

GWRRA
Friends For Fun, Safety,
and Knowledge

Alabama B Rocket City Wings Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 2 Issue 2

February 2014



CHAPTER B

2012 International **Chapter** of the Year .

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

International **Recruiter** of the year
for 2012

Avery Howard is Chapter B's
Individual of the Year 2014!

And Alabama's Joe Seller's Member of the Year Award Winner!

Our Chapter Directors

Steven & Tammy
Hollingsworth
& their team

**Assistant Chapter Directors / News
Letter Editors** Aaron & Pat Lambert

Chapter Educators

Jim & Carol Robinson

MEC/Photographer Avery Howard

Treasurer Kathy & Jake Lawyer

Historian/Scrapbook Faye & Walter
Gersch

Couple of the Year Faye & Walter
Gersch

Webmaster Greg Dempsey

Country Store

Kevin & Darlene Kennemer



Ride Coordinators

Roger & Peggy Allen

Social Dinners Tammy Hollingsworth

MAC Motorist Awareness Coordinators

Bill & Bonnie Nelson

Visit us out at

www.rocketcitywings.org

**Nation, Regional and District
Team**

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*When you visit a place near
or far that you think the
other chapter members
might be interested in
please write me a summary
of your experience and I
will put it in our newsletter*

*I would love to post **your**
articles in this space.*

*Send them to
aaronlambert@msn.com*

"FUN & C❄️❄️L things going on!"

(continued)

They had a chapter skit contest before closing ceremonies that Avery enjoyed quite a bit. I'm sure he will provide us with some good pictures. At one point, we joined some friends at the Coldstone Creamery Ice Cream Shoppe. Ice cream is better when it's COLD, right?!!!! Nevertheless of how cold it was, we still enjoyed getting out of the house and enjoying some out-of-town GWRRA activities.

We had our first staff meeting and we talked about our Valentine's party and the planning we needed to put into action. We plan to have some fun and lots of good laughs. Don't forget to come if you want to witness first hand who our new 2014 Chapter Couple of the Year will be. Our chapter is very fortunate to have some awesome couples who contribute a good bit to the chapter. The party will be at the Huntsville Christian Academy. As a reminder, our Valentine's party will be on February 8th, which is also the same day as our Plaque Grab event at Beauregard's restaurant on Airport Road. The restaurant opens at 11:00 am, so no need to be there any earlier than 11:00 am. The times for our plaque give-away is 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. We would love to have a good showing of chapter members to support this event. We are told that we should have attendance from some of the Alabama District staff members and hopefully lots of other members around the state. We assume that a lot of it depends on the weather of course. Hopefully, we'll experience some unusually warm days during that week!

ALABAMA DISTRICT SNOWBALL/OFFICERS' CONFERENCE:

Chapter Attendees: Walter & Faye Gersch, Aaron & Pat Lambert, Avery Howard, Steven & Tammy Hollingsworth, Jim Robinson, Greg Dempsey (Reneé was sick), Roy & Anita Fosnight, Tommy & Jo Ann Keener, and Jake & Kathy Lawyer.



To go back earlier in the month, on January 11th, a few of us participated in the Alabama District Snowball and Officers' Conference. Alabama District honored our very own, Avery Howard with the distinguished Joe

Sellers/Worm Christian Service Award. I got the youngest Female (surprise, surprise), and we tied for largest chapter in attendance. Seems like I'm forgetting something, but you know what, I've slept since then. If you'll remind me, I'll add it to next month's article.

"FUN & C❄️L things going on!"

(continued)

MFA / MOTORIST AWARENESS SEMINAR / LTP SEMINAR / HOBO STEW:

Attendees: Greg & Reneé Dempsey, Walt & Faye Gersch, Avery Howard, Bill & Bonnie Nelson, Steven & Tammy Hollingsworth, Roger & Peggy Allen, Aaron & Pat Lambert, Jake & Kathy Lawyer, Carl & Jan Breeding (AL-H), and Floyd & Audrey McQueen (AL-H)

On Saturday, January 18th, a few of us got re-certified in Medic First Aid/CPR. A big thanks goes out to Reneé Dempsey, our host, for her invaluable knowledge and training. Thanks to Greg for carrying the dummies and being a dummy for us. Ha! Ha! Greg didn't seem to pick up on the CPR as easily; he thought you were suppose to do it standing up! Another big thanks goes to our visiting friends from Chapter H who assisted Reneé, Carl & Jan Breeding. We followed up our class with Reneé teaching a seminar, *How to Have Fun at a Rally*.



