



July 2024 Newsletter

Our next Gathering is:

Saturday, July 20, 2024

Eat at 9 a.m. meet at 9:45 a.m. Golden Corral 2530 Chimney Rock Rd Hendersonville

Website

<http://fourseasonswingsandthings.org>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/587996265048173/>

Chapter Director

Marty Wood

910-724-7129 2190

woodmarty@rocketmail.com

Asst. Chapter Director

Carl Hinderer

chinderer82@aol.com

Asst. Chapter Director

Bob Topper

bktopper@hotmail.com

Safety & Ride Coordinator

Dale Yager

doowing@aol.com

Treasurer

Laurie O'Brien
relady315@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Debbie Wood
NCM2.newsletter@gmail.com

Fundraising TBD

Sunshine

Kathy Claywell
mkclayw@gmail.com

Cook's Night Out

Rusti & Gerry Boykin
ggboykin@yahoo.com



Chapter Director

ENJOY THE RIDE!!



Marty Wood
EWMA NC-M2 Chapter Director

Hello M2!!! Wow, what a first half of the year we've had with all our rides and Gatherings!!! It is also great that we have new members join us on our journey. I say a big "WELCOME" to all our new members!!! We continually attract quality people and I know that everyone appreciates their addition to our chapter. We all pitch in and participate in different ways and social events as well as rides. It is amazing to me that everything we do is a huge success because of your willingness to help and attend these events. It is because of the effort of the person that volunteers to arrange and setup each event!! Please thank anyone that helped do the prep work!!! We are a volunteer organization and all help is appreciated!!!

During the year, we strive to give as much info as possible to keep you informed with the Website, Newsletter, emails and Facebook. If you ever have questions or need help please don't hesitate to reach out to me, Dale or Bob. We are here to serve you!!! I sometimes challenge Dale, Bob and Laurie and they come thru like CHAMPIONS!!! I appreciate them more than they know!!! I had better thank Debbie as well, she works toward making the newsletter better every month.

I know that we have a lot on our schedules the rest of the year as we continue to work thru our Ride Plan and Hump Day Rides...Hump Day Rides are where we get most of our new members and member referrals. Many of our new members have come to see if we are a fit for their riding style or

needs. It is a great time for us as well as them to see our chapter in a less formal way and get to know our SPARKLING personalities and of course, see how we ride in a safe manner! If you have not attended a Hump Day please join us, it's a great time and charges my batteries!!!

On June 14, Debbie and I rode with Dave and Joe to the GA State Rally in Dillard, GA.



It was such a beautiful day in the GA mountains that we took a side trip to [German themed-town] Helen, GA, for lunch at the Hofbrauhaus for some schnitzel, yum!

I know that Dale and Bob will fill you in on our SaddleSore 1000 Ride that we just did, so I look forward to their feelings about the ride. It was not my first one, but it was still a great adventure with everyone and I personally had a great time, well besides the fact I had to come home and pull my bike apart and install a new computer, ugh!!! Still, over all, we ran a huge loop thru the central part of Tenn., Kentucky, Indiana and back to North Carolina. There were six of us, Mike Claywell, Joe Taylor, Bob Topper,



Dale Yager, Richard Hipp and myself. Ask them about the ride at our next Gathering to gain their perspective on it. Rumor has it, Richard wants to try a Wing?? Could it be??? :LOL!!!

Thanks to Mike Claywell for setting this up and being the Road Captain the entire ride. Bob jumped in to be the Tailgunner. Thanks to both of you!!! We started at 5am-ish and finished the next night at 2am-ish. I was ready to go another 500 and do the 1500 Butt Burner but the bike said no!! It's all good now with the new ECM. I am really looking forward to doing another one that includes the 1500 sometime this fall when it's cooler, anybody wanna join me??? On another note, our Picnic is in a couple of days (July 6) but the weather may not cooperate, so we will continue to watch it!!! We are prepping for it as we speak/write....More info will come out soon! I will send a map of our location and parking. Look for those emails or you can call me. I live very close to East Henderson High School, a block away, so my house is easy to find. Near the new Dairy-O for some of us, LOL!!!

We have other exciting news! Our NC Webpage is up and running. ewma-nc.org!! Please visit it and keep up with all the NC news happening around the EWMA. Libby Jennings, our District Director, worked hard getting the webpage up and running so let's use the info. I will give her our info to put on it as well. As always... LETS ENJOY THE RIDE TOGETHER!!!!

Marty & Debbie Wood
EWMA NC-M2 Chapter Directors
NC Assistant District Directors
Woodmarty@rocketmail.com
(910) 724-7129

A View From the Top

Reflections of Assistant Chapter Director
Bob Topper

Can you believe that we are half-way through the year already? We've reached the pinnacle of the riding season and we've already done some great trips & rides, including our first overnighter to Birmingham, and our LONG Iron Butt ride that you can read more about a little further down. I certainly hope that everyone is taking advantage of all that our group has to offer, whatever it is that you're into, even if it's only the social gathering that really makes us special.

