



October 2023 Newsletter

Our next Gathering is:

Saturday, October 21, 2023

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/>

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Thoughts from Your Chapter Director

HELLO OCTOBER !

Fall is here with warm days and cool nights, leaves changing colors, and a nip in the air, but we still have good days to

ride and events to do.

September has been a busy month; Our West Virginia weekend was wet but fun. Thanks to Jim & Norma Brabb for the suggestion and thanks to Brian Wittenburg for making all arrangements and leading the rides. Several members traveled to Knoxville, TN to EWMA's first Rendezvous Rally and Mike Claywell participated in the 3-Flags ride and logged well over 8,000 miles on his Wing!



New River Gorge Bridge

Then there was "Wings Over the Smokies", again, the first one since EWMA was formed. I did NOT win the grand prize. Do any of you know who did??? We also want to welcome Albert Maybin who came to our

September group meeting. Albert met Bob Topper while

out riding and Bob extended an invitation to come and visit us. We do hope he will return and join our membership. Hump Day rides are always a great day to provide a nice break in the week for fun. Looking to October, we kick off with Cook's Night Out on the 5th at "Wild Wings Café" on Long Shoals Road, then on the 7th, Dale has planned another "Tail of The Dragon" ride.

There are more adventures ahead so check your ride schedule and watch for emails. Friday was our monthly Ice Cream ride, and it was a very nice night for the ride. Bob gave us a round-about way to Baabals Ice Cream Shoppe for some yummy ice cream, 15 riders and one sweet pup!

Now that the cooler weather is setting in, we start the "Leaf Peeping" season, and this is the time we must be more alert for "DISTRACTED" drivers, safety is our main goal while riding as a group or going solo.



At the EWMA Rendezvous in Knoxville, TN



Babcock State Park, WV

Our next meeting is October 21st, at the Golden Corral, eat at 9AM, meet at 9:45AM. Bob Topper has a ride planned after the meeting, going to "Dave's 209", yet another good ride! So please come and join in on the fellowship and fun adventures. Ride pots, 50/50 and yes, a "Wing Nut" is up ALWAYS for grabs!

Have a safe and Happy Halloween!

Rusti



A View From the Top

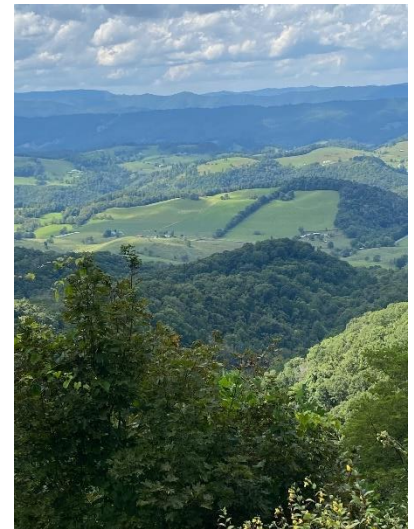
Reflections of the Membership Enhancement
Coordinator
Bob Topper

So, have you been taking advantage of the wonderful weather that we have been having? At least it's great for riding, maybe not growing grass or anything involving rain, but I'm ok with that, for now. As Rusti and Dale mention, we had some rain on our West Virginia trip, so...that was enough for now. None of our other September rides were cancelled or postponed due to rain and that's great!



You might remember, our Cook's Night Out for September was held at Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack in Arden. We all had a good time, but the difference here is that you order your food and then find a seat. We didn't have any problem sitting together, just weird, I guess. It all ended up being ok, but I believe that somebody's order got misplaced, and we had to wait a bit longer for it, but, hey, that's more time we all get to spend together, right? October's CNO will be at the Wild Wings Café on Long Shoals Road, also in Arden. Watch for the email so you can be sure to RSVP!

