



OKLAHOMA Chapter "J"

Edmond, Guthrie, North Oklahoma City

February 2009

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Region H "The Hospitality Region"

Arkansas - Kansas - Louisiana - **Oklahoma** - Texas

www.gwrra-okj.com

FRIENDS FOR FUN • SAFETY • KNOWLEDGE

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From Your Chapter Director

Hi all - a belated Happy Valentine's Day. I hope everyone has been surviving our usual as well as unusual Oklahoma weather - warm, cold, sleet/ice and tornados all within the span of a couple of weeks. But better weather will be here before we know it. And with that comes riding and rally season. We will be planning group rides to every Oklahoma chapter anniversary function, and I urge everyone to make going along a priority. We need the support of other chapters to make our anniversary rally a success and history has shown the more support we provide to other chapters, the more they support us. And speaking of our anniversary, block your calendars for August 22 which has been selected as this year's date. We'll be talking more about options and ideas for this year's event over time.

Continuing with the monthly meeting theme idea, the obvious theme for our March meeting is St. Patrick's Day. Either wear or bring something theme related to the meeting - ideas range from green St. Patrick's apparel to Irish poems or limericks (please, nothing beginning with "there once was a girl from Nantucket").

Don't forget to check your bikes over good before riding - especially tires - even if it hasn't been that long since the last ride. We all know how temperature fluctuations affect tire pressures! Have a great month!

See you at the meeting, Jack

Region H Rally - "Be A Sport in Marshall"

March 19-21 Marshall TX Civic Center, 2501 East End Blvd S (Hwy 59)
Hampton Inn 903-927-0079 www.gwrra-h.org

I hope at least some of you are planning to make the trip to Marshall for the upcoming Region H Rally. This year's theme is "Be a Sport" where everyone is encouraged to wear apparel that shows support for their favorite sports team. There will be a lot of exciting activities (tours of the Sabine Mine and Motor Trike facilities, Shreveport casinos, downtown Marshall poker walk, etc, etc). There will also be plenty of opportunities to improve your personal knowledge as well as riding skills via the various seminars. Of course endless ways to spend your money on goodies and "safety chrome" in the vendor areas. And the never-to-be-forgotten talent competition! But the best part will be catching up with all of our friends, some of whom we only see once or twice a year, to share the passion for our motorcycles.

GWRRR members are always looking for ways to "pay it forward" or give back to the community. There will be two opportunities to do so thru something new at this year's Region Rally. One is by bringing a non-perishable food item to the rally. These will be donated to the Marshall TX Food Pantry. The second will involve a bike wash being done by the Boys / Girls Club of Marshall. They will be instructed in advance on the do's and don'ts of washing a Gold Wing so as not to do any harm to the bike - and will stay completely away from the windshield area.

See ya in Marshall!
Jack

Happy Birthday

FEB 23 Jeff Wagner
MAR 7 Barbara Bird
MAR 8 Evert Carroll
MAR 18 Angel Baker

Happy Anniversary

FEB 19 Tom and Marcie Blair

SAFETY IS FOR LIFE

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Friends Having FUN

JAN 15 Chapter J Get Together

We had a great crowd at our first meeting of 2009. We thank Rick and Robin for making the trip to Edmond. They swore in the new Chapter leaders and filled everyone in on Wing Ding events and Oklahoma responsibilities. We welcomed our visitor Richard Smith and hope he and his wife will join us whenever they can. Jack introduced his new officers: Assistant Chapter Directors, Larry and Mary; Rider Educator, Walter; Treasurer, Bill Duvall; Chapter Historians, Wes and Jeanie; and Kathleen volunteered to be our Sunshine Lady. Walter talked some about the Rider Education Program and the four different levels. Congratulations to Jack who recently achieved Level IV Master Tour Rider. Bill McIntosh will be on his way to Braum's after winning the \$\$ gift card for proudly wearing Chapter J apparel. Lucky Wes took home the 50/50. Contingency prizes were won by Bruce, Jim, Gary and Janice, Evert, and Jeff and Danielle. Wilford was in possession of the wing nut, but I hear there are a couple of new contenders for the jewelry at the February meeting. Hope to see everyone there!

JAN 17 'Tour Oklahoma' Awards Luncheon

A large group gathered at the Payne County Expo Center to enjoy the barbeque luncheon and awards ceremony sponsored by Honda of Stillwater and the X Chapter. Over 200 had signed up for the 'Tour Oklahoma' ride program. Honda of Stillwater had the new '09 Gold Wings on display which gave everyone the chance to ooohh and aaaahh. Steve Cotton had put together a slideshow of the many pictures sent in as part of the competition which was fun to see. There were several dozen contingency prizes given away. The prize money was divided and everyone hoped to hear their name called. Vera Fleming (Chapter N) won \$250, Tammy Burns (Chapter X) won \$500, and the grand prize of \$750 went to Chapter N's Dwight McBride. Congratulations to all the winners.

