



GWRRA



Region N

Land of the Sky Wings

GWRRA Chapter NC-I

Asheville, North Carolina

gwrranci.org



NC District



Chapter NC-I

Next Meeting: Eat at 9 am, Meet at 10 am, Saturday, February 26, 2011

February 2011

GWRRA Chapter NC-I

Meets on the 4th Saturday of each month at J&S Cafeteria, Westridge Market Place, 900 Smokey Park Hwy, Enka NC, (828) 665-1969
Visit gwrranci.org for the latest information.

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Chapter Directors

On the Road Again in February ??

Greetings once again to all of the chapter friends, and to those outside of Chapter NC -I as well. Each day, we look outside and feel spring coming on. It won't be long before even the most wimpy of us (read: Al & Jean) are going to want to clear off the cobwebs of winter and hit the open road on our Wing. I've already warned my brothers and sisters that it is almost time for stories of our adventures again, to which they emitted an audible groan. I think it is actually envy that is causing their sour taste.

I want to give you some updated information this month about what's happening this year, in particular at the district level. At the end of January, several of us attended the annual Ops (Operations) Meeting in Winston-Salem to meet the new district officers, and find out what's happening in NC this year. I thought I would give you a little update and make you aware of some very important dates that we will need to know.

First, our new District Directors are Andrew & Vickie Butcher, who are taking over for Dennis and Kathy Hull, who served ably for the last 3 years. As is normal, they have appointed all new officers for their staff, so we will be seeing many new faces as they visit. Of particular interest and importance to Chapter I is our new Assistant District Directors for the West, Tom and Dina Towey. Tom and Dina are former CD's of Chapter G-2 in Waynesville, and well known to most of us, as they have visited us many times, and have participated with Chapter I on numerous occasions. We welcome them to the position, and look forward to working closely with them in the future.

As you know, Wings Over the Smokies

(WOS) is our major event in NC each year, and this year is going to be better than ever, in many ways. The biggest news is that they are enclosing the Davis Arena at the Ag Center where we meet. The Davis Arena, you may remember, is the large, dirt-floored building with tent sides where many portions of the events have been held in the past. Now it is being floored, enclosed and air conditioned, and the plan is to move most of the smaller vendors inside where it will be comfortable, and we will all be more free with our money, right? It should be a great addition for us. And, by moving the vendors inside, they will be parking us inside the gates, where the vendors used to be.

There are several dates that you need to know about, and I thought I would just list them for you here. The rally will be held on September 22-24, 2011.

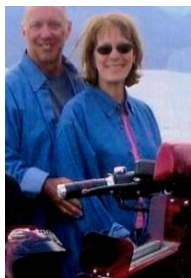
By April 9, I have to submit our chapter work commitment to the district. We have already committed to providing tours for visitors once again, and are working hard to get them all ready far in advance.

If you are interested in submitting a rally logo for the contest to determine one for WOS, that deadline is April 16. See the district website for details.

By July 17, we must turn in the order form and payment for rally worker shirts. That means that we have to know well before then that you are fully registered, and that you will work with us at the rally.



Al & Jean Warren



Dave & Dianne Smith

Hi All,

Have we been having some great weather for February or what? After the last couple of months, I was expecting a rough February and March and was pleasantly surprised to see the temps rolling into 50s and 60s.

Last Sunday Dianne and I decided to get on Humpty Dumpty and rip off a few miles. We decided to stick to riding the interstates because even though we have had a string of very warm days I still had concerns about possible frost spots in those locations where the sun doesn't shine very much. I wanted to stay away from the higher elevations for the same reasons. So, riding south on I-26, we just let the miles flow.

We rode to Spartanburg where we stopped for lunch. After touring the town for a while we headed over to Greer. Thank goodness for the GPS! I have the hardest time figuring out where I am at when riding in Greer or Greenville. After that we headed up 25 toward NC. Even though everything was still winter brown, the sun was shining, and the warmth on my face felt good. Pulling into the garage, I checked the odometer and it showed 187 miles for the day. I was a little surprised since it just seemed like a little day ride and, even though we had been gone for 4 hours, it just went by so quickly.

This year is shaping up to be one of the best riding years that NC-I has experienced in quite a while. Even though we are known for riding a lot, it is my impression that we are going to go to a lot of really cool places this year.

While I am on the subject of cool places to go, the decision has been made for where we will be going for our spring overnight trip. Let me just say this. Part of the weekend will involve riding down a canal on a boat tour that will take you past the historic Sibley Mill and the Confederate Powder works. Are you interested in making this trip with your NC-I family? Are you wondering where we are going? Well if you really want to find out you will need to join us at our next monthly meeting where this exciting location will be announced. As yet, the date has not been determined, but I would expect that decision to be made real soon.

