



The Highway Hobos Of NEW YORK CHAPTER H

Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Northeast Region
www.highwayhobos.com

FEBRUARY 2009

THE HOBO RAG

Hello Hobos,

As I'm writing this we are experiencing some of the coldest weather of this winter so far. So it is hard to get in the mind set of preparing for the riding season. But believe it or not, Spring is just a short 8 weeks away and trust me that time will evaporate as fast as hot water on a zero degree day. Soon we will be looking for salt free roads to ride no matter what the air temperature is. Don't get caught with your pants down. Use this time to analyze and list all the maintenance/accessory tasks that you need to get down. Then you can check them off as you complete them so you are sure that your trusty steel steed is ready for that first excursion from winter hibernation. At our next meeting I will be fresh from our District meeting in Binghamton. I will be highlighting all the new information on District events, rallies and any new changes to GWRRR. I also want to update our contact info for everyone. It's been a while since we did this so please help me out by giving me all your info again. Name, address, phone #'s, cell #'s, email addresses, birthdays and anniversaries. I will have forms to fill out at the meeting but for those of you that can't make the meeting, send it to me by email or snail mail. Remember if we don't have the right info you might be missing out on all the excitement we have going on in Chapter H. Hope to see you all at next meeting and I heard through the grapevine that Cupid might be coming!

Make it Fun, Keep it Safe,
Garry and Shirley

See everyone at the next gathering at the Basket Factory in Middleport, 10am

Feb 1 st	Mar 1 st	Apr 5 th
May 3 rd	Jun 7 th	Jul 12 th
Aug 2 nd	Sep 13 th	Oct 4 th
Nov 1 st	Dec 5 th (party)	

Chapter Officers

Director – Garry Sauls, 772-2280
gsauls@verizon.net
Asst. Director – Rick & Connie Parson
rparson@highwayhobos.com
Chapter Educator – Myron Fox
Secretary – Shirley Sauls & Sandy Kelley
Treasurer – Agnes Schoonover
Chapter Coy Couple – Kirk & Donna Walser
Ride Coordinator – Myron Fox
Web Master – Garry Sauls & Mike Kosowski
Public Relations – Jim Masters
MAD Coordinator – Kirk Walser
Sunshine – vacant
50/50 – Bill & Carolyn Johnson
Photo Album – Jerry Peete, Sandy Kelley
Mike Kosowski, Myron Fox
Newsletter – Elaine Price
Chapter Calendar – Carolyn Johnson
Chapter Collector – Bonnie Peete

GWRRR OFFICERS

Northeast Region Director – Lorraine & Earl Knight
NY District Director – Ed & Dottie Bahrenberg
Asst. NY District Directors – Paul & Suzette Wood
-- Bob Turner
NY District Educator – Al Stahl
Asst. NY District Educator –

Some Event Dates For The 2009 Season!



If you have any events you'd like listed, let me know.

Feb 28	GWRRA Horizon Class, Norwich, NY
Mar 7-14	Bike Week, Daytona, FL
May 8-16	Myrtle Beach Bike Week
Jun 1-6	Americade, Lake George, NY
Jul 2-5	Wing Ding, Tulsa, OK
Jul 16-18	New England Rally
Aug 6-8	NY District Rally, Norwich, NY
Aug 20-23	PA District Rally, Johnstown, PA

NOTES

Garry is preparing an update of our member address/phone/e-mail list. Please send him an e-mail with any changes you may have. Also, if you've been a member for less than a year, chances are we don't have your birthday or anniversary info, so please send him that info too.

February Birthdays

Shelly Baxter, 9th

Rick Parson, 9th

Bill Reis, 14th

February Anniversaries

None

FEBRUARY LISTING OF CHAPTER EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

- Feb 1st Chapter Gathering, Basket Factory, Middleport, 10am.
- Feb 14th Cabin Fever at the Walser's, 4546 Thrall Rd., Lockport, Italian Nite. They will supply the main Italian dish and Beverages. What can people bring: Italian Bread, Garlic Bread, Green Salad: 2 would be good; Anti pasta type items, Something Italian, Desserts: lots of them of course. Chocolate too! Sign up at the gathering or call Donna, 716-439-0644
- Feb 18th Winter Fellowship, Syro's Restaurant, 869 Cayuga, Lewiston, 6:30pm
- Feb 29-Mar 1st GW NY Horizons Training, Howard Johnson Motel, Norwich, NY
If you are an officer, are thinking about becoming an officer, or want to hone your networking or leadership skills while having a good time seeing old friends or meeting new ones, this is the session for you.