JAN 22 Where Were You? (Carolyn Duvall)

If you don't know what we're talking about, you must have missed it. What you missed was a great ride on the hottest day of the year. That was Thursday, January 22nd, and we saw 80 degrees on the bike and a bank. Jack, Wes, Jeanie, Bill and I left Edmond at 11:00, heading east on Rt. 66. There must have been something going on here because there were lots of bikes coming this way. Maybe they were heading for Pops.

We made our way through the metropolises of Meeker and Prague before arriving at the Catfish Roundup in Seminole. Some had catfish and others enjoyed ribs. If laughter is good medicine, we all had a couple spoonfuls after reading the birthday cards Jeanie purchased. Stroud, Davenport, and Chandler are pretty much unchanged from the last time we rode through. We did pass a new eating place, The Boundary Restaurant on Rt. 66. We need to put that on a dinner ride.

Sorry you missed the ride. Hope you can make the next one.

JAN 29 Steak and Catfish Barn (Jack Wagner)

Dinner at the Steak and Catfish Barn was a real treat. Those enjoying the food and conversation were Larry & Mary, Bill & Carolyn, Gary & Janice, Walt & Karen, Wes, Jeannie and Dominic (one of their twin grandsons), Don & Cynthia and Jack. No one had ever been there before (at least not since it became the Steak and Catfish Barn). I think everyone was surprised at how large the interior was as well as the size of the Thursday evening crowd. We all had plenty to eat with some taking home leftovers as the portions were good size. Those opting for the "all you can eat" catfish didn't come anywhere close to the records posted on the wall for most catfish fillets eaten - mostly in the upper 40's! Must have been good as just about everyone said they would be going back! I know I will!

Check our website www.gwrra-okj.com for possible changes to our Calendar.

Dinner Rides

- Feb 26 (Thursday) Zio's Italian Kitchen, 2035 S. Meridian, OKC 680-9999
Let Gary or Janice know if you plan to attend 348-6326.
Depart from Edmond 15th St Wal-Mart at 6 p.m.
If weather conditions are NOT Gold Wing friendly, we'll carpool from Wal-Mart!
- Mar 5 (Thursday) Staff / Planning Meeting – Everyone Welcome!
Panera Bread, 1472 S Bryant Ave, Edmond (15th and Bryant)
Meet there at 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 10 (TUESDAY) Visit Chapter W Meeting
Shorty Small's, Reno & Meridian, Oklahoma City
Depart from Edmond 15th St Wal-Mart at 6 p.m.
If weather conditions are NOT Gold Wing friendly, we'll carpool from Wal-Mart!

On The Calendar

- FEB 19 CHAPTER J GATHERING (3rd THURSDAY)
Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler, 33 East 33rd St, Edmond
Eat at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- MAR 1 CHAPTER E ANNIVERSARY "Carnival" 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Bixby Community Center, 211 N. Cabaniss
Hot Dogs, Chili Dogs, Chips, Nachos, Popcorn, Caramel Apples, Cookies, and Fudge
SPECIAL FEATURE: Bring all your extra motorcycle parts and pieces for a swap meet.
A place indoors will be provided for you to display your stuff. Here is your chance to get rid of the extra parts from your garage.
Depart Edmond 15th St Wal-Mart at 11:15 am
- MAR 19 CHAPTER J GATHERING (3rd THURSDAY)
Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler, 33 East 33rd St, Edmond
Eat at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

District/Region Events

- APR 16-18 Louisiana District Rally www.gwrra-la.org
"Let the Good Times Roll - Mardi Gras Madness!"
Lafayette, LA Holiday Inn and Convention Center
2032 NE Evangeline Thruway 800-942-4868
- MAY 14-16 Texas District Rally "Ride into the Real Texas"
Amarillo Convention Center www.gwrra-tx.org
The Ambassador, 3100 I40 Exit 68B, 800-817-0521
- MAY 21-23 Arkansas District Rally "Mountain Memories III"
Embassy Suites NW Arkansas
Rogers, AR www.argwrra-org
- AUG 28-29 Kansas District Rally
Abilene, KS
- OCT 22-24 Oklahoma District Rally / Chapter Homecoming
"Halloween III"
Muskogee Civic Center www.gwrraokla.org

Chapter 'J' Gatherings

We invite everyone to join Chapter J at our monthly get togethers.
We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

WHERE: Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler, 33 E 33rd in Edmond (just east of Broadway, on 33rd)

