



“River City Wings, NC-E2”

The Wing Writer Newsletter of Chapter E2, North Carolina District,
Region N, Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Elizabeth City, North Carolina
November, 2008, Volume XI

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2008 CHAPTER NC-E2 **Officers and Staff**

Chapter Directors:	Lee and Sandy Fortier 426-1878
Rider Educator	David Squires
Treasurer & Goodies:	Wanda Squires
Correspondence Sec.	Lil Brennan
Ride Coordinator	Paul Ledbetter
Technical Advisor:	Bill Aydlett
2008 Couple of the Year:	Billie and Ron Johnson
50/50 Coordinator:	Bernie Ausherman
Activities Coordinators:	Harriet and Malcolm Marquit
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:	phboyce55@yahoo.com Pat Boyce
Eastern Asst. District Directors:	Dean and Terry Lanning
NC District Directors:	Dennis and Kathy Hull
Region N Directors:	Frank and Kathy Albert
Executive Director	Melissa Eason

We meet on the fourth (4th)
Thursday of each month at
Golden Corral
406 Halstead Blvd.
Elizabeth City, NC.

We eat at 6:30 & meet at 7:30.
Come Join Us and the Fun!



THE VIEW FROM THE CD'S WINDSHIELD

by Lee Fortier, Chapter Director

This past Saturday (11/1) as I was riding my GL-1800 North on Rt. 17 at Oh-dark-thirty in the a.m. to participate in the Camden Shriner's Poker Run, I was fortunate that I had on my really dark prescription sunglasses because I was riding directly into the rising sun. Yes, ... it was a truly spectacular sight as this large ball of yellow and orange peeked over the horizon and began to fill the cold azure blue sky, ... I think ... because besides being

temporarily blinded by its brightness, I also had the opportunity to notice that my windshield wasn't as clear as it used to be when it was shiny new. Perhaps it is due to the fact that *La Pantera* just rolled over 40,000 GoldWing miles on the odometer; that it had taken the young lives of at least a million flying insects during that time; or, it might have been the many cans of Honda Spray that have been wiped across the plastic with not-so-squeaky-clean rags and micro fiber towels. In any event, that particular moment brought home the realization that my favorite ride, my "La Pantera", will be five years old in 90 days. What does that mean? And what should I be doing?

We have all read the articles that talk about GoldWings that have gone 1,000,000 or more miles; we expect 100,000 trouble-free miles from our new Wings; and Jim T. and Andy F. have original GL-1000's and GL-1200's that are almost 30 years old. The point I am trying to make is: Maintenance, plain and simple maintenance. If you are a rider that looks through your windshield rather than over the top, it is essential that your windshield be free of dirt and most importantly scratches. Not so much during the day, but at night as you approach oncoming headlights. Those brilliant starbursts coming off your windshield may be pretty, but the fact is: *You can't see!* Two of our riders have replaced their windshields with the new "F4" Scratch Resistant brand, and they seem to be very happy with them. Some have purchased the extra large version that is 4" taller than normal. And Larry H. has chopped all but 4" off of his windshield and loves the low-rider look. Bigger, smaller, wider, more rake, doesn't matter. Ask yourself this question: "Can I see?" If the answer is: "well, yes... kinda," you know what to do.

Lastly, one of our riders had a battery incident on the Shriner's Ride that wasn't caused by his new battery, but the cause was battery related. Fortunately, Frank Chappell and his son Kenny had jumper cables on their trike and we were able to get the bike charged up, started, and the story has a happy ending. What I learned is that the next time I'm at Turner's for an oil change; I'm purchasing a new battery. Almost five years and 40,000 miles, seems like sooner is better than later. It isn't fun being out on Rt. 17 with a dead battery – why take a chance?

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The 2009 North Carolina GWRRR Operations Meeting will be held on January 31, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel, 135 South Main Street, High Point, North Carolina.