On the 8th thru 11th, 8 of us on 5 bikes and a slingshot, enjoyed a fantastic trip to West Virginia and rode on some beautiful roads, through towns and valleys and other awesome scenery. Yeah, we had some rain to deal with, but for the most part, we stayed dry and got the bulk of our daily riding done before afternoon showers had much effect. You can see from the pictures throughout the newsletter, that we really experienced a lot of different sites and views. Thank you to Jim & Norma for the idea and to Brian W. for doing such a fabulous job making arrangements, planning and leading our riding. Everyone there made it a great weekend!



*Looking out from Hungry Mother State
Park, VA*

On the 16th, we once again held our Gathering at the Golden Corral, where 19 members and 1 newcomer, Albert Maybin, were in attendance. Thanks for joining us Albert, I hope that found us welcoming and that we'll see lots more of you in the future! (Secret: Albert, his wife Janice, and his riding friend, Doug, joined Dale's hump day ride to Spruce Pine.) After our meeting, Joe Taylor led us on a scenic ride out to the Mountain Farm Museum in Cherokee, which is located just inside the Smoky Mountains National Park behind the Oconaluftee Visitor Center. Been by there numerous times but never stopped. From there we had another scenic ride along the Blue Ridge Parkway all the way to Hwy. 276, and then back down the mountain to Brevard, and then home. Thank you, Joe, another very nice ride.

The Wings Over the Smokies rally was held on the 22nd & 23rd, in Jefferson, NC. Marty Woods and his wife, Debbie, attended both days of the rally and Joe T. went up for the day, Friday, and brought along our “infamous” mascot, M2, who apparently ruffled some Eagle feathers, hahaha. Remember, he melts in your mouth, not in your hands, or Wings. LOL. I hear that it was a good rally and a great beginning for our NC District of EWMA.

On the same Saturday as the rally, some of us took a ride down to Piedmont, SC to the G.A.S. Vintage Bike show. Our own Dale Yager had 3 of his own bikes in the show, along with his cousin, Doyle, that brought another 5 bikes. Gold Wings of the ages were well represented, but a Honda 450 took top honors for Japanese bikes this year. Still, a very good show and a good lunch at the Saluda Grill, that hosted the event.



Parked outside Shady Valley Store

And, last but not least, we ended the month with another great Ice Cream Ride, this month to Baabals Ice Cream Shoppe in Fletcher. We had a very good turnout, with 15 of us enjoying their comfortable front porch, after an easy paced ride through Dana, Fruitland, Hoopers Creek, and into Fletcher. Thanks everyone for coming out on such a nice evening for a ride. Remember, October's Ice Cream Ride will be the last one for the season. Hopefully, we can have another gorgeous evening then, October 27th.

In closing this month, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Mike Claywell for completing an awesome adventure. Yes, he completed the 3-Flags ride from Mexico, through the US and into Canada with some 200 other entrants, a ride of some 2,324 miles! In addition, Mike did even more sight seeing on his ride home, including farther into Canada, and his grand total was just 6 miles short of 8,800 miles in just 18 days! All will riding safely and without mechanical issues. He and Kathy are already planning on next year's ride...anyone interested in going along? Great job Mike!

Everyone Ride Safe!

Bob



More Photos of the West Virginia Ride



Babcock State Park, WV



Kimball, WV - Coal Train Vehicle



New River Gorge



Riding the Back of the Dragon



New River Gorge Bridge



Beckley Exhibition Coal Mine



Ready to Explore a Coal Mine

Ride Coordinator – October 2023

By: Dale Yager

Only a couple of months left of our schedule, but we still have much more to do.

Last month was our long weekend ride to West Virginia which was planned and led by Brian Wittenberg.

We rode up Rt. 16 in Tennessee a/k/a “The Back of the Dragon”. It was a twisty ride from Marion to Tazewell.

We saw the New River Gorge Bridge. The designers and builders of this bridge accomplished quite an amazing feat. We also explored a closed coal mine and rode through some of the depressed coal mine towns. On our way home we took 421 south a/k/a “The Snake”. We did take a break at Shady Valley for our last lunch together. Despite some rain on 3 of the days, it was a pretty great trip.