Even though it's cold, it won't be long till riding season and we'll

be attending rallies again, so that seminar can keep these ideas fresh in our minds. On top of all of that training, Greg Dempsey presented a Motorist Awareness seminar that we all needed to be exposed to. Following these seminars, we cleared out the training materials to bring in some ingredients for a Hobo Stew. It was cold and when the stew was done, that warm stew warmed our insides very nicely. During this event, our visitors (Floyd & Audrey McQueen) officially introduced themselves. Floyd had some very interesting stories to tell such as how he and Audrey met and so forth. It was very fascinating. We found time to play a few card games, have lots of laughs and complete the day fairly early. It was a good, full day not to mention it was a very productive day.



"FUN & C❄️L things going on!"

(continued)

MFA / MOTORIST AWARENESS SEMINAR / LTP SEMINAR / HOBO STEW: (CONTINUED)

Steven and I want to everyone who participated. Last but not least, we want to thank Roy & Anita Fosnight, our Region A's Trainers, for the use of their garage for our activities. Roy & Anita was in South Carolina for some training duties.



“FUN & C❄️❄️L things going on!”

(continued)

Not to take anything away from Jim Robinson, I wanted to touch base on a Rider Education point that I learned firsthand. On January 21st, I was running late to get to the Tuesday Night dinner with the Chapter. Having worked late, I just figured I'd throw on what I had worn to work that morning in the way of motorcycle gear.



That was my first mistake. What you might wear in the morning of the winter months may not work for the evening of winter months. I learned quickly about 2 miles down the road that medium warm gloves do not cut it when it comes to riding in the frigid temps we had that night, not to mention the wind chill was ferocious and my driving a little over the speed limit [smirk] must have made the temp even colder. Needless to say, when I arrived at Texas Roadhouse, my hands hurt badly. They felt like they were on fire and so tender, even the contact with cool water was torturous. It took a bit to get them back to normal. This exposure got my attention and it goes without saying, I put my “winter” gloves on when I left to go home.



It was not too bad going home, however, most normal people don't ride their motorcycles in those temps too often. I will say that I've gotten a little more used to the coldness, so as long as I don't do anything stupid like wearing summer gloves, I enjoy the briskness and it keeps my sinuses clear. That memory of my hands which were stinging, burning and very numb along with a little (no, a LOT) of pain and throbbing is sure to keep me from doing that again. A little first aid tip that I read regarding treatment for my chilly-willy hands advises to slowly re-warm the hands, do not RUB!; and don't go outside without the proper level of protection. (Duh!)



"FUN & C❄L things going on!"
(continued)



DON'T FORGET THAT OUR VALENTINE'S PARTY WILL BE HELD IN LIEU OF OUR CHAPTER GATHERING FOR FEBRUARY.



See ya'll on the Road!



Steven & Tammy Hollingsworth

From the ACDs

Aaron & Pat Lambert



Wow.....What happened to the warm
sunny south?

We have been like most of you, trying to stay inside and stay warm. We did attend Snowball and the training day we had. We have also been on most of the dinners too.

As of late Pat's mother has been in the hospital and we were recently informed by her doctors that they are going to send her home under our care and Hospice. Pat and I have decided to temporarily move in with her mom so that we can make sure she gets the care and rest that she deserves. We will continue to be as active as we can under these circumstances.

I just wanted to remind you that officers in your chapter are not paid for any of the work they do. They volunteer to serve you. Sometimes it is very hard to

serve when you don't know what the members of the chapter are really interested in doing during the year.

Kathy and Jake have a jar on the table for you to put suggestions in. Please tell us either in person, suggestion jar/box, an email or a phone call. But one way or another, let us know what you are looking forward to this year.

Thanks

Aaron & Pat

During Snowball the latest information about the Levels program and the Motorist Awareness (MAD) Seminar requirement was presented:

- The MAD seminar is only required to be taken once.
- A MAD seminar is required when changing from level:
 - II to III,
 - III to IV,
 - IV to Senior IV,
 - Senior IV to Grand Master IV
 - Grand Master IV to Life Grand Master IV
- As of January 1, 2014, a MAD seminar is required to be current in levels III and any level IV.

Riding a motorcycle involves risks. Motorcyclists accept those risks and smart motorcyclists learn to minimize them. During the January gathering we talked about the risk associated with riding through an intersection closely behind a bus. A car coming toward you could try to turn behind the bus as soon as the bus passed and the car could crash into you. And since you couldn't see anything except the back of the bus, you wouldn't be aware the car was coming. We talked

about the better way to follow that bus through the intersection: move back so you can see and other drivers can see you.