MEETING DETAILS:

The meeting will begin promptly at 9:00 AM. The District will provide lunch at around noon for those in attendance, reconvene around 1:00 PM, and we plan to conclude by around 5:00 PM.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

We would like for each chapter to be represented by the Chapter Directors, the Assistant Chapter Directors, the Rider Educators, the Chapter Couple and due to suggestions received after last year's operations meeting, we would also like to encourage Chapter Treasurers to attend this year.

Reservations must be made by January 16, 2009. You may make your room reservation by calling the hotel directly at 336-889-8888, or the national reservation line at 800-333-3333. Be sure that you mention that this is a block of rooms reserved for North Carolina Gold Wing Road Riders Association, and that the room rate is \$75.00. If you have any questions or problems in making your reservation, our contact person at the hotel is Vickie Hyatt, Sales Manager.

National News

It's Baaaack.....

Last year we presented a great incentive program to get Members preregistered for Wing Ding. We are excited to be able to offer the same program to our Officers and Members for Wing Ding 31.

Preregister at least ten Members for Wing Ding 31, and receive \$5 off the registration fee for the Officer and the delegates. Any Officer of GWRRR is eligible to participate. All applications, minimum of ten delegates, must be attached together to be eligible for the discount and must be submitted to the Home Office by the Officer. Please submit only one application per household, and attach the payment (check or credit card) to each application separately. The program begins November 1, 2008, and will end May 18, 2009. All applications must be postmarked by May 18, 2009 to be eligible. **Click here** to fill out the preregistration application.

Why not plan on riding to Tulsa as a group? What a great way to see the country, enjoy the company of our Gold Wing family and save money all at the same time!

For more information, call Melissa Eason, Executive Director, 800-843-9460 or 623-581-2500 or email meason@gwrra.org.

WUZ-UP

I'm home, and it is good to be here. I had a scary time but made it through OK.

As of now I am going to a re-hab center for my shoulder and in a short time I will start cardiac re-hab. I am walking fine with the use of a cane, at least for the time being.

I want to thank you all for your visits, your cards, your calls and your prayers. They all helped my spirits very much. I also want to thank all the neighboring Gold Wing Chapters that sent cards; it was great to receive them.

See you all at the next meeting

Malcolm.

Malcolm and Harriet

Activities Director

Happy Thanksgiving



Chapter Christmas Party

Tickets are still available from Lee & Sandy.

Please contact them for information. Date for the party is Dec. 20, 2008. We will be at The Pines Bistro. \$10.00 gift for each person for a Chinese Gift Exchange.

November Birthdays

Kaye Thomas, Nov. 25

November Anniversaries

Francis & Kathy Pugh, Nov. 15

Thanksgiving Word Search

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      S G H N
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STUFFING
HAM
PUMPKINPIE
CRANBERRIES
PECANPIE

PILGRIMS
THANKFUL
MAYFLOWER
CORN

DINNER
FAMILY
FOOTBALL
FEAST
PARADE

From our Rider Educator, David Squires

Tune-up Time

When did you last visit the optometrist? If you're like most Americans, you have your eyes checked only when you break your glasses., lose your contacts or fail the driver's license eye exam. There you are, possibly riding with faulty equipment, a set of eyes that aren't tryly seeing everything they can. As a motorcyclist, your life depends on your vision, so an annual eye exam might be one of the best steps you can take to extend your riding career.

When riding at night, we need to maximize the view ahead to give us time to react to problems.

Human eyes have some interesting characteristics, that can get us into trouble, and we're not talking just about winking at the sheriff's daughter. Be aware that every eye has a small blind spot, usually off to one side of center. It's something doctors measure during a good eye exam. Fortunately, the blind spot of your left eye doesn't overlap the blind spot of your right eye, so both eyes together can cover the whole field of vision. But consider that a bug splat or a scratched face shield in a critical area con totally blot out a portion of the view. That's one good reason to keep your head and eyes moving and your face shield clean.