New River Gorge Bridge & Helicopter

Piedmont, SC. We had a good lunch and saw some great motorcycles.

So, what's coming up you ask?

On the published ride
October
I listed



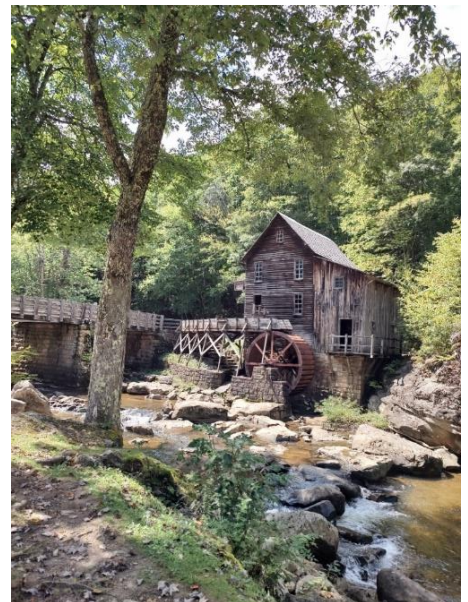
Mountain Farm Museum, Cherokee, NC

will
and
270 miles long, so it is an all-day ride during leaf peeping season. It will be one of our most difficult



Also last month was a ride to the Farm Museum in Cherokee. It was both a very nice ride and educational.

Finally, several of our members came down to meet me at the G.A.S. Vintage bike show in



Babcock State Park, WV

schedule for

7th, we have Shady Valley listed as our next ride. After “Deals Gap” as a Hump Day ride several members asked that we have this ride on the weekend. As a result, we are changing the October 7th ride to Deals Gap. We will meet at the Mills River Ingles. Kick stands up at 9:00am. Some of this ride will be interstate 40 to get us in the neighborhood. Then we will be going over the mountain via 441 into Tennessee. After we get into Tennessee, we will be working our way through Wears Valley, then onto the Foothills Parkway. This is a piece of pavement not many talk about, but is a very scenic ride. From there we will enter the “Tail of the

Dragon” from the Tennessee end heading to North Carolina. We

stop for lunch at The Dragon in Deals Gap where you can buy tee shirts stickers for your bike and take pictures of the Tree of Shame. This ride will be about

rides and if you are uncomfortable with the interstate, extremely tight corners, or the distance, then this ride might not be for you.

There will be a ride after the gathering on October 21ST. This ride includes part of the Blue Ridge Parkway and Rt. 209 a/k/a "The Rattler". Lunch is at Dave's 209 and you will not be disappointed.

If you're not riding, it's not our fault. We have provided many opportunities.

Don't forget, we meet every Wednesday (Hump Day Ride) for breakfast at Eggs Up Grill on Spartanburg Hwy. If the weather permits, we usually have a lunch ride to follow. Destinations are decided on Tuesday based on weather conditions. As always, "Cooks Night Out" is on the first Thursday of the month and the Ice Cream Ride is on the last Friday of the month.



Best looking Honda Group at G.A.S. Vintage Bike Show

Tech Tip: See article below about clothing for riding in the cold.

Dale Yager
Chapter Safety and Ride Coordinator
Chapter M2



West Virginia Group at New River Gorge Visitors Center

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Riding in the Cold - Clothes

Suggestions only

Undergarments

- In dressing for cold weather, begin with long undies. Make sure you get a set that is long enough in the torso and legs so that they don't ride up when you bend over to grab the handlebars.
- Next a long sleeve shirt and warm pants.
- Warm socks.

Jackets

- A high quality, comfortable jacket is one of the most sought-after. Jackets must be comfortable. When trying one on, sit on your bike while wearing it, if possible, before deciding whether it fits or not. Be careful that the jacket is long enough in the torso and the arms. A jacket that is too thin or bulky will flap and balloon in the wind which will make you tired and reduce your body's ability to keep you warm. Also look for a high collar that will keep the wind out of your neck area and ensure the collar snaps or zips up all the way to the top. Double cuffs so wind doesn't get up around your wrists, and a good wind-flap over the main zipper are important as well.
- An electric vest is a lightly quilted vest that plugs into your bike's electrical system. It is worn under your jacket. Some models have a thermostat that controls the amount of heat produced by the vest. It will also have an on/off switch.

