

# Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Friendship, Fun, Safety and Knowledge!



## Tri-Mountain Wings Chapter PA - X

Clarks Summit, PA  
April 2019



### FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

It's April and the weather is beginning to promise that Spring might actually come to northeast Pennsylvania. As most of you know, Nina and I have been travelling for the last six weeks and without ready access to my home computer the March newsletter just didn't get done. So apologies for that.

Speaking of our travels, we left home February 14th and headed for the panhandle of Florida. Our first night was spent at Chez Walmart in Roanoke and Valentine's Day dinner was Chick-Fil-A, so at least I didn't get in too much trouble for not arranging a fancy night out. We stayed at a RV park on Ochlockonee Bay when we arrived in Florida and while the sites were a bit tight, we had a water side site with gorgeous views, especially when we had the "party deck" on the toy hauler open. Touring the area showed the devastation hurricane Michael caused. In Mexico Beach, a reported 95% of the structures are damaged to the point that they cannot be rebuilt, requiring a complete teardown. Pictures don't do justice and when we rode through the area, the destruction was unbelievable, and this more than 4 months after Michael hit. We stayed until the end of February and while the weather was warm, there were few sunny days. Deciding we needed some sunshine, we headed west for Arizona. In the Tucson area we were able to get into a Pima county park that was located adjacent to Saguaro National Park, with the same type of Sonoran desert vegetation, i.e. Saguaro Cactus. With a seven day camping limit, we stayed the full allowable time with most days being full sun and in the 70's - absolutely delightful. Leaving Tucson we headed south toward the Mexican border and stayed in an RV park in Patagonia, just 18 miles from Nogales which sits on the US-Mexico border. This area is very rugged with some mountain peaks above 6500 feet and snow covered. Temps were high 60's and low 70's most of the week we spent there, but the terrain was not nearly as green as in Tucson. The road the RV park was on was one used by the US Border Patrol to enter the nearby Coronado National Forest, an area often used by smugglers and the like to enter illegally into the US. We observed a lot of USBP activity, both night and day. Finally deciding to head home we meandered eastward along one of the scenic highways, which eventually took us through Bisbee, AZ, site of a huge open pit copper mine and then on to Douglas, another border town before heading north to Alamogordo for the night. From there it was over the mountains to the White Sands Missile Range and then miles and miles of "a whole lot of nothing" heading into Amarillo, Texas to pick up I-40 for the trek back east to pick up I-81 home. We detoured a bit into the Johnson City, TN area for a extra day and the Roanoke, VA area

### CHAPTER TEAM

#### Chapter Directors

Nina & Brian Schillinger  
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#### Assistant Chapter Directors

Kim & Randy Schweiss  
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#### Chapter Couple of the Year

Tom Bridgen and  
Marie Wasluck  
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#### Chapter Treasurer

Jim DeStefano  
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#### Chapter Ride Coordinator

(Open)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

April 9  
Ice Cream Ride In  
The Blue Ribbon Dairy, W. Pittston

April 17  
Gathering

May 5  
PA-M Hobo Stew Ride

May 11  
PA-B Spring Fling

for a few days to scout out areas that might be viable as retirement areas, then headed home on I-81. Throughout the journey, Penny, our golden retriever pup, proved to be an excellent traveler despite chewing through 4 or 5 seat belt tethers. We arrived home on March 26th to find snow still covering the yard.....maybe we should have stayed south another few days.

There are some upcoming events you should keep in mind. Chapter M is having their annual Dice/Hobo Stew run in Williamsport on May 5th and Chapter B is having their Spring Fling on May 11th in Lancaster. Flyers will be available at our next Gathering, or go to <http://codynparker.com/index.html> (the PA District Website) and check out the events calendar.

Chapter X is resuming our Ice Cream ride ins, beginning Tuesday, April 9th (the second Tuesday of the month) meeting at The Blue Ribbon Dairy in West Pittston at 7:00 pm. I hope everyone can make it for the first ice cream ride of the year.

Our April Gathering is back at Perkins in Tunkhannock, 6:00 for dinner followed by our meeting at 7:00. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Brian and Nina Schillinger  
Chapter Directors, PA-X

## FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS

### Pennsylvania District Directors

It's April! Can you believe we are starting the second quarter of the year? Spring is in the air and we are ready to get our motorcycles out and ride!

As, I write this newsletter we are at the Florida District Rally. Attending a District Rally, you get to see friends you have made over the years and make new friends you are meeting for the first time. There are classes where you learn so much about your self and improve your riding skills.

There is so much excitement and FUN when you attend a rally. And we are so excited and proud of our District Team for all the effort they are putting into the PA District Rally "Ride of the Roses".

