

Georgia District

NEWSLETTER

December 2011



Winding Down 2011

District Team

District Directors
Tommy & Vicky Martin

GeorgiaDD@gwrra-ga.com
(678) 725-1632

Assist. District Directors
COY Coordinators
Sid & Donna Cohen

Cateringbycohen@gmail.com
(706) 340-5737

Ride Educators
Roy & Julie Degler

degler224@charter.net
(678) 289-1627

Assistant Ride Educator
Don Boren

borenlocks@islc.net
(843) 846-6424

Assist. District Directors
Leadership Trainer
Alan & Denise Head

alanhead@bellsouth.net
(770) 257-7721

Membership Enhancement
Coordinator
Bob Hickly

Robertthickly@comcast.net
(770) 922-5564

District Treasurers/
Newsletter Editor
Traci & Ken Thrasher

wdis@bellsouth.net
kenneth_thrasher@hotmail.com
(706) 310-1041

District Webmaster
Sherrel & Kay Davis

Webmaster@gwrra-ga.com

2012 Georgia Couple of the Year
Dick & Peg Hopkins

ram35@bellsouth.net
(770) 760-1177

Region A Directors
Bob & Nan Shrader

regiondirector@gwrra-regiona.org

The Holiday season is upon us as 2011 comes to a close. Vicky and I on behalf of the entire District Team want to thank you "GWRRR Members" for your support. Wind Down was a success because of your support and participation. We had several members that helped out in different areas at Wind Down from manning tables, supplying equipment, judging, setting up, and breaking down to mention a few. We thank you for your contribution in making Wind Down a success.

Being selected as Couple of the Year for your Chapter is an Honor and we were honored to have four wonderful Chapter Couples that participated in the District Couple of the Year Selection. They all represented their Chapter very well. After the final tally of the judge's scores, Dick and Peg Hopkins were selected as the New Georgia District Couple of the Year. Congratulations Dick and Peg.

Since the 2011 Georgia Travelers Plaque is to be retired at Wind Down and Chapter A of McDonough was the last to capture it. The 2012 Georgia Travelers Plaque was presented to Chapter A to start on its journey in January 2012. Chapter A will offer the plaque for capture on January 21st, 2012. You can find the time and location and the Plaque rules on the Georgia District Website at www.gwrra-ga.com.

When the year ending Georgia Travelers Plaque is retired it is presented to the chapter that has captured it the most times throughout the year. There is a sheet that travels with the plaque where the capturing Chapter and points are documented. At Wind Down the total number of captures is calculated for each participating chapter and the chapter with the most captures receives the retiring plaque and their charter

fees paid for the next year. This year there was a tie between Chapter L of Rome and Chapter S of Winder, with three captures each. Therefore, the total numbers of capturing points were used as the deciding factor. Chapter S of Winder was presented the award with a total of 8627 points. However, it was brought to our attention that there was a plaque capture during 2011 that had not been documented. (Please note: it is the responsibility of the offering chapter to document the information and the responsibility of the capturing chapter to make sure it has been documented.) The capture in question was verified by all chapters involved. This being the case Chapter B-2 also had captured the 2011 plaque three times with a total of 9738 points. Due to the lack of documentation Chapter S is not required to give up the award for Top Capturing Chapter. However, Pat and Craig Whitehouse, Chapter Directors of Chapter S, have conveyed to me that they truly understand how this could have happen and feel that the award should rightfully belong to Chapter B-2 of Douglasville. We applaud Chapter S for their true sportsmanship and Congratulate Chapter B-2 as the Top Capturing Chapter of the 2011 Travelers Plaque.

Our Annual Officers Conference will be held on January 28th at the Georgia Safety Public Training Center at 1000 Indian Springs Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029. All Chapter Directors, Assistant Chapter Directors, Chapter Rider Educators, Chapter Membership Enhancement Coordinators and Chapter Treasurers are expected to be there and all others are welcome

Vicky and I, Wish you all a Safe and Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!!

Tommy & Vicky

A Tail of Two Stubborn Men

(A Rider Education Christmas Story)

Our story begins in the heat of August on the Monday after the grueling four-day Riding Course Instructor Boot Camp that took place in Rome, GA.

The first man in our story, Don Boren, (the names have NOT been changed to protect the innocent) had mounted his trusty 2005 GL1800 with matching trailer to set off for home in Beaufort, SC. As he is already a Trike Course Instructor he had come to Rome to watch the six Instructor Candidates be put through the wringer. As he set off to find the entrance ramp to I-75 fate was about to intervene.

