

# GWRRA Ohio District September 2018 Newsletter

OHIO, It's not the Destination, it's the Ride.



# Ohio District Team

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# Ohio District Team

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# District Directors

## Roy & Becky Jones

### From the Director's Corner

What can I say about Wing Ding? We had fun the few days we were there. Roy & I made a fast trip down leaving Sunday morning and arriving at our camp ground Monday evening. Tuesday morning we did some sight-seeing around Knoxville and then attended the Welcoming Party Tuesday night. We enjoyed that and also the Appalachia Museum of Living History where it was held. We attended opening ceremony on Wednesday morning and then covered the vendors and seeing most of our friends in the vendor area.

That afternoon we had to start back home due to prior commitments with our own home chapter. I am sure that the others will have more to say about our National Rally. We would have enjoyed staying longer and being able to participate more.

One thing we keep hearing is "no one wants to ride anymore." Or "How can we get more participation on our rides?" Every chapter goes through this at times. So we all need to ask ourselves a few questions then put these same questions or most of them to your chapter participants. (1) Are we as officers setting a good example by riding as much as we can? (2) Are the rides chosen by our members or just by the chapter team and ourselves? (3) Where does the chapter want to go? (4) Do we have a ride schedule and is it posted where everyone can find it? Or are reminders sent out in advance of each ride giving members and participants time to plan and arrange their schedules to accommodate the rides? (5) Do we talk about the rides at our gathering? Both before the actual ride and after it, talking about it before should generate interest and excitement and after the ride you should be talking about all the fun you had and all the things you saw. I remember one of our earlier rides with our chapter we stopped and had lunch with an armadillo. I don't remember the name of the restaurant but I remember the resident armadillo. It's the little things that make the rides fun that people

remember, those are what people ride for. The things that make them laugh even years later when they remember, the camaraderie and fun around a picnic table, or table in a restaurant. If you are missing these things then you may be losing riders.

One more question: What makes a strong chapter? Do you consider your chapter to be strong and progressive? Do your members wear their colors and vests to all chapter events? Do they attend chapter functions and some of the functions of other chapters within your section?

When was the last time that your chapter did something brand new? Something you have never done before? How about asking for some suggestions from your members and let's see what they come up with. Be ready to share those ideas at the fall officers meeting.

Don't forget the Fall Officers meeting will be November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Obetz Community Center in Obetz. We will start promptly at 9am. We hope to see everyone there.

Until then and always Ride Safe and Smart.



# Assistant District Directors

North Central Section

## **Doug & Lynn Kerst**

Wing Ding updates from the MEP, when doing pictures in newsletter most chapters put pictures from inside restaurant and the MEP director is asking to help recruit new members is to add pictures from on your bike(s) outside instead of always showing eating pictures.

If possible new members will look at newsletter and see that the chapter like to eat and not ride. So show off your chapter bikes and put them into the picture with some members. Way to go north central section, we had at least one member from each chapter that came down to Knoxville this year. Lynn and I road back with three members from chapter P and had a fun time. Just to let you know Wing Ding is going to be in Nashville, Tn next year over labor day weekend. The only bad thing is that you can't make reservation at hotels yet till October 1st. There was 8093 members at Wing Ding and got 77 new members(I think). There was 420 bikes in the parade that ended up in old downtown Friday night for a party that was given by Law Tigers. The winner of the Gold wing was from Kansas and was his second time winning one. The attorney's from Law Tigers are giving away a trip to next year wing ding. You have to go to [www.lawtigers.com/wingding41](http://www.lawtigers.com/wingding41). As I am writing this the page is not there but they just

came up with this idea at Wing Ding so it might take them a couple of days or weeks to get the page up and running.

Here are some events coming up in the next couple of months that you might want to attend: V-2 rigatoni dinner 1-5 at Blessed Sacrament Church 852 Main Street Winterville, Ohio September 23rd, and September 14th and 15th is Buckeye Timeout in Plain City for a fun relaxing weekend, November 3rd is Chapter I road kill stew Applecreek, Ohio 430-??.

# Assistant District Director

South West Section

**Darrin Ebright & JJ Hooker**

Hello from the Southwest

First off we want to thank everyone for coming to the Southwest picnic and roast. We had about 60 people show up. Including national, district and chapter members.

Everyone enjoyed corn on the cob and hamburgers and hot dogs from the grill. If you missed it this year. We will do it soon next year. Stay tuned.

