



**Region "E"**  
 May 20, 2011

## Gold Wing Road Riders Association

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<b>Couple Of The Year</b>	Rick & Robin Saunders	<a href="mailto:rs10473@tconl.com">rs10473@tconl.com</a>	402-895-7965

Nebraska Chapter "O" meets on the second Saturday of the month at D&K's Gretna Café, 104 Glenmore Drive (near highway 6&31) Gretna, Nebraska 402-332-3273. [Breakfast & chat @ 8 a.m., meeting at 9 a.m.](#) Come join us for a gathering of *Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge!*

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### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### May Birthdays

Ron Osborn                      May 28  
 Ron Stetson                     May 28  
 Gary Stegner                    May 29

#### May Anniversary's

Bill & Kitty Schmahl            May 04  
 Greg & Donna Mitchell        May 13  
 Bob & Doris Roberts            May 23  
 Roger & Marty Fawcett        May 30

### **June Birthdays**

Marie Spry	June 05
Cheryl Papson	June 06
George Lapka	June 07
Kim Johnston	June 18
Doug Mundy	June 19
Doris Roberts	June 25
Christy Hatter	June 26

### **June Anniversary's**

Ed & Christy Hatter	June 06
Rick & Robin Saunders	June 18
Doug & Vee Mundy	June 20
Roger & Denise Wessels	June 28

## What's Happening in Chapter "O"



### ***From the Directors Desk*** *Gary & Janita Stegner*



The weather in May has broken some records, from a high of 97 to a low of 48 degrees in a 24 hour period. For now back to the four wheelers and the bikes stay in the shed. But wait a day and it will be too warm to ride, this is what we have to look forward to in Nebraska.

We had 34 members at our May meeting which included changing of the guards like they say. Terry & Carol Pool were installed as our chapter MEC (Membership Enhancement Coordinators) and Rodger & Marty Fawcett became our new Asst, Directors. We welcome them and know they will be a great asset to our chapter.

Chapter NE-O assisted again this year with Cycle Fest helping fit helmets and putting air in the bikes for kids along with promoting safety.

Our dinner ride this month was sponsored by Gary & Janita Stegner going to the Sour Mash Bar and Grille in Modale Iowa. It was Mexican night and the food was great.

We are having a 2 wheel bike training class May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-12;30 at the old Hy Vee parking lot south of Oak View Mall.

Everyone with much excitement is finalizing their plans for the June Rally in South Dakota.

Lucky winners on the 50-50 were;

Terry Pool \$25.00

Vee Mundy \$20.00

Robin Saunders \$10.00

Have a great month and ride safe – when you are able to ride.

P>S> Our June meeting will be one week early On June 4<sup>th</sup> same time same place.

Till next month ride safe:

Gary & Janita



***Assistant Directors***  
*Roger & Marty Fawcett*



Marty and I would like to thank the chapter for selecting us as your New Assistant Chapter Directors. We look forward to serving the members.

We would like to thank Rick and Robin Saunders for their outstanding job as the previous Assistant Chapter Directors and wish them the best of luck in their new assignment as Assistant District Chapter Directors. I know that they will take GWRRA to a new level.

On May 15<sup>th</sup> chapter O helped with cycle fest at Chalco Hills Recreation Park; even though the weather was not ideal we still had a record number of kids with their bikes. All bikes were inspected by the Bike Rack for minor repairs, and Chapter O checked the tire pressure and fitted helmets. A record amount of bike helmets were passed out to the kids provided by the Bike Rack. The Sarpy County Sheriff Department along with the Omaha Police Department ran the Bike Rodeo which all the kids loved.

At this time we are three weeks away from our trip to South Dakota. As Rick has mention in our last meeting try to find a travel buddy who is leaving when you are. Be sure to do your own safety inspection on your Bike.

Friends for Fun, Safety And Knowledge Says It All.

Assistant Chapter Directors

Rodger and Marty Fawcett



## *Rider Education*

Mark & Pam Burwell



As you finally get back into the riding season, remember that our long break from riding motorcycles was also a long break for motorists from seeing motorcycles. As a result, it may take some of them a while to start recognizing that we are out there, again. You can, however, take action to make yourself more conspicuous and help those motorists to see you.