The takeaway from that discussion involves preserving lines of sight. Don't get lost in traffic. Position yourself in traffic so you can see everything and everyone can see you. The smart motorcyclist maintains clear lines of sight. He does that by changing his position in the roadway, or by changing his speed, or both. He shifts to the left, to the right, or to the middle track of his lane, or he shifts to a completely different lane. He also accelerates or decelerates to a position that preserves his lines of sight.

Another way to reduce the risk of riding in traffic involves space cushioning. The idea is to change lane position and road speed so you maintain sufficient time and space all around you to ensure you can maneuver safely. When you maintain safe space cushioning, you also tend to preserve your lines of sight. You can see other road users and they can see you.

Watch out for other motorists because they aren't watching you!

Jim Robinson

Faye and Walter Gersch



First of all let me wish everyone a very HAPPY NEW YEAR from Walt and me. Even though the weather has not been very cooperative, we have had lots of fun. We started the New Year by taking our usual New Year's Day ride. It was chilly but we dressed warm. Got to try my new ski pants and they work wonderful. We rode about 150 miles all over the mountains and highways. On the 4th of January was our 31st Charter Anniversary. We celebrated some birthdays and anniversaries. We rode down to Prattville for Snowball in the car, sad to say. It was again, cold. We played games and had door prizes. The best of all was that Avery Howard, our person that is everywhere, won the Joe Sellars/worm Christian Award. He is also the Chapter Individual of the Year. Very well deserved. We now have new Chapter Directors,

Steven and Tammy Hollingsworth, ACDs Aaron and Pat Lambert, MEC and Photographer, Avery Howard. Roger and Peggy Allen are the ride coordinators. Bill and Bonnie Nelson are Motorist Awareness Coordinators. These are the new positions. The rest are the same.

Our Chapter Gathering was on the 14th of Jan. and we had several new people we signed up in GWRRA and welcomed a couple from Louisiana that will be joining our Chapter. So glad to have them with us.

On Jan. 18th, we continued our training mode and had Medic First Aid and CPR. Also a MAD class. We want to continue to be the best we can be, by getting educated along with the fun. We had a wonderful Hobo Stew all of it from the graciousness of Roy and Anita Fosnight for using their house and garage, while they were training in S. Carolina. Walt got to go see Bill Cosby live in Birmingham that night, so he had a full day.

We have had the coldest January that we have seen in a while but that doesn't stop us from eating. Tammy has been doing our schedule I do have to admit, the new places are enjoyable. February looks busy, too.

Till next time:

Walt and Faye, COY 2013



Avery Howard

Membership Enhancement Coordinator

B-R-R-R-R-R!!!!

Well the cold weather has certainly put a damper on doing any riding this past month. Still, all in all, there were activities that we got to enjoy. Snowball was very good this year. Fifteen members of Chapter B attended Snowball in Prattville. Tammy Hollingsworth was the youngest female attending. What a surprise and honor it was when they announced me as the winner of the Joe Sellers/Worm Christin Service award. Also Chapter B received the Traveling Plaque and will be giving it away on the 8th of February at Beauregard's on Airport Road.

There was a Medic/1st Aid course

and a couple other seminars at Roy & Anita Fosnights on the 18th. Afterwards we enjoy Hobo stew and played games. Steve, Tammy and I attended the Illinois Winter Warm Up in Springfield, IL. It was a lot of fun and as usual I got to meet and make new friends. One couple I met has a daughter that lives in Huntsville and works on Redstone. They are moving here around March to be near her and their two grandchildren. They will be joining Chapter B once they get settled in.

Until next month, if you ride, ride safe and dress warmly.

Avery Howard

MEC



Hello to all,

Well I didn't know if the ink would dry or freeze first as I wrote this. Can you believe our frigid weather.

We have been able to be inside and enjoy each others company even if we cant ride. I know that there are some folks in our chapter that have ventured out on their bikes & trikes in this weather. I too would have been out when I was in my 50s but not today at 64, LOL.

I know that I sound like a broken record, but please send us some articles to put in here. Look at Tammy's article this month, she did a great job for us.

Well till next month,

Ride Safe and often

Newsletter Editors

Aaron & Pat Lambert





Were you there? Are you going there?