All of the Southwest coasters have been so busy and riding. Hill Billy hot dogs. Drive in movie nights etc.

Wing ding is over. Next year it is in Nashville. Which is nice for us in Ohio.

Buckeye Time Out is very soon. Come on out for the day if you can't start the night.

# Assistant District Director



North West Section

**VACANT**

Who wants to be the next Northwest Assistant District Directors? It's really not that hard and plus you get a cool new name tag, new vest, nice new red shirt and you get to be part of a great district team. Think about it, we would be happy to talk to anyone about the position.

Wing Ding was fun the few days we got to spend there, but as most of you know we had to race back home to help Chapter M with their annual fund raiser; Bike Night at the Canfield Fair. We parked a little over 500 bikes this year, not our best night but we are up from last year. That's good. We did get a chance to see a couple of the chapter directors from the NW and some members. Remember we always enjoy talking to you and if you need us we are a phone call or e mail away.

We do not have any information from any of the Northwest Chapters to pass on. If you are having a fund raiser this fall or any activity that you would like the rest of the section to know about then please send this information to either Roy or Becky and we will be happy to send out to all of the Chapters.

Fall Officers meeting will be November 10th at the Obetz Community Center in Obetz, OH. We will start promptly at 9am.

We are asking that each chapter give us a Ride Destination from your area. This destination should be of either some historical semblance or be of special interest that sets it apart. Kudos, to Ron Stockton of Chapter I-2, he was the first to respond to the email with the Packard Museum. Thank you, Ron.

Hope to see everyone at the various fund raisers and officers meeting.

Until then Ride safe and Smart.  
Remember: It's not the Destination, It's the Ride.

# Assistant District Director

North East Section

**VACANT**

Who wants to be the next Northeast Assistant District Directors? It's really not that hard and plus you get a cool new name tag, new vest, nice new red shirt and you get to be part of a great district team. Think about it, we would be happy to talk to anyone about the position.

Wing Ding was fun the few days we got to spend there, but as most of you know we had to race back home to help Chapter M with their annual fund raiser; Bike Night at the Canfield Fair. We parked a little over 500 bikes this year, not our best night but we are up from last year. That's good. We want to thank all of the members of other chapters who came out to help; Chapter T, Chapter V-2, Chapter I-2. Thank you all for your support.

Chapter V-2 has their FUNdraiser on September 23rd. This is of course their annual Rigatoni dinner and auction and will be held at the Blessed Sacrament Church Sargus Hall 852 Main St. Wintersville, OH. They will start serving at 1pm and the auction will start at 3:30. Come on out for a good time and great food.

Chapter I's Road Kill Stew fund raiser will be held on November 3rd. Please see their flier for more information.

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# District Membership Enhancement Coordinators

## **Rob & Amanda Stufflebeam**

Greetings Ohio District!

Amanda and I hope this finds you enjoying your summer and your motorcycle! We've already had so many great rides at our local chapter this riding season, and the hits keep on coming.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Wing Ding is now in the rear view, and what an adventure it was. And the adventure started before we could even get going! A week before our intended departure, the U-Joint on our trike gave out and we had to scramble to get it fixed. We weren't able to leave when we originally wanted, but were able to finally get on the road on Thursday and head down to Knoxville. Unfortunately, we missed the scheduled MEC meeting on Thursday afternoon as we were traveling, but will pass along any information that comes out for everyone's consumption.

Recruiting is a word we are all going to be hearing more and more in the coming months. At the show's closing ceremonies both the Honda rep and one from Law Tigers remarked how GW's demographics are today, and it would be greatly beneficial for the organization to get our kids and grandkids involved. As GWRRA members, it's not just the MEC's who recruit new members and work to help retain current ones – everyone has a part

to play in keeping the membership ranks healthy and if possible, growing to new heights. It is and will continue to be a challenge to combat erroneous and out dated perceptions like "you have to have a Goldwing to be in GWRRA," – not true – you can have any bike, or even no bike and still be a member. Everyone should feel free to preach the word, so to speak and reach out to friends, family and the community at large to answer questions, put a positive foot forward, invite people to come ride with us, and grow our GW family.

See you at Buckeye Timeout!

# District Educators

## Bill & Pat Stiles

### Everybody Has a Great Day

#### Group Riding: 17 Tips to ensure a great ride.



The engine purrs beneath you as a string of motorcycles snakes through the hills in front of you. With a quick look in the mirror, you see close behind with a smile on his face that matches yours. The camaraderie forms because, at just this moment, you're all on the same page.