MARCH

- Mar 1st Chapter Gathering, Basket Factory, Middleport, 10am.
- Mar 19th Winter Fellowship, Santasiero's Rest., 1329 Niagara St., Buffalo, 6:30
- Mar 22nd Training Day, Garry's Shop, 211 Grand St., Lockport, 2:30.

Bikes for Sale

(Info from Steve Bibler):

2005 GL1800 with ABS 20792 miles Dark Gray Metallic Maintenance records and all receipts. \$15,000 OBO. (h) 585-343-5465 (w) 585-279-2115 (e-mail)(h)

sjbibler@yahoo.com (e-mail)(w) steven.bibler@transport.alstom.com

Utopia backrest, Mic Mutes, front fender extention, Honda spoiler, Muth mirrors, Electrical Connection fog lights, Powerlet outlet for electric jacket liner and Battery Tender, power outlet in left front pocket with Kennedy noise filter, chrome engine covers, other "safety chrome" in the right places.

Also another bike for sale. It's Tim & Eunice Arendt's 1996 Yamaha Royal Star. It has 75,000 miles, water cooled, new Avon tires, and new battery. If interested call 800-768-2922 and ask for Tim.

POST THIS LISTING ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR!



Myron's musings

Our January meeting sure had some good discussion about group riding practices. And we'll have some more this month. This time, **let's talk about our general practice of leaving from our start point or any rest point.** This is where we all get ready together, the leader waits for a long break in traffic, then let's us know to "Move out". I've attached a link to the GWRRA Team Riding Manual for you to review. This topic is covered on page 7. Please take a look at this section as a minimum, and the whole manual is suggested.

The manual isn't as clear as it could be, but here's my interpretation. The Lead & tail rider are at a driveway exit. When the leader indicates "Move out", **the Drag rider actually moves out first and stops in lane.** He's not permitted to halt traffic to remain together. The idea is that the drag bike assures each rider that they have a clear indication that it's safe to continue flowing into lane, **without making a stop.**

I've tried to do this for our group a few times, but it hasn't worked out quite as planned. I've noticed a tendency for many riders to stop at the driveway line and make an independent decision about safe entry, even when the lane is blocked. That reduces the probability that we'll actually start as a group, and requires re-grouping later. Lets talk about the practice and see what comes out of it.

Last month I wrote, "The ride leader needs to have a good feel for the group desires." (with respect to ride times and tired butts). I got one reply asking if the leader needs to have a good "Feel" of all the butts. NO! Only your own co-rider.

I'll repeat what was in an E-Mail after our last meeting for the benefit of others that read the Monthly Newsletter (some from different chapters). And it's a reminder for those of us getting forgetful. Several members made suggestions at our January gathering for improving our group riding. Here's a summary by suggestor.

- 1) Jerry and others. We could improve communications between the leader and tail to make lane changes safer. It also lets the group between know what's about to happen.
- 2) Several. When a lane change is called, remember that each rider has the responsibility to be sure the lane is clear for themselves. There's a concern that we don't just change lanes without looking first.
- 3) Bill. The leader should consider publishing at least an abbreviated route plan for our day or longer trips. That relieves some of the pressure of trying to keep up close. If you know the exit is 20 minutes away, who cares if there's separation. Route plans for desert rides would be nice, but not as necessary.
- 3) Paul. When we're on a multi lane highway, in the slow lane, and approaching an entrance ramp, please don't brake to slow for ramp traffic. Let the entering vehicle figure how to merge safely. (Although sometimes I'm one of those who does coast down to give an entering car some room and maintain a smooth flow of traffic. It also leaves me in control of a safe following distance)
- 4) Bruce. When the leader passes a speed change sign from low to a higher speed, please wait for the last bike to enter the fast zone before speeding up. It prevents the last people from having to speed to catch up.

If there are other topics you'd like to discuss, bring them up at our February gathering.

The GWRRA Team Riding Manual can be found on the GWRRA.org website, search for "Team Riding Manual" and you should find www.gwrroa.org/regional/ridered/PDF%20Files/TeamRidingManualver2-5-25-05.pdf this link.

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