

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Northeast Region B

July 2017

Vermont District Newsletter

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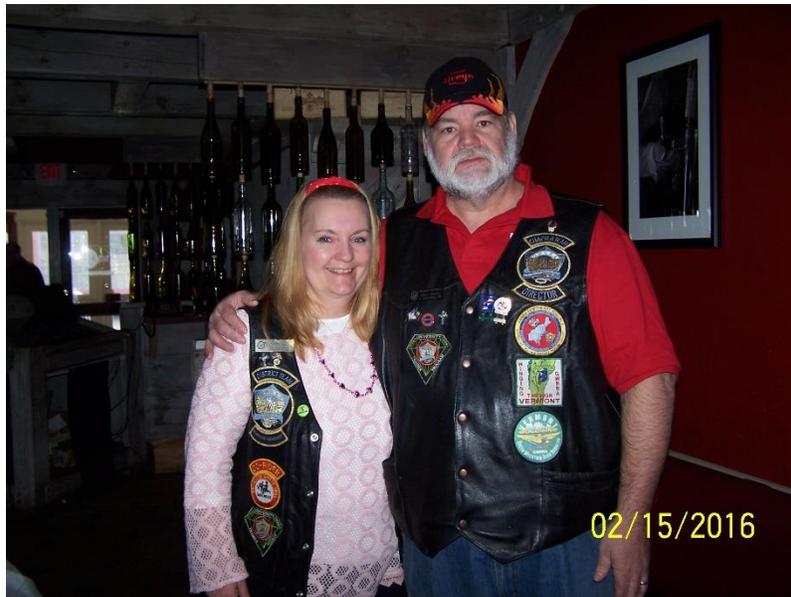
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Favorite Sites

<http://gwrra.org/>
<http://www.gwrranortheastregion.org/>

From the Director's Chair



Hello to all members of VT-A and VT-K!

It is July, and July is Rally month!!! Off to Sturbridge, MA, we go! The Rally Team has done the work and all you have to do is come and enjoy the FUN!

Rides and piñata's will be the talk of the event and wait until you see what the Rally team has for you on the Chinese Raffle tables!

We are expecting many members to join us but there is still rooms available for you. See the Rally information at the end of the newsletter and we hope to see you there!!!

Keep up the great work!

From the Assistant District Directors



Overlooked long term motorcycle safety maintenance

Owning a sensual use motorcycle one may overlook the long term maintenance including what we take for granted. We all think about oil, filters, tire air pressure, and tire condition but what is hidden under all that shiny painted body panels that could / should be checked.

Brake/ clutch fluid should be changed 12000 miles or sooner if you ride a lot in the rain as brake fluid attracts moisture or if it changed to an orange color (water in the fluid). One may need special tools and or a helper, or the Dealer.

Brake calipers centering pins or bolts cleaned and lubed with special lube if you ride a lot in the rain. If the Caliper can't center to the brake disk you are using only half of the brake force of the caliper.

Front forks: Check for leaks, remove the fork plastic seal proctor attached to the top of the front fender and remove any dirt and grit around the front wheel forks. If the Front forks bottom out often you may need new fork springs and new fork oil. This should not be attempted by the owner. This is a safety handling problem. The head stock bearings should also be checked for smooth operation from side to side through the steering ark and end to end looseness. If anything feels wrong. Call your Dealer as if the bearings are not correctly adjusted your life maybe in danger! It takes special tools and knowledge to adjust or replace the bearings. Perhaps this should be checked by a dealer in the first place? If you have an 1800 wing the head stock bearings should be checked at 40k if you drive dirt roads. The original bearings in the head stock are steep angle ball bearings the replacement bearings are roller bearings that will last a lot longer if properly adjusted.

Do not top up the coolant system with anything other than premixed antifreeze that is marked safe for aluminum. I prefer to use OME coolant. Older antifreeze contained "fine sand" to scrub the rust out of the cast-iron motor blocks. That antifreeze will mess up your water pump seals big time, in short order! Again look at your bike manual.