EAT: At 6:30 pm **MEETING:** At 7:30 pm

Mark these dates and plan to join in the FUN -

Mar 19th Apr 16th May 21st Jun 18th Jul 16th Aug 20th Sep 17th Oct 15th Nov 19th

Chapter 'J' 2009 Watermelon Festival

Mark Your Calendars.....The Date Has Been Set.....August 22ndMore Details Later

Rider Education Program

The Rider Education Program is divided into four levels. Both the Rider and the Co-Rider are eligible for and indeed encouraged to participate in obtaining each of these levels. The program structure is as follows:

LEVEL I	Safe Miles	(Safety by Commitment)
LEVEL II	Tour Rider	(Safety by Education)
LEVEL III	Certified Tour Rider	(Safety by Preparedness)
LEVEL IV	Master Tour Rider	(Safety by Enhanced Commitment and Preparedness)

Valentine's Day One Liners

What do farmers give their wives on Valentine's Day?	Hogs and Kisses!
Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?	Sure, they're very scent-imental!
What did the paper clip say to the magnet?	"I find you very attractive."
What did one pickle say to the other?	"You mean a great dill to me."
What did the pencil say to the paper?	"I dot my i's on you!"
What did one light bulb say to the other?	"I love you a whole watt!"
Why did the pig give his girlfriend a box of candy?	It was Valenswine's Day.
Did you hear about the nearsighted porcupine?	He fell in love with a pincushion!
What did the bat say to his girlfriend?	"You're fun to hang around with."

From Our District Directors

The times they be a changing, that's for sure. Well, hang on, this year's Wing Ding is coming to Tulsa Oklahoma, yes I know Tulsa WOW. It's going to be a Pow Wow theme I hear. Some people think this is real Indian country, ya know, still riding around on horses and scalping people all the time stuff. Let me assure you the only scalping you're going to get in Oklahoma is from the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority or the Casinos. Fun times are a coming.

Some Oklahoma History I Bet You Didn't Know

If someone mentions California, what do you think of? Hollywood, L.A., crowded freeways, beaches and Arnold Schwarzenegger? California, of course, is so much more than that.

When people hear the name of our state, it seems the first thing that comes to mind is not Oklahoma, but "Oklahoma!". The 1943 musical, the first for Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, is the first thing most people in America think of when they hear about the Sooner State.

Having people associate our state with a beloved musical is certainly better than some alternatives, like rednecks and tornadoes, but it certainly isn't representative of today's Oklahoma. However, the musical "Oklahoma!" is a delight. The story of cowboys and farmers finding love in Oklahoma territory features classic music and ground-breaking choreography. It also gave us our State Song, which never fails to bring standing ovations before the final curtain comes down.

It is not, however, an accurate indication of where our state has been, is today and is going. Oklahoma is not only the home of Ado Annie and Aunt Eller but of the aerosol can. That wonder of the age was invented in Bartlesville. Oklahoma City is the home of the parking meter while the shopping cart was born in Ardmore. The electric guitar also was invented in Oklahoma by a Beggs musician named Bob Dunn. The first "Yield" sign was installed in Tulsa.

The state has more man-made lakes than any other state, which give us more than a million surface-acres of water and 2,000 more miles of shoreline than the Atlantic and Gulf coasts combined.

The Sooner State has produced more astronauts than any other state in the union. Owen Garriott is a hometown Enid boy, of course, while Tom Stafford is from Weatherford, Shannon Lucid from Oklahoma City, William Pogue from Okemah and the late Gordon Cooper from Shawnee.

Oklahoma is home to Amateur Softball Association, Sonic restaurants and tornadoes. The famous Woody Guthrie, song writer, is from Okemah and Jim Shoulders, the famous cowboy, is from Henryetta.

Oklahoma is the third-largest gas-producing state in the nation and ranks fourth in the production of wheat, cattle and calves, fifth in the production of pecans, sixth in peanuts and eighth in peaches. The state's colors are neither the crimson and cream of the University of Oklahoma nor the orange and black of Oklahoma State, but green and white.

Environmental Protection Agency recognizes Oklahoma as having the most diverse terrain of any state in the nation. The state, according to EPA, boasts eleven distinct eco-regions, one of only four states to have more than ten.

Oklahomans practice 73 major religions. Many, many Christians live in Oklahoma. The largest is the Southern Baptist Convention with nearly 1,600 churches and more than 960,000 members.

Oklahoma gave birth to Dick Tracy (cartoonist Chester Gould is a native of Pawnee) and Donald Duck (Clarence "Ducky" Nash, the original voice of Walt Disney's Donald, grew up in Watonga).

Oklahomans have survived the Dust Bowl, any number of killer tornadoes, the 1995 bombing of Oklahoma City's Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and various oil booms and busts and Runs. Oklahoma is populated by people who are caring, friendly, giving, hard-working, patriotic and fiercely independent. Oklahoma is a good place to live, work, play and raise children.