Vision also tends to fade as we get older, and most of us age another year about every twelve months. One common problem is floaters that drift around on the surface of the cornea and interfere with clear vision. As the years go by, you may become nearsighted or farsighted and need corrective lenses, then discover that your reading bifocals have the wrong focus distance for reading motorcycle instruments. If you have trouble reading the instruments, you might consider some special bifocals just for motorcycling.

Remember the eyes have it. They can get you in trouble, but they are much better at keeping you from trouble. Ride safe, we look forward to riding with you.



“Get Ready to Ride”, by Paul Ledbetter

Well, I must say that the Poker Run that was sponsored by the Shriners was a huge success. The weather was great, the food was some of the best I've had all year, and the band was outstanding. I believe they were able to raise quite a bit of money for the kids. Their charity is one that's certainly hard to beat.

NC-E2 was very well represented. We met at Wal-Mart, and Pat volunteered to lead the ride. Frank Chappell showed up on his Trike with his son Kenney behind him. Ron & Billie Johnson were able to make the ride along with Clyde Suggs. Steve and Darlene Lawson pulled in with Steve riding his "Other" bike. It seems as though he had a flat on the Gold Wing. That says something for having a "Spare" bike. Are you listening Paula? Paula and I slipped into the middle of the pack, & Lee Fortier rode drag. Lee was kind enough to give me my first lesson in my quest to become a Road Captain. That got me into the mindset to pay attention. It was a good thing that I did, because before the day was over it would come in handy.

We left Wal Mart right on time and headed for the Shrine Club. When we arrived, we were pleasantly surprised to see Jim Tomlinson already parked and waiting for us. He had spent the previous day chasing down an electrical problem so he could make the ride. Richard Gaucher was also there waiting for us along with a fellow by the name of Robert Alphin. Who knows we may even pick him up as a new member soon.

Everyone signed in grabbed a quick cup of coffee and headed out in pursuit of that elusive Royal Flush. About half way through the run, Jim discovered that his electrical problem was back again. Not to worry though, in true Gold Wing fashion Lee and a few others dropped out with him to make sure the he got his bike safely home. This was where that part about paying attention came in handy. After Lee dropped out, I dropped back to ride drag for the rest of the run. It was a great experience. It really makes you pay attention to what's going on. The rest of us continued on and finished the run, and safely I might add. When we got back to the Shrine club, there was Jim, his bike already home. Everything worked out great.

All of us had some of the great barbeque they were serving and listened to the band while we waited for the best and worst hands to be announced. Franks wife Shirley was there to enjoy the afternoon with us also. That Royal Flush that we all were looking for when we started didn't materialize. I think we did all get the flush part of it though. Lot's of door prizes were given out, and Clyde managed to win one of them. Later that afternoon I was talking to Steve, and he told me that he had managed to sneak home and change the tire on his wing. All in all it was a great day.

Any time you can get twelve bikes and fifteen people to show up for a ride, even when you have a couple of challenges, it's a great day.

Thanks to all of you that showed up, and I look forward to many more safe and successful rides.

Ride Safe, and Ride Often,

Paul





Our Website is: www.rcgw.org

There are a lot of pictures and information posted there, so pay a visit soon!

Also, when we travel or when you're in our area, we use CB Channel 30!

2008 Activity Calendar and Events

2nd. Thursday Dinner Ride

- Nov. 29 Open House, Turner's Honda
- Dec. 6 Gifts on Cycles
- Dec. 20 Chapter Christmas Party



Open House

Saturday November 29

TURNER'S HONDA 8:30-4:00



2007 Honda CRF80
TO BE GIVEN AWAY

Drawing at 3:00

Must be 18 to register - You may register once a day. - No purchase necessary. See Miss Virginia for registration slips

DOOR PRIZES EVERY HOUR
RIDE FOR KIDS BAKE SALE
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Live Remote
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12:00 - 2:00

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