If it's time for a new helmet, consider purchasing one of a light or bright color (e.g., white, silver, or "hi-viz" yellow). Several motorcycle safety studies have shown light or brightly colored helmets contribute to the reduction of accidents. The same studies have also shown increasing the use of reflective or fluorescent clothing could considerably reduce motorcycle crash related injury and death. If you ride in low light conditions, consider wearing gear that has incorporated reflective material and using reflective applications on various surfaces (e.g., helmets, body panels, etc.).

Another tactic you can use to make yourself more visible to motorists is lane positioning. When in traffic, maintain enough distance between yourself and the vehicle in front of you to ensure others can see you. When in two-way traffic, riding in the left track of the lane helps make you more visible to oncoming traffic (however, be sure to take conditions into account when choosing lane position). When approaching an intersection, be aware of cars that may pull into your lane from the right or that may turn left in front of you. A slight swerve or wiggle before an intersection will cause your headlight to appear to move from side to side to traffic in front of you. The perceived motion could be enough to get someone to notice you, if they hadn't already, and hopefully keep them from entering your path. Also consider installing a modulating headlight to add to your conspicuity.

These are just a few examples of things you can do to make yourself more visible to motorist. Other drivers are responsible for seeing us, but it never hurts for us to do everything we can do to help ensure they CAN see us.

Ride safely and have FUN!  
Mark and Pam Burwell



## *From our Membership Enhancement Coordinators* *Terry and Carol Pool*

From the VERY NEW Member Enhancement Coordinator . . .

Hello everyone, for those of you, we have not met, my name is Terry Pool and my wife's name is Carol. I like to take a moment a share a little more about us. We make our home in Blair, where I serve as Chaplain for Good Shepherd Lutheran Community, adjacent to the Blair Memorial Community Hospital and First Lutheran Church. I have been an ordained pastor for almost 30 years. My wife Carol is a proud KU alumni and trained as a concert pianist. She was widowed before we met and her late husband had been Episcopal priest, serving parishes in Colorado and Texas. I had been divorced for a number of years when we were introduced on E-Harmony (yes it does work!). Carol worked as a music teacher and assisted her late husband as a choir director in the parishes that they served. She is also a part-time Spiritual Director. We have seven children between us and ten grandchildren. Our children are spread all over, Virginia, Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Oregon. Needless to say, we do a lot of traveling in our spare time.

I bought my first motorcycle, a Yamaha Super 80, back in 1969 while I was in the Marines in Beaufort, South Carolina. I had it only a couple of months when I received orders to Viet Nam and had to sell it. Years later when my children were growing up, I dreamed of having a big touring motorcycle. Then three years ago a friend of mine who also works for Good Shepherd had a Gold Wing and suggested I get one. When I approached Carol with the idea, she was hesitant at first and asked me if having a Gold Wing was on my Bucket List. Well, I couldn't lie . . . ! I bought a 2006 Gold Wing used and then took the motorcycle safety course. Carol road with me a few times in the first season and then took a hiatus because of an old hip injury. This winter she had a new hip put in and is still regaining her confidence with the new hip. We're both pretty outgoing people and we are looking forward to getting know all you!

Ride Safe  
Terry & Carol Pool



## *From Our Members*



### Calendar of Events

**2 Wheeler Parking Lot Practice, Everyone invited!**

9am – 1pm, Saturday, May 21 The practice has been **cancelled** due to weather.

**Bike Night at Quaker Steak and Lube Council Bluffs. Meet behind Comfort Inn 72<sup>nd</sup> @ Grover. Clutches out 6:30.**

6:30pm , Wednesday Every Wednesday night.

**Chapter-O Get Together- being conducted one week early-for this month**

9am – 11am, Saturday, June 4

[D & K Cafe, Gretna, NE](#)

**Ridin' Out West-NE-SD-ND-District Rally**

Thursday, June 9 through June 12.

Just a site for some good riding in Colorado from Doug and Vee.

[http://www.motorcyclecolorado.com/great\\_roads.htm](http://www.motorcyclecolorado.com/great_roads.htm)

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Consider a lunch ride to Freedom Rock just north of Greenfield Iowa.  
Ray repaints the rock before Memorial Day each year.