As Don maneuvered on the entrance ramp his trusty steed lost traction and when the tumbling and rolling was finished Don had a broken collar bone, fractured ribs, torn away rib cartilage which also affects his diaphragm plus various bumps and bruises. Fortunately since Don wears ATGATT his injuries were bad, but not as bad as they could have been!

Meanwhile a call went out to the GWRRA faithful for someone to aid Don in his time of need. Kevin Henkle (our stories second man) attached his trailer to his truck and went off to help Don. He waited until Don was released from the hospital in Cartersville then went to the impound lot and put Don's Gold Wing and trailer on his trailer and set off to take Don home. (It would be some time later before the fate of the Gold Wing and trailer would be determined. They were eventually towed)

While en-route to Beaufort they stopped at a pharmacy to have Don's pain medication prescription filled. They also fed Kevin's thirsty steed, diesel...not to mention feed themselves (this could not be a true GWRRA story if it did not involve food)Eventually arriving at Don's home that same Monday evening. Kevin off loaded the bike and trailer and made sure Don was set, as well as one could be after such an ordeal, and spent the night in a local motel returning to Rome the following morning.

Alas this would be a good story unto itself, but it was only the first act. In the coming days Don would replay the events over and over in his mind and he realized that he did not remember paying for the pain medication or offering to help with the fuel cost so he sat down and wrote a check to Kevin for \$300 to say Thank You for all that he had done. We will consider this act two.

When Kevin received the check he called Don and said that he would not accept it. Don told him that he refused to take it back. This is where the tale of two stubborn men grows even larger.

As a side note I am very unaware of this stubbornness that occurs among men although my wife informs me she is very aware of this phenomenon, but I digress.....obviously we are now in act three.

Kevin hatched plots to sneak the check back into Don's pocket when Don was not looking and when Don learned of these plots told him he would just send it back. Thus a stalemate ex-

isted between the two stubborn men and was in place for some time. As a matter of fact, October.

Act four and our conclusion of this Christmas story..... Finally Kevin came up with a plan. Since Don would not take the check back and Kevin did not want it, Kevin would donate the money to Georgia District Rider Education where the money could be put to use in spreading Rider Education throughout the lands of Georgia benefiting its members.

As you can see in this story, out of a serious event comes kindness and goodwill. Obviously for space constraints the story has been condensed, but its message is timeless and very aptly applies to the reason for the season!

If we may editorialize for a moment....In this day and age we feel that the true meaning of Christmas gets lost in the buy, buy, buy, spend, spend, spend, I want, I want ,I want mentality that seems so pervasive in our society today. It is refreshing to hear a story such as this one. We hope that you have enjoyed it.

Remember SAFETY never takes a holiday! We want to see all of your shinny happy faces next year!

With that said; Julie and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Be Safe – We'll See You On The Road!

Roy & Julie



**Don Boren
Assistant
Ride Educator**




“Our story begins in the heat of August on the Monday after the grueling four-day Riding Course Instructor Boot Camp...”



Rider Education

GWRRA Motto “Friends for Fun, Safely and Knowledge”

DECEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 GA-G	6 GA-S	7	8 GA-M	9	10 GA-B, D ARC, Warner Robins & CPR/1st Aid, Leesburg
11	12 GA-Q	13	14	15 GA-D2	16	17 GA-C2 Wanderer Plaque
18	19 GA-O	20	21 	22	23	24 GA-J
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 

Due to the Holidays, many Chapters have changed or canceled their regular gathering for December. As always, please call before you visit to confirm date, time and location. See the District website for the Chapter Director contact information.

Georgia Traveler's Plaque: Chapter GA-A captured the Traveler from GA-S at Wind Down. The plaque will be given away on January 21st. Additional details to follow in next month's newsletter.

Region A Wanderer: SC-A captured the Wanderer from GA-S. It will be given away on Saturday, December 17 at the Ryan's Steak House, 3517 Clemson Blvd. Anderson, South Carolina 12:00—1:00 PM.