The challenge in this, with Wing Ding coming to Tulsa, is to make the rest of America aware of what Oklahoma has to offer, besides beautiful mornings, fringe-laden surreys and a girl who will be true to you.

"We're more than Sticks, Hicks, and Ticks!"

THANKS, Rick and Robin Greninger

Cruising to the Pow Wow

Oklahoma Welcome Party!

Jump start your Wing Ding experience with a scenic ride west to Sand Springs for GWRRA's own Oklahoma-style welcome party at the National Home of the award-winning musical "Oklahoma!" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Your short, delightful journey through the rolling, wooded Osage hills is an added bonus to all that's awaiting you at this unique destination surrounded by natural beauty. It's so fitting that your visit begins at this "National Treasure" where the great outdoors sets the stage for this classic performance under the Oklahoma sky! Discoveryland's 1500 seat outdoor amphitheater, built into a hillside, provides the perfect venue for enjoying this immortal musical masterpiece. Complete with thundering horses, wagons, cowboys, ranchers and, of course, a surrey with the fringe on top, "Oklahoma!" features a national cast of professional singers and dancers. Your evening includes: Summer Ranch Dinner, Native American Dancing, Western Musical Revue and more! Meet up with friends and make new ones at the Oklahoma Welcome Party, Wednesday evening, July 1, 2009.

Other Great Things Happening at Wing Ding!

BLUE BELL CREAMERY TOURS! Sign up today for an exclusive opportunity to tour the Blue Bell Creamery with your friends during Wing Ding! Space and tours are limited so sign up today. See the Wing Ding registration form for more information. Just \$6 gets you transportation, the tour and ice cream! Or, for just \$2, you can make the short drive yourself and enjoy the tour!

BBQ BUFFET! Register today and sign-up for the all-you-can-eat BBQ Buffet on Friday night, July 3rd on-site at the event. Just \$10.50 gets you all you can eat as well as priority seating for the free entertainment hosted by J&M Corporation! Seating is limited.

Don't miss Wing Ding 31, register today! Simply go to www.wing-ding.org for more information or to register online. Or call the Customer Service Department at 1-800-843-9460 or email customerservice@gwrro.org.

GWRRA End of Season Sale

With the 3 in 1 Jacket - one jacket covers it all. From extreme cold to a light breeze, this multi-functional piece will keep you comfortable in all types of weather conditions. Medium-weight liner zips inside lightweight shell. Reflective piping and embroidered logos and lettering. Appealing, easily-packed, dirt shedding jackets!

Regular \$180 ON SALE NOW \$100.....

Oklahoma Grand Tour

There is one more opportunity to get an extra chance at the grand prize drawing and that is the Frederick Fantastic Oyster Fry, February 21st. Tour books don't have to be turned in to Oklahoma Honda-Suzuki until March 31st so there is still plenty of time if you've not made all the stops. The date for the Awards Ceremony and Banquet is April 11th at the Del City Community Center at 6:30 p.m. Details regarding dinner reservations and updates on the Oklahoma Grand Tour are available on their website www.okhonda-suzuki.com.

Work is underway for Oklahoma Grand Tour 19!

For All You Lovers

Lovers of the English language, that is. Here is yet another example of why people learning English have trouble with the language. Learning the nuances of English makes it a difficult language. But then, that's probably true of many languages.

There is a two-letter word in English that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word. That word is **UP**. It is listed in the dictionary as being used as an adverb, preposition, adjective, noun, and verb.

It's easy to understand **UP**, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake **UP**? At a meeting, why does a topic come **UP**? Why do we speak **UP**? Why are the officers **UP** for election and why is it **UP** to the secretary to write **UP** a report? We call **UP** our friends. We brighten **UP** a room. We polish **UP** the silver. We warm **UP** the leftovers and clean **UP** the kitchen. We lock **UP** the house and some guys fix **UP** the old car.

At other times the little word has a real special meaning. People stir **UP** trouble, line **UP** for tickets, work **UP** an appetite, and think **UP** excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed **UP** is special.

And this **UP** is confusing: A drain must be opened **UP** because it is stopped **UP**.

We open **UP** a store in the morning but we close it **UP** at night. We seem to be pretty mixed **UP** about **UP**! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of **UP**, you can look the word **UP** in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes **UP** almost 1/4 of the page and can add **UP** to about thirty definitions. If you are **UP** to it, you might try building **UP** a list of the many ways **UP** is used. It will take **UP** a lot of your time, but if you don't give **UP**, you may wind **UP** with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding **UP**. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing **UP**. When it rains, it wets **UP** the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things begin to dry **UP**.

One could go on & on, but I'll wrap it **UP**, for now. My time is **UP**, so guess it's time to shut **UP**! This has been on the **UP** and **UP**, honest!

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www.gwrra-okj.com

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