and dedication, more members are able to share the benefits and friendships this organization provides. Jake and Kathy represented Alabama by carrying the Alabama flag during the Grand Parade. Thank you for representing us so well this year. As a side note, all the flags were carried by the riders this year. This made the parade even better.

Carl Breeding was presented the Merit Award for the most people taught in Medic First Aid. Thanks for what you have accomplished.

Alabama GWRRA has much to be proud of. To all of the Alabama members, keep up the good work.

Hope to see you all at the next event which will be the District Picnic on September 7th at Confederate Memorial Park-10am-2pm. Please remember there is no cost for anyone to eat.

Sept. 12-14 is the Region A Rally in Eufaula. Larry & Penny Anthony will be in the Couple of the Year Selection for the Region A COY. Alabama is also responsible for the vendor security again this year.

If you are attending, we will need volunteers to man the gates on Friday & Saturday. Just let me or Frank know what time you can do this.

Robert & Gail Brown

Come ride with Us!



August 2013

Tuesday the 13th our meeting

Sat 10nd -- look out Mountain.

Sat 17th Overnight to Helen GA, tubing

Sat 24th Swanee Loop ride

Sat 31th ?

For Sale

1998 Gold Wing trike. Bike was triked in 2004. It has a TriKing trike kit on it. Recently serviced at their Daytona shop. It has 118,000 well cared for miles. New high out put alternator, oil changed before riding to Wing Ding.

13,500 OBO. Contact Aaron or Pat Lambert @ 256 533 5842