When checking the battery, wear protective clothing (disposable gloves. Eye protection and a plastic bag with arm and head holes cut out.) One small drop of battery acid will spoil your Sunday go to meeting shirt! Remove the battery and check the battery for fluid level. Do not top up with tap water. Only use distilled water and do not add any battery acid as the acid does not evaporate. Look for corrosion on the battery terminals. Clean if necessary. If you have gel sealed battery Just check for loose connection. Remove the main fuse cover and check the strip fuse link for loose screws. If the strip fuse loses connection the bike/trike will shut down and that could end up being a trucked visit to a dealer and the end of a good ride. Yes we all have rescue plus, right?

Move to the other side of the bike/trike and check the alternator for signs of oil leakage around and in the alternator. If oil is found call your dealer as you may need parts and his / her expert help.

Most Goldwing air filters may be a hard item for the owner to replace (GL 1800) but the 1500 is also a little bear. If you are not handy with hand tools you may want to ask a fellow GWRRA member who is handy with tools and has the knowledge to do the job to give you some help. A complete Safety maintained bike / trike will be an asset to your chapter riders as they will not have to spend time on a ride to correct neglected long term maintenance problems that will force the chapter members from their ride destination. Ah I can taste the Ice cream now, can you?

The fuel filter should be changed at the recommended time. Consulted your bike maintenance schedule. Wings require a ½ inch filter. A lawn mower filter will starve the power plant of fuel Consult your bike manual.

Don't overlook the oil 80/90 weight in the rear end gear box consult your bike service manual for service intervals. I converted my 1500 over to synthetic rear end gear oil years ago.

We all ride with safety Hi Visibility clothing, gloves, over the ankle shoes or boots, long pants , [Yah I know they are hot, but road rash is hotter], helmets, sunscreen, and stay hydrated. A pit stop is better than a member getting dizzy from lack of fluid intake Right? Come on people, RIGHT? Pat and I both have drink holders on the trike and insulated vessels with a built in straw so we don't have to tip our heads back to take a drink of water. On long trips we Carrey a gallon of drinking water in the trailer to refill our vessels. A gallon of water plus what's in our vessels when we head out between us will keep us in good shape if we drink more water in the evening.

Please ride safe and happy trails to you and yours.



From the District MEC



July is the heart of summer...for many, July is a month of celebration. For others, it is the pinnacle of patriotism, as stars and stripes adorn lampposts, storefronts, balconies--proudly displayed in almost every facet of American life. In this day and age, so many aspects of American life seem to divide rather than unite Americans...Keeping in mind that July is ripe with patriotism...it might be worthy to explore what patriotism means to each of us as individuals, and then reflect on the importance of patriotism in our communities.

What is patriotism? Patriotism is key to connectivity of Americans across our nations and within our communities. For many, patriotism is viewed as the devoted love, support, and defense of one's country. Yet, sentiments of patriotism can run much deeper... Patriotism is a multi-faceted concept that is manifest in our culture. It is embedded in our rites of passage, and also serves as a visual panorama of a diverse and symbolic images of the American way of life...

How is patriotism manifest?

As a mechanism of culture...

Patriotism is an integral part of our culture. Parades, rallies, fund raisers are some of the most common venues used to generate patriotism...the American flag is the most reverent embodiment of the honor, love, and respect that we offer to our Veterans, our nation, and our fellow Americans. Patriotism leverages the gratitude that we feel for those who have served and sacrificed for our country, and also demonstrates our dedication and commitment to our families, our friends, and our communities.

As a rite of passage...We may not think of patriotism as a rite of passage. Yet, when we look at the benchmarks of life in America, we realize how patriotism is integral to achieving milestones in our life. Immigration and citizenship, weddings and funerals, and organizational graduations such as advancement ceremonies for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, all incorporate some degree of patriotic symbolism involving the display of the American Flag. The vows or pledges recited in those ceremonies, are rituals used to ingrain and uphold values, as well as symbolizing our appreciation for the opportunities granted by our Constitution.