1979	Wing Ding I	Phoenix, AZ	2005	Wing Ding XXVII	Ft. Wayne, IN
1980	Wing Ding II	Phoenix, AZ	2006	Wing Ding XXIX	Nashville, TN
1981	Wing Ding III	Phoenix, AZ	2007	Wing Ding XXIX	Billings, MT
1982	Wing Ding IV	Steamboat Springs, CO	2008	Wing Ding XXX	Greenville, SC
1983	Wing Ding V	Steamboat Springs, CO	2009	Wing Ding XXXI	Tulsa, OK
1984	Wing Ding VI	Lake of the Ozarks, MO	2010	Wing Ding XXXII	Des Moines, IA
1985	Wing Ding VII	Knoxville, TN	2011	Wing Ding XXXIII	Knoxville, TN
1986	Wing Ding VIII	Santa Clara, CA	2012	Wing Ding XXXIV	Fort Wayne, IN
1987	Wing Ding IX	Knoxville, TN	2013	Wing Ding XXXV	Greenville, SC
1988	Wing Ding X	Snowmass Village, CO	2014	<u>Wing Ding XXXVI</u>	<u>Madison, WI</u>
1989	Wing Ding XI	Madison, WI			
1990	Wing Ding XII	Knoxville, TN			
1991	Wing Ding XIII	Tulsa, OK			
1992	Wing Ding XIV	Madison, WI			
1993	Wing Ding XV	Louisville, KY			
1994	Wing Ding XVI	Albuquerque, NM			
1995	Wing Ding XVII	Greenville, SC			
1996	Wing Ding XVIII	Madison, WI			
1997	Wing Ding XIX	Billings, MT			
1998	Wing Ding XX	Huntsville, AL			
1999	Wing Ding XXI	Springfield, MO			
2000	Wing Ding XXII	Billings, MT			
2001	Wing Ding XXIII	Greenville, SC			
2002	Wing Ding XXIV	Fort Wayne, IN			
2003	Wing Ding XXV	Madison, WI			
2004	Wing Ding XXVI	Grapevine, TX			



Region “A” Directors

Jim & Sue Jackson

Ladies and Gentlemen, if you look in your rear-view you will see nothing but the dust of January 2014, becoming invisible as we roll into February. February the month for “lovers” with Valentine’s Day swooping in on us and chocolate being the protocol for February 14. Hey, don’t forget that co-rider on this special day.

Before we roll out of January a little review please. The last of the annual District Officer Conferences held across Region ‘A’ was concluded in Georgia 01/18/14. Each January there is a series of annual District Officer Conferences (AL, FL, GA, MS, and SC) and all Chapters in Region ‘A’ come together and attends their respective District Conferences. During these District Conferences, it is time

for the Chapters to submit their Chapter Financial documents to the District Treasurers along with other documentation ie Chapter Officer changes, etc. It is a time the Districts share and communicate valuable information to the Chapters. It is a time for questions and sharing of ideas and information. The annual District Officer Conferences are vital to maintain communications between the various components of GWRRA and the Home Office. We thank the District Directors and their Staffs for their professional efforts to host meaningful and productive Officer Conferences. We also thank the many Chapter Directors, Officers and Staff who took the time from their busy life schedule to attend and participate. Sue and I were able to attend and support the District Con-

ferences in Mississippi, South Carolina and Georgia along with several other Region Members of the Region Team. Unfortunately we couldn't attend all of them because of scheduling conflicts, but we had Regional Support at each Conference. Thanks to each and every one of you for your commitment and dedication to GWRRA and its Members.

District Directors; please remember that your District Financial Reports are due to the Region 'A' Treasurer, Linda Snyder, by February 15. Please ensure that you have properly audited them and that the required supporting documentation is included and all the necessary signatures are affixed. Further, please include in your packet 6 random copies of Chapter Financial Reports from 6 of your respective Chapters for audit by the Region Treasurer. The Region Treasurer requires hard document copies.....no disc or e-mail copies please.

The Region is to retain the original District documents in the Region audit file; the Districts are to retain the original Chapter documents in the District audit file. District Treasurers please ensure to accurately audit the Chapter re-

ports. Also remember that the 990-N forms will be due to the IRS for all Districts and Chapters no later than May 15, 2014.

It's pleasing to report, as it was at the end of 2012, that all of the Districts in Region 'A' achieved 100% contacts of all New Members, Trial Members and Prospective Members listed in their monthly ARLs for the year 2013. It is our charge to make these contacts in an effort to get New, Trial and Prospective Members to become engaged with their local Chapter. Our goal is to keep these folks in our bodacious Association by getting them involved and having GWRRA fun. Please accept our thanks to all the Chapters, Districts and to our Membership Enhancement Coordinators at all levels who have worked so hard to make this happen.