Thank You Veterans for our Freedom.  
Painted by Ray "Bubba" Sorensen II



If you went on a nice trip or read a nice article, email me a summary of it to share with the club. We are always looking for the next adventure.

Thanks: Jim Drawbaugh (Editor).

[www.jdrawbaugh@msn.com](mailto:www.jdrawbaugh@msn.com)

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### Phone Tree – Try it – You’ll Like It

Scheduled rides are great! We all make our calendars and plan to make that ride. But sometimes no ride is scheduled - it’s a great night to ride somewhere for dinner. Or a beautiful weekend day and you want to ride. You could ride alone but you would like to share the ride with friends.

Now is the time to **USE THE PHONE TREE!**

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# District News & Links

(From the District Website)

No input from the district this month.

## Region "E" News

*From the Region "E" Newsletter*

### ***The Power of the Wave...***

One of the first words we learn as a baby is **HELLO**, which is one of the most powerful and rewarding words. It is definitely better than saying goodbye. Saying **HELLO** to someone when you first meet them immediately puts them at ease and you start a conversation on a most friendly word. What does saying **HELLO** have to do with riding motorcycles and riding them safely? Well, let's look at this just a little deeper.

First, let's agree that a **FRIENDLY WAVE** is the same thing as saying **HELLO**. It seems to me one of the first things we learn when we start riding with **GWRRA**, next to food and ice cream, is that the members are one of the most **FUN** loving, patriotic, hugging and **WAVING** group you will ever to know. When out riding, a friendly **WAVE** to other motorcycles is letting them know we both enjoy the same thing. When we extend a friendly **WAVE** to other road users, including pedestrians, it makes them notice us. That's exactly what we want, to **SEE** and be **SEEN**. It also lets the recipients of our **WAVE** know that we are a friendly group and enjoy people. A **WAVE** to a child is worth gold. They will notice, wave back and tell their parents so now the adults are aware of our presence. We have been **SEEN**.

Oh, nuts, that person didn't **WAVE** back so I'm not going to **WAVE** anymore. **NO... NO... NO...** keep **WAVING** as not only do you want the person to whom you **WAVED** to notice but also the tons of other observers out there as once again we want to be **SEEN**. Friendliness is so rare nowadays; it's disarming, so use the **WAVE** to let people know that we are **FRENIDS** out having **FUN**. Respect begets respect and a **WAVE** will help you start a lot of conversations on your outing.

You never know, you may meet the same person you just waved to at your next stop.

The simple **WAVE** can be our first step on being noticed on the roadways. Join us and start **WAVING** even more than you do now. Not only will you see a lot of people smiling at you, the **WAVE** will put you and your co-rider in a very happy frame of mind. Just try it, you may like it.

***...Use the Power... WAVE***

### **A NOTE TO THE COUPLE OF THE YEAR (page 1)**

**Congratulations!** You have been selected to be *ambassadors* and *spokespersons* for GWRRA, which is quite an honor. Your fellow members feel you are extra special and so do we. You have gotten to this point by your continued work and support of GWRRA, **your** Chapter, District, and Region, and we wish to thank you for what you have done.

You are probably asking "So, now what do we do? What is expected of us?" The best advice anyone can give you is to "HAVE FUN" and "BE YOURSELF"! Being Couple of the Year can sometimes be a little scary, as you become aware of your new-found fame. But most of all, it's a fun time, a once-in-a-lifetime experience that will reward you with many wonderful memories. You will meet a lot of new people and make a lot of new friends. You will also form a special bond with your fellow Couple of the Year.