Assistant Chapter Directors Enjoying the Great Weather

With spring rapidly approaching, you are going to hear a lot of talks from Ron and Charles about having your hardware tuned up and ready to go. What about your software? This month, NC-I is going to have a very special speaker that I know you are not going to want to miss who will inform you about tuning up your software. Judith Rogers from State Farm Insurance will be sharing tips to help make sure your investment is secured.

Judith has been with Chad McMahon State Farm agency in Waynesville since 2008, but she brings with her over 26 years of experience in the insurance industry. Judith is a licensed representative helping clients with motorcycle insurance as well as auto, home, commercial, and banking.

I thought I had shopped enough that I had a very good and reasonable motorcycle insurance policy, but, after talking with Judith, I was able to increase my coverage and do it with a 13% reduction in premium.

Judith will be talking with us about different considerations to look at when purchasing motorcycle insurance and answering specific questions that you may have. As always she will be available after the meeting to cover any questions you might have concerning your own personal policy. Judith and her husband Bill are avid motorcycle riders as well as good friends with Dianne and me. We have ridden together on many occasions, so, to repeat myself, this is a meeting that you will not want to miss.

Allow me just a moment at the end of my article to add some personal thoughts. This has felt like a very long winter. The weather was harsh and made getting around very difficult. As a result of that plus working to many hours, Dianne and I have not been able to spend as much time with our NC-I family as we would have liked. Adjustments are being made to the work schedule and the weather is finally starting to break. We have missed seeing all of you and we are really looking forward to catching up and riding together. YOU are the reason that we enjoy GWRRA so much, and when you can't make meeting for whatever reason YOU are missed. With that said, I am looking forward to LOTS of BIG HUGS from y'all. Until we meet again, all I have to say is just**Go 4 It!!!!**

David and Dianne Smith

GWRRA Chapter NC-I Sponsorship

Your ad in this newsletter will be sent 12 times a year (once a month) to our chapter members, GWRRA chapters all over the state of North Carolina, the NC State Directors and others. It will also be posted on the Chapter NC-I Website: gwrranci.org. Your support is greatly appreciated and will help Chapter NC-I to operate throughout the year. *Thank You.*

Pricing:	Business Card Size = \$60 (Basic Rate)	1/4 page = \$105 (12.5% Discount)	1/2 page = \$185 (23% Discount)	Full page = \$32 (\$33% Discount)
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Will & Melody
NC-I Couple of the
Year

NC-I Couple of the Year **What a Surprise That Was !!**

Hey, everybody!

A few weeks ago, I couldn't even spell Chaptrr Kuplle, and now I are one! Or, we are one. Or, maybe two.

Anyway, Melody and I are honored to have been selected to represent Chapter NC-I as the Chapter Couple of the Year. We had no idea what that entailed, but after attending the Chapter Couple get-together at the Operations Meeting in Winston-Salem, we're starting to get a clue.

Mostly, it's about meeting people and having fun. We plan to visit other chapters when we can, and capture the Chapter Couples plaque when we can to encourage people from other chapters to visit Asheville's own Chapter NC-I.

I heard that some chapter couples have already visited a dozen or more other chapters since the beginning of the year. Evidently, some people are more retired than we are; Melody and I have hit nowhere near that many chapters so far. In fact, the only chapter we have visited so far this year meets at J&S Cafeteria in Candler. Oh, wait... that's our chapter! We promise to do better as the weather improves.


Here's a little bit about us. I'm originally from western Tennessee, and Melody is from Long

Island, New York. If you have been with Chapter NC-I for any length of time, you probably know that we are both retired U.S. Air Force Master Sergeants. That means we have a combined 40 years of military service in exotic locales such as Martlesham Heath, England; Bitburg, Germany; Incirlik, Turkey; Yokota, Japan; and Biloxi, Mississippi. We met in Germany and were married there.

I have been riding motorcycles off-and-on since 1972. I have been a GWRRA member since shortly after I bought my seventh motorcycle in 1998, my first and only Gold Wing (so far). We moved to Asheville in 1999 and have been with the Asheville chapter since then.

Melody and I rode a pair of Suzuki GS550L motorcycles in the early '80s. She bought her second motorcycle, a Suzuki Burgman 650, in 2007, and she became an official GWRRA family member a year or so ago. So far, her bike has over 10,000 miles, and mine has over 114,000. And, yes, though the Burgman's back seat isn't quite as cushy as a Gold Wing's, I'm comfortable being the co-rider behind Melody.