At the beginning of June, some of us rode down to Highlands, NC for the "Cars In The Park" concourse car show that is part of the annual Highlands Motoring Festival. After leaving the show, we rode some wonderful twisties, Hwy 28, down to Walhalla, SC for lunch at Pete's Drive In and then out Hwy 11 to Hwy 178 for some more twisties, all the way up to the top of Sassafras Mountain for some spectacular views with clear skies!





From there it was downhill to checkout a quick waterfall stop (East Fork Falls) and then up through DuPont Forest to home.

At our Gathering on the 15 th , we once again had more than half of our Chapter present, along with 6 visitors, 3 of which were members of Chapter SC-G, welcome to y'all, and the other 3 are brand new members: Gunnar and Joe & Gloria. It's so wonderful to be able to grow and share our friendship with new folks and other Chapters of the Eagle Wings family! After the fun and sharing of information and money (ride pots, 50/50 and such), and giving away a door prize (something newly added to our gatherings, with many thanks to our Chapter's sponsors), many of us took of for a great ride up to Marion, NC to visit the Historic Carson House. There is so much history in our own backyards that you don't even realize exists, maybe until you come on a fun group ride. After touring this interesting family house, we went just down the road to J. Hartman's for lunch.



On Thursday, the 20 th of June, 17 of us went to the Asheville (Beer City) Tourists game and enjoyed a game that saw the Tourists give up a 10 to 4 lead, only to lose 10 to 11 in the 9 th inning. Watching them win or lose, WE always have a great time. Thank you to Karen for coordinating this, AGAIN and thanks to everyone that came out.

The following Thursday, our Chapter did another first, for us, and 6 of us attempted to do an Iron Butt “SaddleSore 1000”, that’s 1,000 miles in 24 hours! As one of the participants, I’m happy to say that we NAILED it! Finishing the 1,000 miles in just 21 hours! Mike C. laid out a terrific loop ride that took us as far north as Walton, KY (just south of Cincinnati, OH) and then west to Evansville, IN, south to Nashville, TN and then home. Some 1,056 miles, on my odometer. You’re probably going to read a few impressions of the ride, as 3 of our officers were on it, and it was actually a pretty cool Challenge.



As I mentioned, Mike put the route together and the 6 of us, Mike C., Dale Y., Marty W., Richard H., Joe T., and myself, got together to put a plan together, work out times and riding strategies, and who’s bringing what, etc. We decided to meet and go KSU at 5:00 am to give us the best opportunity to leave the area before the morning commute and also not get tied up in Knoxville’s traffic. Heading north first, and then west, would give us the best chance of not riding into direct sunlight on any leg of the trip, and that worked out very well. The one unknown would obviously be the day’s weather and the only plan we had for that was, if it looked like rain to the north, then we would simply do

an "out and back" ride towards Memphis. Fortunately, the weather gods were looking out for us, and we dealt with just a few showers in the morning time, as we left Asheville and then a little bit north of Knoxville. Nothing worth putting on rain gear for, but we were prepared to, if necessary. With all of the heat that we've had lately, that was another concern, and everyone was prepared with plenty of water, including Dale & Mike bringing hitch mounted coolers. We did have some 90° temperatures during the afternoon, but it was mostly in the 80's and very bearable. One of the key points that I believe made this ride successful and without any "tiring" issues is that we stopped quite often, at least every two hours, and walked around, ate/drank something and "stretched our legs" so to speak. We easily could have cut time off our total by getting rolling from some of our stops sooner, but we did alright in the end. There wasn't any sightseeing going on, but we did go through some beautiful valleys and countryside. Sticking to the Interstates, for the most part, doesn't lend itself to many sights, but you look beyond the concrete sometimes. Mike led the entire way, and I played tail gunner for him, the full time. So, my perspective is from the back of the group and keeping an eye on us, and the traffic all around. I do enjoy the role of tail, as I keep sharp by paying attention to what's going on and helping to keep the group informed, as well as taking some pressure off of the lead rider, whenever possible.

I don't believe that anyone will consider another Iron Butt any time soon, but it is very reassuring to know that I can handle this kind of ride, if necessary, and I now know what it takes to prepare and DO this kind of ride. A huge thank you to Mike for the suggestion of this ride, and for all the planning and coordinating the group. Not a small task, at all. Mike is no stranger to long rides, as many of you know, he did an 8,800-mile ride last year, he just completed another 4,000 miles out to the Black Hills and back a couple of weeks ago, and is planning on doing another 10,000+ miles later this year with Kathy, out west for another 3-Flags run. Thanks for sharing and letting us take part in your adventures, Mike!