Pants

- Insulated pants or chaps are a very good investment if you do any sort of cool weather riding. Electric chaps are available as well as non-electric. The better ones are made of Cordura nylon and are usually coated to be rain resistant (not usually water-proof). They are easy to get on and off, are comfortable, and won't leave you with cold legs. These also function as added abrasion protection.

GLOVES

- Winter gloves must protect against cold and rain.
- Be insulated with Dupont Thinsulate® or some other similar material.
- Don't buy gloves that are too bulky in the palm lest you lose the feel of the bike and its controls.
- Make sure that your gloves have long gauntlet type cuffs that will fit over your jacket sleeves to ensure no wind gets up your arms.
- Most gloves are at least water resistant. Some have a little zip-up compartment in the cuff area which houses a waterproof cover should you get caught in a sudden downpour.
- Get gloves that have a felt strip on the index finger on the left hand. This allows you to wipe water from your visor without scratching it.
- With all gloves, summer or winter make sure that there are no rough seams in the palm area. If you ride for a couple hours with a seam between your hand and the grip, you will feel it!

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Something to protect your neck from the cold. Whether it's a commercial or home-made model, a lot of riders consider it an essential piece of cold weather riding gear. The simplest kinds are a felt type material cut into a bandanna shape where the ends connect together at the back of your neck. This keeps wind from coming in and gng up your helmet or down your jacket. Some more elaborate models actually fasten onto the bottom of your helmet and form a seal from your helmet to your chest.
- Balaclavas can be also be very nice. You can buy them in silk or numerous synthetic materials. They are like hoods that pull over your head and extend to your chest.
- When buying a neck insulator, ensure that it has enough material to reach to your chest, or else it'll come untucked from your collar when you shoulder check or look up.

Just because the item is inexpensive, doesn't mean it will keep you warm!!

Member Info:
October

Birthdays:

14 Marty Wood
20 Norma Brabb

Anniversaries:

5 Marty & Debbie Wood

Monthly Gathering Winners:

Ride Pots: August Ice Cream Ride - Brian O'Brien
West Virginia Trip - Brian Wittenburg
September CNO - Rusti Boykin

Chapter Pride: Laurie O'Brien

50/50: Richard Arceneaux

M2 Caretaker: Joe Taylor

Wing Nut Award: Rusti Boykin



EVENTS:



October 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5 Cook's Night Out Wild Wing Café Arden ^:30	6	7 Ride to Deals Gap via Tail of the Dragon, Foothills Parkway
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Chapter Gathering / Dave's 209 Ride Hot Springs
22	23	24	25	26	27 Final Ice Cream Ride of Season	28
29	30	31				

Notes

CNO – RSVP to Rusti or Gerry at trikelady@yahoo.com

Chapter Gathering – Eat at 9:00 am, meet at 9:45, possible ride to follow.

Ice Cream Rides: KSU at 6:00pm, Ingles at Spartanburg Hwy & N. Highlands Rd (East Flat Rock)



November 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2 Cook's Night Out	3	4 Chapter Bonfire at the Yager's Residence
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Chapter Gathering/ Henderson County Toy Run
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Notes

CNO – RSVP to Rusti or Gerry at trikelady@yahoo.com

Chapter Gathering – Eat at 9:00 am, meet at 9:45, possible ride to follow.

Ice Cream Rides: KSU at 6:00pm, Ingles at Spartanburg Hwy & N. Highlands Rd (East Flat Rock)

Hump Day Breakfast Riders - every Wednesday

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

October 5th - Wild Wings Café, 65 Long Shoals Rd., Arden, NC

Please be sure to RSVP.

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