We have so many events happening at the PA District Rally, May 16-18, 2019. And several of the events require pre-registration:

Riding Classes: Advance Rider Course (ARC) - Wednesday the day before the rally.

Side-car Course – Friday

Medic First Aid Course – Saturday - \$25/person

Welcome Party - Thursday - \$8/person

Harley Davidson Factor Tour – Friday morning - \$8/person

Rally T-shirt – preorders only – see order sheet for pricing

If you have already registered for the rally and would like to add one of the above items, please contact us. We will be happy to add you as long as there is room available.

If you have not sent in your reservation for the rally please submit your

### Web Links:

[gwrra.org](http://gwrra.org)

[gwrrapadist.org](http://gwrrapadist.org)

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Happy Birthday to:

Kim Schweiss  
4/6

Joy Allen  
4/22

### Happy Anniversary to:

None this month

registration and join in the FUN. The last day to sign up for a full registration or a Saturday day pass that includes the banquet Saturday evening is May 4, 2019. If you cannot attend multiple days at the rally, join us for a day on a day pass.

Officer Conference is Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Trinity UMC, Clearfield, PA. Chapters Directors, we need to know how many will be attending from your Chapter. Your reservation needs to be made by 04/19/19 by contacting us at 814-589-1307 or email us at [jackson2@zoominternet.net](mailto:jackson2@zoominternet.net). Thank you to the Chapters who have let us know how many are attending.

The Couple of the Year FUN Day is Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. A great day is being planned by Pat Delo, your District Membership Enhancement Coordinator (MEC) and John and Glenda Leib, your District Couple of the Year Coordinator. Thank you to all the Chapter Couples of the Year, Chapter Directors and Chapter Couple of the Year Coordinators for attending and making it a FUN Day!

It won't be long before we will see you at a chapter gathering, event or on the road. So, remember to check the PA District Events page on the PA District website to find out what is happening in PA!

Remember to always ride safe!

Harold and Diane Jackson  
Your Pennsylvania District Directors

## FROM YOUR PA DISTRICT EDUCATOR

The Riding Season is closing in on us with most of you taking your first ride of the season starting in May.

The following are just plain old common sense, but when common sense is in short supply, the numbers change on the statistics page.

**BACK OFF DUDE:** Space is the best protection you have between yourself and the people who are not you. Keep your distance from others, so you have more time to react and more space to adjust when someone else does something stupid.

**TO SOME PEOPLE A YELLOW LIGHT MEANS GO FASTER:** Many crashes happen at intersections. Cars that turn left in front of you and cars on the side streets that pull into your lane are the biggest dangers. Always be looking for potential hazards, and anticipating how you will react. If a car can cross your path, assume that it will. That old saying about assumptions? It doesn't apply here.

**WHAT ARE YOU A PSYCHIC OR SOMETHING?** It's pretty-simple – if you have the right skills you can react a lot quicker and help avoid crashes. Studies show that most riders involved in crashes either under brake the front tire and over brake the rear, or do not separate braking from swerving or choose swerving when it's not appropriate. Knowing when and how to stop or swerve are critical skills to keep your butt off the ground.

**IF ONLY EVERY LINE WAS STRAIGHT, BUT WHAT FUN WOULD THAT BE?** A common cause of singlevehicle crashes is riders running wide in a curve or turn and colliding with the roadway or fixed object. Be alert to whether a curve remains constant, gradually widens, gets tighter, or involves multiple turns.

**BEING AFRAID OF A LITTLE PIECE OF RUBBER DOES NOT MAKE YOU LESS MANLY.** Potholes, wet or icy surfaces, railroad tracks and tire scraps all increase your chances of going down. Avoid obstacles by slowing down or going around them – duh, right? On slippery roads, reduce your speed, use both brakes and try to keep your bike as upright as possible. When crossing railroad tracks, it's safer to stay in your lane rather than try to turn to cross at a 90-degree angle. For track and road seams that run parallel to your route, cross at a 90-degree angle. For track and road seams that run parallel to your route, cross at an angle of at least 45-degrees to avoid catching your tires.

**TURN MAN:** Traffic lights don't hate you. It's just that some of them don't turn green until they receive a signal from a metal detector buried in the pavement. But, sometimes bikes don't have enough metal to make them work. Seriously, just try to locate a detector – usually a square or octagonal pattern of thin lines in the pavement – and ride along it.

**IF THEY CAN'T SEE YOU, YOU DON'T EXIST:** Many crashes happen when the driver of a car doesn't see you. No surprise there. So, help yourself by wearing the proper clothing, using your headlight and riding in the best lane position. And, before making a move, always let people know what you're doing by using the correct signals.

Evelyn and I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter on April 21st.

Ride Safe and Ride Proud

Chuck & Evelyn Stone  
PA District Educators