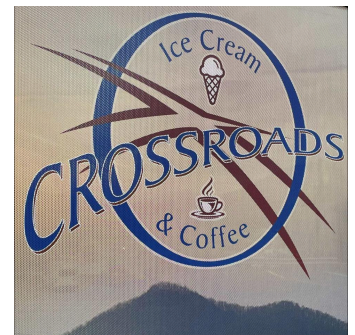
I must add that on Friday evening, after doing our Iron Butt, our Chapter had its monthly Ice Cream Ride, which I led to Crossroads Ice Cream and Coffee in Mill Spring. About a 50-mile loop out and back. Mike & Kathy, Dale, Brian O., and I rode out from Hendersonville and met Jim & Norma and Rusti at the ice cream parlor. It was great to see everyone out and especially Rusti for her first outing since her surgery. Heal up fast, Rusti, so you can be enjoying the trike again soon.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Chapter Cook-out BBQ on Saturday, July 6 th .

Be safe always and especially on our Nation's Birthday, July 4 th .

Ride often and Ride safe!

Bob



Safety and Ride Coordinator

By: Dale Yager

July 2024

At bat, July. June came sliding into home and was safe! Speaking of baseball, several of us took in the Asheville Tourists game on June 20 th . The Tourists took off early taking a commanding lead. It looked like it was a shoe-in. Several left the game early, probably thinking it was over. The last inning the Winston-Salem Dash got four runs, beating the Tourists. An exciting game, disappointing at the end, but we had a good time.

Upcoming events for July: We start with our annual cookout. This year being hosted by our Chapter Directors Marty and Debbie Wood on Saturday, July 6 th. Haven't signed up for the picnic yet, thinking of going? Let Marty know. The picnic starts at noon at the Wood's residence. I'm sure they will have more specifics in their article in this newsletter. July 20 th is our regular gathering at Golden Corral, breakfast at 9:00am, gathering starting at 9:45am. After the gathering, Marty is leading a ride to the Dillard House in Dillard, GA for a family style lunch.

<https://www.dillardhouse.com/about/location.php>

We have our Cooks Night Out dinner on July 11 th . Location info and time is located in another area in this newsletter (Make sure you read it all).

Finally, we have our July ice cream ride on July 26 th . We meet at Ingles on Spartanburg Hwy and Upward Rd, leaving at 6:00pm. (Last Friday of every summer month).

For August there are several things that might catch your interest. On Saturday, August 3rd will be a ride to Shady Valley, TN. This is a longer day ride with many challenging roads involved. Shady Valley is located in the middle of "The Snake" ride on 421. It's one of the few places that there is a house with the road in both its front and back yards at the same time. (Yeah, that twisty). That ride leaves the Mills River Ingles at 8:00am. Kinda need to know if you are planning to go so we don't accidentally leave anyone behind.

Bike Safe NC is a free class given to motorcyclists by the Motorcycle Divisions of Police Departments in North Carolina. On Friday, August 16 th several of this group has signed up to take the class from the Asheville Police. The class is in Woodfin and starts at 8:45am sharp! Those of us that are going together will be meeting at the Mills River Ingles at 7:00am. As of the typing of this article, they have 1 opening left. You must sign up on their website. If you do, please let me know you will be joining us.

<https://www.bikesafenc.com/>



GREAT SMILES

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY & ORTHODONTICS

Sullenberger Aviation Museum is booked for October 5th and our tour time is at noon. The cost is \$16.50 each. We will be meeting at Ingles on Spartanburg Hwy and Upward Rd at 9:00am to get there on time. I have made reservations for 20 people and we still have openings. This is an Aviation Museum that is brand new. This museum also houses the famous "Miracle on the Hudson". Flight 1509 left New York City on January 15, 2009 en route to Charlotte, NC. The plane was struck with birds and had to have an emergency landing on the Hudson River where everyone survived. The Captain was Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger who was credited with making the decision to land and saved the lives of everyone on board. This museum is a huge piece of American History and rightfully named "Miracle on the Hudson".

<https://www.sullenbergeraviation.org/>

Please see Dale in advance to pay and let me know if you plan to go. Don't forget, we meet every Wednesday (Hump Day Ride) for breakfast at Eggs Up Grill on Spartanburg Hwy. If weather permits, we usually have a lunch ride to follow. Destinations are decided on Tuesday based on weather conditions.