If you have any questions about what will be expected of you during your "reign," check with your Chapter, District, or Region Director, Membership Enhancement Coordinator, Couple of the Year Coordinator or past Couples of the Year. If they don't have the answers, they will know how to find

them. We hope you will find the information in this manual very helpful. *We wish to thank all of you for all you have done.*

## **The Top 10 Reasons**

### **Why Your Chapter Needs a Couple of the Year (page 24)**

1. Selecting a Chapter Couple of the Year is a way your chapter can “give back” to a couple who has worked hard for the chapter and deserves recognition. Being Chapter Couple of the Year should be viewed as an *honor* and not a *job*.
2. Visitation with other chapters by the Chapter Couple of the Year can increase inter-chapter activities and improve relationships with other chapters.
3. Chapter spirit can increase when chapter participants show support and demonstrate their pride for their Chapter Couple of the Year.
4. Selection as Chapter Couple of the Year often leads to personal growth for the couple, and they usually take on more responsibility in leadership positions.
5. The Chapter Couple of the Year can bring more awareness within the community about our association which ultimately leads to new members. Wearing a shirt or vest with their Couple of the Year designation often causes others to ask about the title. News articles about them and public appearances by them can also bring awareness.
6. Through participation in the District Selection Process, a Chapter Couple of the Year can help gain recognition for your chapter within the district.
7. As your Chapter Couple of the Year visits other chapters, Couples of the Year from those other chapters will, in turn, visit your chapter and probably bring others with them. Increased visitation translates into several positive things including increased revenue for your chapter through 50/50 sales or other means.
8. Your Chapter Couple of the Year can promote your chapter’s upcoming events as they visit other chapters.
9. Chapter Couples of the Year can, often do, provide support to their chapter through Recruiting and Retention efforts such as contacting potential members and those about-to-expire. It’s a natural activity since the honored couple is likely to be enthusiastic about GWRRA and their chapter, and eager to “spread the word.”
10. With the excitement and enthusiasm usually exhibited by Chapter Couples of the Year, they often are found serving as cheerleaders for the chapter staff and can be important in maintaining strong chapter morale.

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If you still don’t want to be in the selection process at your District level, I would still recommend that you turn in a photo so that you can represent your chapter on the Couple of the Year recognition board at the District Convention. It is important for everyone to recognize every chapter’s Couple of the Year. You are an important member of your chapter and this honor should be recognized by everyone. Remember we think you are “special”.

Thank you for your support of this very important program.

“We are listening, What is your solution?”

“Building Relationships”

Dan & Lynn Rasmussen

## **National News**

*From the Wingin’ It Newsletter*

Wing Ding is going very well. We are now, as of this writing almost 40% ahead of last years preregistrations. We also have more vendors signed up than last year, so this years event is going to be an awesome one...don't miss out, sign up [here!](#)

The Trikes & Bikes Rally is doing well, too. We have added all the Rider Ed seminars, as well as a Commercial Seminar to the event schedule. The Welcome Party announcement is below for you to read. We want to thank the Bowling Green CVB and hotels for bringing back an old friend of GWRRA's to be the DJ for this event...Scooter Davis. For those who may remember Wing Ding 28 in Nashville, he was our DJ there too! Sign up [here](#) for the T&B Rally! And we want to thank Wah Bah's restaurant for hosting the event.

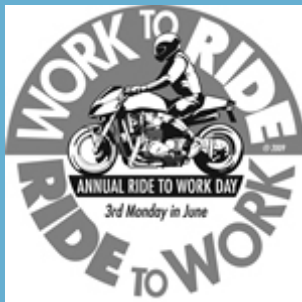
## **Memorial Day-USA**

**Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May (May 30 in 2011). Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. soldiers who died while in the military service. First enacted to honor Union and Confederate soldiers following the American Civil War, it was extended after World War I to honor Americans who have died in all wars.**

**Begun as a ritual of remembrance and reconciliation after the Civil War, by the early 20th century, Memorial Day was an occasion for more general expressions of memory, as ordinary people visited the graves of their deceased relatives, whether they had served in the military or not. It also became a long weekend increasingly devoted to shopping, family get-togethers, fireworks, trips to the beach, and national media events such as the Indianapolis 500 auto race, held since 1911 on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.**



### **Reminder**



June 20, 2011 is Ride To Work Day.  
Check out [www.ridetowork.org](http://www.ridetowork.org) for all the details.

I want to remind folks about the GWRRA Wing Ding Page, [www.wing-ding.org](http://www.wing-ding.org)

As you know, Wing Ding will be in Knoxville, Tennessee from July 6-9, 2011.

Remember to register for Wing Ding early to get your discount and see this page for all the information about this great event...schedule, vendors, sponsors, special events, etc.

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