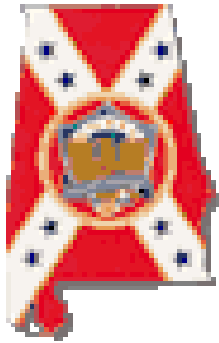
The Mississippi District Directors, Bobby and Lori Bryant, have announced that they will be stepping down at the conclusion of their up-coming District Convention in October 2014. Bobby and Lori along with their very capable Team have worked hard for Mississippi the past few years and have carried Mississippi to new heights of fun, education and business. I have begun looking for the next fabulous Mississippi

District Directors who can continue the Mississippi tradition of having one of the finest District Conventions in the Southeast, that can lead the Membership in GWRRA to Education/Safety, that can manage and apply leadership on the business side of the District and lead the Members to new levels of exciting fun and good-times.

Folks, as mentioned above its February and that means the Region 'A' Rally season is almost here. Yep, it's time to begin thinking which rally/conventions that one might attend. To help you make that decision, we have a matrix on the Region website with all the rally/convention information for Region 'A'. It should be out on your District website as well. Check out the matrix and you will see the first District Convention will be Mar 20-22, the Florida District Convention in Kissimmee, FL, the next Apr 3-5, the Alabama District Convention in Mobile, AL, the next May 1-3, the South Carolina District Convention in Florence, SC, the next Jun 12-14, the Georgia District Convention in Dillard, GA, Sep 11-13, the Region 'A' Convention at beautiful Lakepoint Lodge and Convention Center in Eufaula, AL, and Oct 16-18 the

Mississippi District Convention on the beach. Since Wing Ding 36 will be held in Madison, WI, Jul 2-5, this one will take a lot of planning just because of the distance from the Region. Naturally, the Region will need some volunteer help during Wing Ding since we have the responsibility of operating the Ticket Sales and Poker Run Stations. So let the planning begin and let's ride and have some fun during the bodacious Rally Season in the Southeast Region 'A' where the dew covers the Region every night.

Jim & Sue



-- District Directors

Robert & Gail Brown

The first few weeks of 2014 came in like a freight train. There were some of the lowest temperatures we have had in years along with wind, rain and snow in some areas. I am so ready for spring and some bike time.

On January 11, we began with our annual Snowball Rally & Officers Conference. The weather was not cooperative for the first few hours, but there were many members that braved the rain to enjoy the day with us and we thank you for it. Some of our Chapter members from AL-G, AL-J & AL-U rode their bikes. It rained so hard on them that one was soaked all the way to the skin. I am not going to mention names, but Corky will be

glad to share the picture with you.

The Officers Meeting was well attended and A Big Thank You to all of the CD's and your Teams. For the Chapters and Alabama GWRRA to exist, it takes members like you to be committed in leading your chapters.

We did announce during the Officers' meeting that this would be the last Snowball. This was decided upon after much thought and many discussions with the district team. Our attendance has become smaller for a number of years, and this will become a one day Officers' Conference. We will be able to complete paperwork, financials and do any Target Training that might be essential.

There is going to be a Traveling Plaque for 2014. Ron Alexander made a special

plaque for the District to use this year. The Traveling Plaque is an opportunity for chapters to ride and visit other chapters. The Plaque will be offered up for capture on a Saturday, and the number of chapter members multiplied by number of miles determines points. The complete rules are on the District website and the Chapter Directors also have a copy. Alabama Chapter B now has the Plaque and will be offering it up. Watch the District website for that information.

Several chapters have their Fun Days in the works. If your chapter has not done anything like this, please explore the possibility. It can be as simple as a cookout and inviting all the chapters. It just allows participation among members. Get out, support each other, and have fun.

The Florida District Convention is March 20th-22nd. Check out their website for a Registration Form and any further information. We will be there to support them and have a good time. The Alabama District Convention is April 3rd-5th in Mobile. The Talent Show will be Friday night, and hopefully each chapter will have a participant or participants. The talent show was great last year; let's make it a better one this year.

Thanks so much for all you do. If you need anything or have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

Robert & Gail Brown

Come ride with Us!



Ride Schedule

Feb.

- 1 Sat Chapter Ride -- Ride to Lynnville, TN. Meet at Jeff Road and Hwy.53 to leave at 10:30AM.**
- 8 Sat Traveling Plaque give away at Beauregard's on Airport Road from 11 am to 2 pm**

Chapter Event -- Come to AL-B's Valentine's Day Party

- 15 Sat Chapter Ride -- Ride to Boaz, Crossville, Guntersville State Park. Meet at S. Parkway Kangaroo (Mt. Gap & S. Parkway) to leave at 10:30am.**
- 22 Sat Chapter Ride -- Ride to Scottsboro, Grant, and Honey Comb. Meet at Moore's Mill Shell to leave at 10am.**

For Sale \$12,000

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. Call Aaron @ 256-323-5705