Iron Butt SaddleSore 1,000: $E=MC^2$, carry the 2 and subtract 1. Sorry, just trying to figure my mileage. I'm sure others are writing about our Iron Butt ride on the 27th . It was



quite an accomplishment especially for a bunch of old farts. Personally, my favorite rides are here in the mountains, carving the curves, looking at the beautiful scenery and some great off-the-beaten-path places to eat. This was none of that! We started at 5:00 in the morning, yeah, I had to set my alarm. Since I had gone to bed early it wasn't a real issue getting up but my morning routine kept saying, not yet. We started in a light rain but never needed rain suits. I had the privilege of taking our mascot M-2 on the ride. You have to check out the pictures. He was

wearing his safe riding gear and was ready to ride. He did for a while, but started to fall asleep and was slouching, so I had to put him in the trunk. I didn't want him falling off going down the interstate. Speaking of the interstate, I only like riding it to get somewhere faster, riding from point A to point B. In this case we went from point A to point A. We rode over a thousand miles only to get to where we started. But I knew that. I'm not a fan of riding very long days either but again, we did. I'm also not a fan of riding in the dark. Well, we did a hell of a lot of that too. We took in 10 gas stops counting beginning and ending and the mandatory four corners of the loop. The rain stopped early in the day. Mid-day we had 91 degrees. Everyone rode really well and stayed safe. Those that made the run were Joe Taylor, Marty Wood, Bob Topper, Richard Hipps, organizer Mike Claywell and myself.



Will I ever do it again? Probably not. But I did do it once. Other than meal breaks and a little traffic

construction back-up, things went without a hitch. Twenty one hours after starting we arrived back in Hendersonville at 2:10am Friday morning with 3 hours to spare.

Tech Tip: This was taken from Road Runner Magazine but applies to us as well.

Tips for Riding in a Group; Arrive with a full tank of gas, having checked your bike beforehand. Always be sure your brakes, signals, headlight, etc. are working properly. Meet with your group before you head out. Discuss the route, rest stops, hand signals, and plans in case of an emergency.

There should be a lead and tail rider for each group. They should be experienced and know the route you plan to take. Your group should have 5-7 riders. If you have a large group, ride in sub-groups. Each sub-group should have its own lead and tail rider. At least one rider in each group or subgroup should pack a cell phone, first-aid kit, and full tool kit. Every rider should store a “just in case card” in a storage compartment on their motorcycle. The card should list emergency contact information, current medicines and medical conditions, and insurance information. Follow the formation for group riding. The leader rides in the left third of the lane. The next rider stays at least one second behind in the right third of the lane. The rest of the group follows the same pattern, following in a single-file formation when on a curvy road or in potentially dangerous riding situations. Ride 3-5 seconds behind a rider when riding single-file. Use the group riding hand signals recognized by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, which will allow you to communicate with other riders while you’re on the road.

Don’t ride directly next to another rider. If you’re not the tail rider, check your rear-view mirrors occasionally to make sure the other riders are still behind you.

Dale

Chapter Safety and Ride Coordinator Chapter M2

Addendum: I received word late last week that our former GWRRA M2 member Kay Beckett passed away. Tom and Kay were great members and they took me under their wings while Tom was alive. After Tom passed away, Kay had their Goldwing 1500 bike triked so she could continue with the group. I then took Kay under my wings and rode behind her giving her coaching tips. A few years ago she decided to buy her grandmother’s home in Mount Pleasant, NC. I helped move her trike and trailer out to her. When she decided to sell her trike, I brought it back to Hendersonville and prepped it for sale. I don’t have any details about her passing. She will be missed by all those that knew her.



Birthdays

JULY			
	24	David Platt	
	25	Brian Wittenburg	
	27	Rusti Boykin	

Anniversaries

JULY		
	2	Dale & Michelle Yager
	4	Philip & Christina Putnam

Monthly Gathering Winners:

Sponsor Give-away: Schroeder's Honda-50% discount on oil change-Carl

Ice Cream Ride Pots-Winnie, Brian W., Ken W.

Chapter Pride: Tom S.

50/50: Brian W.

M2 Caretaker: Dale Y.

Wing Nut Award: Dale Y.

EVENTS:

Hump Day Breakfast Rides-Wednesdays

Eggs Up Grill

637 Spartanburg Hwy, Hendersonville, NC

Breakfast 9:00am Ride approx. 10:00am

Open to all members. Destinations and length TBD each week. Suggestions welcome.

Cooks Night Out-

First Thursday of each month. This month, July 11, 6:30 pm. Appalachian Mountain Brewery in Mills River across from Ingles.

RSVP to Rusti or Gerry at trikelady@yahoo.com by May 1, 1pm.

Rides & Rallies

- **M2 Cookout/BBQ, July 6**, Wood home, picnic at 12pm/noon
- **CNO, July 11**, Ride Captain;
- **Gathering meeting; July 20** -9 am eat, 9:45 meet, ride after gathering to Dillard House, Dillard, GA. Ride Captain; Marty Wood
- **Ice Cream Ride; July 26**, TBD meet at Ingles on Spartanburg Hwy and Upward Rd, leaving at 6:00pm.
- **Advance Motorcycle Crash Management; Sept. 7**-SC-Chapter G, Greer, SC

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Jesse Schroader
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220 Mitchelle Drive
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