That's what a group ride is all about. It's an opportunity to share the open road and wonderful scenery with other like-minded people. But like most motorcycle experiences, this one is best enjoyed by following a few simple guidelines that keep everyone safe. Here are a few from our friends at the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

1. The first thing you want to do is organize the ride. This can be as informal as standing around in a parking lot, or as formal as a special meeting to hand out maps and cellphone numbers.



2. Remember that riding in a group does not mean you surrender any decision-making when it comes to your safety. Ride your own ride, and don't go any faster than you feel comfortable going.

3. When picking your route and the stops you'll make along it, consider the stamina of the group, the experience of all the riders, and the limits of the motorcycles in the group. Remember, these are your friends. If it's going to be a long ride, be sure to take a few breaks along the way.

4. You'll need to communicate while on the ride, so make sure everyone knows the signals you'll use.



# District Educators

## Bill & Pat Stiles

**5.** When creating your formation, it's wise to have your experienced riders at the lead and running sweep. Consider positioning the less-experienced riders immediately behind the leader. This allows the front rider to adjust the pace if necessary.

**6.** Ideally, the sweep rider will have a cell-phone to call for help if a motorcycle is disabled, or if there has been an accident.

**7.** If the goal of the ride is to keep the group together, the leader should only go at the pace of the least-experienced rider.

**8.** While riding, don't fixate on the motorcycle in front of you. Instead, remember your basic training. Look well through the turn to where you want to go.

**9.** If the group is riding faster than you are comfortable with, let the sweep rider know you're dropping out and ride at your own pace. So you may reach your destination a few seconds behind the others, but you will get there, and that's what's important. Keep in mind, it's all about fun.

**10.** All riders are also responsible for making sure their motorcycles are mechanically up to the task. Before you even meet up with the group, make sure you've got plenty of fuel in the tank, and that you've taken care of all those maintenance issues. Not sure what to check? Use T-Clock. You really don't want to be the reason for stopping the group for

something mechanical you could have prevented.

**11.** If it's going to be a large group, consider establishing a buddy system among the riders, or divide the group into smaller five- or seven-rider packs. That way, if something goes wrong, you don't have 25 motorcycles sitting on the side of a busy highway. Also, smaller groups can more easily navigate through city streets.



**12.** On the road, motorcyclist's front and behind them. If you want to keep the group tight, consider a staggered formation. Leave enough room per lane so each rider can maneuver side-to-side if need be. Avoid side-by-side formations as they shrink your space cushion.

# District Educators

## Bill & Pat Stiles

**13.** Trikes and sidecars should stay in the center of the lane, and should be given the same amount of cushion as if they were a car.

**14.** As turns get sharper, or as visibility decreases, move back to a single file formation. You'll also want to use single file when entering or exiting a highway, at toll booths, or when roads have a rough or questionable surface.

**15.** At intersections where you've come to a stop, tighten the formation to side-by-side to take up less space. As the light turns green, or when traffic opens up, the bike on the left proceeds through the intersection first.

**16.** Remember we share the road with many other vehicles, and it's against the law to block an intersection.

**17.** When parking, try to get the group off the roadway as quickly as possible. If you can, arrange in advance to have pull-through parking at your destination, or at the very least, make sure there is ample parking for your size group.



# District COY/CHOY Coordinators

**Doug & Lynn Kerst**



Well a big shout out and congratulations to Rick and Debbie Warmels from Region D, our new International Couple of the year.

This year at Wing Ding was the last year that there is going to be only 1 couple chosen. Starting next year at Wing Ding 41 there will be 6 international couples. Four will be from the U.S., one from Canada and one overseas couple. All the couple will have already have gone through the selection.

The U.S. has been broken into 4 sections NE, NW, SE, and SW. Each one of these sections will have a MEP Assistant. This team will work with all the Districts in their section to do Zoom calls and interviews with judges. This will happen over a 4 to 6 month period. The couple will be selected in May then they will then give their 5 min. speech at Wing Ding 41 in Nashville, Tenn. More details on this will be coming out in the next couple of months.

To all chapters, I hope that you are working on who you will be honoring in your chapter for your couple of the year for 2019. Remember this is an honor, you do not ask the couple. You can order the hanger bar and medal for your couple through national. Just go on the National web site under MEP couple. Any questions about this feel free to email me.

Something new this year that I would like all chapters to think about is to honor an individual of the year. So please when you are honoring a couple also think about honoring an individual. My goal is to have a selection for the individual of the year at the 2020 Cabin Fever.