Schedule of Events

- December 10th Advanced Rider Course, Middle Georgia Technical College, Warner Robins, GA.
- December 10th CPR/1st Aid, Lee County Board of Education Complex, Leesburg, GA.
- January 28, 2012 Georgia District Annual Officer Conference, Georgia Safety Public Training Center, 1000 Indian Springs Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029.
- February 11, 2012—GA-S Sweetheart Fun Day. Midway Christian Church, 1406 Hog Mountain Rd., Winder, GA. Contact Pat Whitehouse 770-867-2649
- June 14-16, 2012—Georgia District Convention/Rally "The Rumble in the Jungle" The Dillard House, Dillard, GA.
- July 4-7, 2012—Wing Ding, Fort Wayne, IN.

Leadership Training

Chapter K in Kingsland opened there doors and sponsored an OCP. This is the first one we have had so far south and really had good attendance. It was a fun class for Denise and I and we had 4 members from Florida come up and attend as well.

The classes were taught by Terri and Alan. Tommy Martin, our Dist Director, attended just to

support all and thank everyone for coming. Long trip for a thank you but that was great support from the DD - Thanks Tommy.

In February we are having a Horizon class that is being sponsored by I2 in Lavonia. This will be a different approach for Horizon as class will start on Friday evening at 6:30 PM and end around 9 to 9:30. It will start back on

Saturday morning and run till about 3:30 to 4 PM.

Following that, in March, we are going to have an OCP up north in the Rome area; date to be announced soon.

So keep these dates and classes in mind and ride safe

Alan & Denise



Leadership Training

Wind Down and 2012 Couple of the Year



**Dick and Peg
Hopkins**
**2012 Georgia
Couple of the Year**

***"...being
Chapter Couple
of the Year
should be
viewed as an
HONOR, not a
JOB."***

Well Wind Down is now behind us. The weather was fantastic for riding that day and everyone who attended had a wonderful time. Food was plentiful no one went away hungry.

During the event, we selected a new District Couple of the Year. They are Dick and Peg Hopkins from Chapter A in McDonough. Please check out the District Web Site to learn more about Dick and Peg Hopkins. Along with Dick and Peg the District was blessed to have 3 other great couples compete in the selection process for the District Couple of the Year: John and Alice Keeley from Chapter F2 in Augusta, Dave and Bennie Cole from Chapter L in Rome, and John and Sue Stevens from

Chapter Z in Newnan. We look forward to their continued support for GWRRA as great ambassadors.

As we enter December this is the month chapters should be looking for their next Chapter Couple of the Year. Honoring a special couple should be viewed important for your chapter. Selecting a Couple of the Year is a way your chapter can "give back" to a couple that has worked hard for the chapter and deserves recognition. Remember being Chapter Couple of the Year should be viewed as an HONOR, not a JOB. Although we always feel every chapter should have that special couple, try to avoid choosing a couple because "It is their turn". The Chapter Couple

should be enthusiastic about GWRRA and the chapter. At this point no consideration should be given as to whether or not they might participate in the District selection process. The couple must have at least one year completed in GWRRA before being selected. When you select your couple please make sure they are in fact members and their membership is good for the term of the Couple of the Year position. The same couple can be couple of the year two years in a row.

Donna and I want to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday season. We look forward to seeing everyone during the New Year.

Sid & Donna

Thanks to Our "Outgoing" 2011 Couples of the Year!

Region A Greg & Renee Dempsey

Georgia District Bob & the late Dianne Hickley

GA-A Dick & Peg Hopkins

GA-A2 Butch & Bonnie Jeskey

GA-B2 Ed Badarzyński & Mary Catherine Koscinski

GA-C2 Alan & Jane Moore

GA-D Charlie & Kathy Stevens

GA-E John & Peg Wildes

GA-E2 Don & the late Dealinda Boren

GA-F2 John & Alice Keeley

GA-H Floyd & Janie Weaver

GA-I2 Ronnie & Karen Lewis

GA-J Bob & Kathy Hill

GA-K Jesse & Brenda Tuten

GA-L Dave & Bennie Cole

GA-Q Bill & Barbara Schleicher

GA-S George & Donna Roman

GA-T Willie & Phyllis Barnett

GA-X Kelvin & Rhonda Harris

GA-Z John & Sue Stevens

Among our sick

Sheree Bryant, transplant, GA-A

JJ Etzle, cancer, GA-E2

Willie Barnett, surgery, GA-T

In Memory

Jo Whitlock, Wife of Woody Whitlock, GA-B2

Buddy Bertram's Mother, GA-D

Micheal Sheldon, Brother of Traci Thrasher, GA-S/District Team

Jack "Coach" Rice, Loganville