As a way of life...When riding the highways and byways of America, our journeys and adventures expand our horizons...leading us across diverse and extreme landscapes, as well as affording us a view of people and life styles very different from our corner of the world. As we traverse this land, we pass cornfields, oil fields, shipyards, and a variety of life beyond our imaginings. And as we travel, we discover a continuity of spirit beyond the flags lining the streets of our villages and towns, beyond the flags on boats in the harbor, and beyond the flags painted on the weathering wood of covered bridges and barns. No matter where go, the single most unifying aspect of patriotism that serves as a binding for the tapestry of life...is the love and reverence for our families, our

friends, and our countrymen-- that is held within our heart. We know that life in this mighty nation is ever-changing and ever-evolving. So you may wonder after all, how patriotism can be shared and spread across a nation so vast and disparate... It is the most basic element of patriotism, "respect" that serves to unite us hand by hand, and heart by heart. Although our views may be as distant as the seas between foreign lands, the flag that flies in the lighthouse cove, or on the mountain's peak...symbolizes "respect" and dedication to the preservation of the freedoms that allow us to be diverse in thought—yet one in spirit.

Wishing all of you a safe and happy summer!



District Rider Education

ATGATT – What is it?

All The Gear All The Time!

- Helmet, motorcycle specific helmet that's DOT approved.
- Jacket, motorcycle specific or equivalent protection. High density abrasion resistant material with visibility features (reflective piping or hi-viz colors). Personal requirement- armor on elbows/shoulders/spine.
- Gloves, motorcycle specific or equivalent protection. Abrasion resistant with armor or extra protective material on palm and knuckles.
- Pants, motorcycle specific. Kevlar, leather, or other dense abrasion-resistant material. Personal requirement- armor on hips/knees.
- Boots, either motorcycle boots or leather boots that cover the ankle. Must fully surround all of the ankle and be made of a tough material that can protect from impacts and mild lateral crush.

Full gear. **Fool's gear.**

Crash helmet. Get into the best one you can buy. It's the single most important piece of protective clothing you can wear on a bike.

Bonehead

Gloves are essential. It's your hands that hit the road first when you come off. Keep them covered with thick leather gloves for protection and better control in cold or hot weather.

Hands as nature. You could even say — in the raw.

Warm protective waterproof jacket. It costs a little extra but it could save your hide. There are safer ways to act cool.

Skinflint.

Thick strong trousers. Protection against cold — protection in a spill.

And you thought housemaids knee looked rough.

Strong boots or shoes. These give more positive control of brakes and gears. And protect the feet.

Footloose. Feels good and cool. Until you come off.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY **It's a state of mind.**

Ministry of Transport



From the District Trainer

Training classes are being reviewed and a schedule will be created. I will keep both chapters informed of dates and topics, as soon as I have it completed.

In the meantime, please let me know if you have any specific needs and I will consider scheduling them.

What's Happening in Vermont?

VT K

VT Chapter K July Notes (submitted by Lynn J. Gauthier)

Chapter K's July monthly meeting was held on July 8th at JP's in Essex. There were eleven (11) members and guests in attendance.



On July 16th several of us rode to Burke, NY to the home of Fred & Mary Bausch (our Chapter K members from New York). There we had a potluck BBQ and an enjoyable ride both over and back.



2017 New England District Rally 2017

BACK TO BASICS

RIDING, RIDING & SOCIALIZING



Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Ctr.

STURBRIDGE, MA, JULY 27, 28 & 29 2017

Numerous guided, self-guided & destination rides on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Rides will include the MA Berkshire Mountains, Green Mountains of VT, possibly the NY Adirondacks and rides in and around NH
~ Sunrise rides all three days! ~



After a long day couple of days in the saddle, join us Friday afternoon for a relaxing

"Beach Fiesta"

Dress up in your favorite Fiesta beach attire and hangout with a couple hundred of your friends.



Wrap up Thursday evening with us lakeside around the **FIRE-PIT** from 8:30pm / 10:30pm. Kick back & relax under the stars, we'll tell a few lies and reminisce about the good 'ole days...



Friday late afternoon ~ Optional Mexican fare dinner;

With a fantastic variety of your favorite flavorful Mexican dishes *(optional, American dishes also available).*