Starting in January 2019 the district will be doing the Chapter of the Year again. Doug and I have put together the score sheet and handbook for this. Remember this is to be fun, not a contest, just do what you can and don't think that your chapter can't win. Every chapter is equal in the process.

# District Membership

## Medic/First Aid Coordinator

### **Linda Copeland**

As many of you know after the Buckeye Rally we left for Alaska. We left on June 20th and traveled the Alaskan Highway to Anchorage. We arrived in Anchorage on July 2nd, and stored the bikes for almost 3 weeks.

We left on a land tour through Princess on July 4th. We visited Copper River, Fairbanks, Denali, then on July 11th we boarded the Princess cruise ship in Whittier. We saw Glacier Bay and then visited the ports of Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan, where we took excursions at each port. The cruise ended in Vancouver where we spent a night in Victoria and then 2 nights in Vancouver. We then flew Alaskan Air to Portland, Oregon and back to Anchorage. On July 23rd we picked up the bikes and we worked our way back through Canada and home. On the way home we drove the Alaskan Highway to Watson Lake. We then rode the Cassiar Highway south. We stayed at Stewart and Prince George before riding the Icefields Parkway between Jasper and Banff. The Canadian Rockies are beautiful. We stayed in Calgary before entering back into the United States at Roosville, Montana. We traveled through Glacier National Park and Theodore Roosevelt National Park where we saw the North Dakota Badlands. We had a great time and saw parts of the country that are breath taking.

As the medic first aid coordinator I will be scheduling your classes and instructors. As far as I know at this point it will be done the same way as it has been for the last four years. As of the present time there are two classes confirmed with instructors.

Sunday November 4, 2018 chapter I has a class scheduled. Robert G. and Angela Williams are scheduled as instructors  
Saturday January 5, 2019 chapters F and T2 has a class scheduled at Husted Fire Department with Walt & Deb Crosby and Linda Copeland scheduled as instructors.

Some snowbirds from chapter F and T2 have talked about needing a class before Thanksgiving so there is a possibility that class will be worked out. Other chapters such as B3 and E2 have also requested or talked about classes in January 2019. As of this point there is no recert class everyone takes the same class. I may find out more information at Wing Ding on Medic First Aid. I look forward to scheduling classes and instructors for your chapters.



# District University Trainer

**Margaret A. Moore**

The following article is from the August Insight Newsletter written by Clara Boldt, GWRRRA University Director.

## **Did you Know?**

...that the U.3 (classroom roster) for both Rider Education classes, as well as University classes, is the same form?

The form is located on the Rider Education site under **Seminar Presentation Section**. Once there, it is on the bottom of the page under **U3 Seminar Attendance Sheet**.

The form is also located on the University site under **Forms/Guides**.

The District Educator receives the completed form for Rider Education Seminars from the Instructor/Presenter and enters it in the Rider Education Database, then forwards it to [certify.renew@gmail.com](mailto:certify.renew@gmail.com) and the District University Coordinator.

The District University Coordinator receives the completed form from the Instructor/Presenters, enters it into the University Database via the Digital Form which will then be forwarded to [cert6ify.renew](http://cert6ify.renew).

It is recommended that each Instructor/Presenter check the sites for updated forms before each presentation. Classes and forms are being updated regularly to meet the needs of the Member, Presenters, and Instructors.

# District Treasurer

## Karen Ballou

My heartiest congratulations to Deb & Rick Warmels on becoming the 2018-2019 International Couple of the Year. They are the last Region D COY and now the last solitary International COY. I know the former Region and of course, the Indiana District are very proud of them. They will have a wonderful year.

At the November 10<sup>th</sup> officers meeting, there will be a treasurer's breakout session. I expect it to last 20 to 30 minutes. I will talk about the year end financial report and will answer any ?????, if I can. If you have a burning ????? that won't wait, you can email me at [kballou@gmail.com](mailto:kballou@gmail.com). If I don't know the answer, I will work to find it.

In that vein, now is the time to start preparation for the end of the year reports. If you haven't balanced the checkbook or organized the year's paperwork throughout the year, working now on catching up will save time and headaches when you go to prepare the year end reports.

I want the chapter year end financial reports to your Assistant District Directors by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. ADDs shall submit all collected financial reports to me by Cabin Fever.

Safe Riding and see all at the Officers meeting, 11/10/2018, Obetz, Ohio