Wil & Melody Higdon
Chapter Couple of the Year




Daggett Carpentry

45 White Pine Circle
Fletcher, NC 28732

Phone: 828-654-7904
Cell: 828-231-2515

Russ Daggett
Owner



"The Deck Tech"



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This year's theme for WOS is "Vegas in the Mountains", and there are some exciting new twists this year. Of course, with your full registration you will receive one chance to win the brand new Gold Wing at the end of the rally. Only fully registered attendees are eligible. A change this year is that they will NOT be raffling off another motorcycle, as they have in the past. Andrew's comment was that every year, whoever wins the cycle is wanting to know if anyone wants to buy it, even before they leave the arena. So, this year, we will be selling tickets to win COLD, HARD CASH. That's right, the tickets will be for a chance to walk away from WOS with an extra \$5,000 in your pocket. That is **FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS!** You don't have to be a motorcyclist to enjoy that kind of prize, and it ought to be really easy to sell those \$5 tickets by the bookfull. We'll have them at the next meeting on February 26, so be sure to pick yours up that day. There's no limit on the number of tickets a person can purchase.

So, set aside the dates right now for WOS. September 22-24, 2011. Get your full registration in early – I have lots of registration forms, so we'll get them out at the next meeting. Pick up your raffle tickets and start selling them right away. Get ready to work at least one shift during the

rally, so we have plenty of help.

Also, as usual, we are looking for favorite rides to sell at the rally. Unguided, but having complete directions. And if you have pictures to go along with the write-up, that's even better. We've got a number of them from prior years, but we're always looking for new ones, so get out there and ride, and have your co-rider write down directions and mileage while you go. It will give him something to do.

Don't forget, we're planning to go to the International Motorcycle Show in Greenville, SC, following our meeting on February 26. If you haven't let me know that you would like one of the \$4 discount coupons, give me a call or send me an email. That brings the admission price down to \$11 each, but they are only good if purchased online.

Until we see you on the 26th, be safe and happy each day.

**Al & Jean Warren
Chapter Directors**

Can you Believe this Weather



*GWRRRA Chapter NC-I Calendar***Western North Carolina GWRRRA Chapter Meetings**

Asheville Chapter NC-I: 4th Saturday of each month. Eat at 9:00 am, Meet at 10:00 am

J&S Cafeteria, Westridge Market Place, 900 Smokey Park Hwy, Enka NC, (828) 665-1969. Call Al & Jean Warren at (828) 628-1757 for more info. gwrranci.org

Waynesville Chapter NC-G2: 1st Saturday of each month. Eat at 4:00 pm, Meet at 5:00 pm

Fat Buddies Ribs & BBQ, 193 Waynesville Plaza (off Russ Avenue), Waynesville NC. Call Thomas & Dina Towey (828) 926-6175 for more info. gwrrancg2.org

Hendersonville Chapter NC-M2: 3rd Saturday of each month. Eat at 8:00 am, Meet at 9:00 am

Mills River Restaurant, 4467 Boylston Highway, Mills River. About 3 miles south of Ashville Airport on NC280/NC-191. Call Larry & Kathy Vorbrich at (828) 692-7429 for more info.

Check the Chapter NC-I Calendar at gwrranci.org for the most up-to-date information on event changes and new events.

March 27, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Meeting - Eat at 9:00 am, Meet at 10:00 am. Details above.

April 3, Saturday - Chapter NC-G2 Meeting - Eat at 4:00 pm, Meet at 5:00 am. Details above.

April 4, Sunday - Easter

April 10, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Second Saturday Ride - Departure point & destination to be announced.

April 12, Monday - Chapter NC-I Cook's Night Out - Eat at 6:30 pm. Eddie Spaghetti, 1378 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, NC 28803, (828) 277-9300

April 15, Thursday - Tax Day

April 17, Saturday - Chapter NC-M2 Meeting - Eat at 8:00 am, Meet at 9:00 am. Details above.

April 21, Wednesday - Administrative Professionals Day

April 24, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Meeting - Eat at 9:00 am, Meet at 10:00 am. Details above.

May 1, Saturday - Chapter NC-G2 Meeting - Eat at 4:00 pm, Meet at 5:00 am. Details above.

May 8, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Second Saturday Ride - Departure point & destination to be announced.

May 9, Sunday - Mother's Day

May 10, Monday - Chapter NC-I Cook's Night Out - Eat at 6:30 pm. Piazza Restaurant, 4 Olde Eastwood Village Boulevard, Asheville NC 28803, (828) 298-7224

May 15, Saturday - Chapter NC-M2 Meeting - Eat at 8:00 am, Meet at 9:00 am. Details above.

May 22, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Meeting - Eat at 9:00 am, Meet at 10:00 am. Details above.

May 31, Monday - Memorial Day

June 5, Saturday - Chapter NC-G2 Meeting - Eat at 4:00 pm, Meet at 5:00 am. Details above.

June 12, Saturday - Chapter NC-I Second Saturday Ride - Departure point & destination to be announced.



Gold Wing Road Riders Association

GWRRA Chapter NC-I
Asheville, North Carolina
gwrranci.org

Robin & Tammy Ferguson
75 Fairmont RD.
Candler NC 28715

Gold Wing Road Riders Association Chapter NC-I

Asheville, North Carolina
gwrranci.org

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Chapter Couple

Open

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