



# OKLAHOMA Chapter "J"

Edmond, Guthrie, North Oklahoma City  
January 2011

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

Region H "The Hospitality Region"  
Arkansas - Kansas - Louisiana - Oklahoma - Texas

## FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE

### From Your Chapter Directors:

CHANGE... We have certainly heard this word a lot in the past few years! But as we continue through life, there are changes - some good, some not so good. There's probably no better time than January to check those Emergency Information Forms you carry with you for 'changes' that need to be made. Typically healthcare renewals happen in January which may cause changes on your Emergency Information Form. Prescriptions and medical doctors may also need updating. January is a good time to get this form out of your left side faring pocket, review it, and make those 'changes' necessary.

If you don't have an Emergency Information Form, now is the best time to make one, seal it in a Ziploc bag and put it in the faring pocket. It is also a very good idea to carry a copy in your wallet. Hopefully there will never be a need to use this information form, but you never know what's around the corner.

These forms will be available at our January get together. For you computer savvy persons, enter the information on a Microsoft Word document using this form as a guideline and save it. As your personal and medical information changes, just a few clicks to make the corrections, reprint, sign and date, and your information sheet is updated.

We look forward to being with you at our January Chapter get together.

Join us when you can, Larry and Mary

Happy Birthday!!

Jan 13 Julie McIntosh

FEB 5 Larry Punneo

FEB 8 Kay Fletcher

# Happy Anniversary!!

Jan 19 Walter and Karen Barnes

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Bill & Angel Baker

## On the Calendar

[www.gwrra-okj.com](http://www.gwrra-okj.com) for possible changes

- Jan 20 Chapter J Gathering  
Thursday Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler, 33 East 33rd St, Edmond  
Eat at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:15 p.m.
- Jan 20-21 Kansas District Winter Convention  
Emporia Kansas [www.gwks.homestead.com](http://www.gwks.homestead.com)
- JAN 27 Dinner Get Together at Boneyard Grill  
Thursday 617 S Division, Guthrie  
[Meet there at 6:30 p.m.](#)
- JAN 29 Oklahoma District Year End Team Meeting in Stroud
- FEB 3 Dinner Get Together at El Parian Mexican Restaurant  
Thursday 315 S Broadway, Edmond  
[Meet there at 6:30 p.m.](#)
- FEB 10 VALENTINE'S GET TOGETHER - **Reservations to Mary by February 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Thursday Italiano's Pasta and Pizza  
4801 N Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City  
[Meet there at 6:30 p.m.](#)
- FEB 17 Chapter J Gathering  
Thursday Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler, 33 East 33rd St, Edmond  
Eat at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:15 p.m.
- FEB 26-27 Officer Certification Program  
Best Western Motel, Stroud  
Contact Jack Wagner ([jwagner10@cox.net](mailto:jwagner10@cox.net)) for details

## New Year's Resolutions

Consider these New Year's Resolutions as you 'Make' your list:

1. 'Make' a difference in someone's life.
2. 'Make' new friends.
3. 'Make' memories with those you love.
4. 'Make' someone smile.
5. 'Make' each day a great day.
6. 'Make' 2011 the best year ever!

## Friends Having FUN

### Dec 16 - Chapter J Christmas Party

We had 26 Chapter J friends who joined in the fun at our Christmas party held at the Old Santa Fe Railroad Depot in Guthrie. The meal was catered and enjoyed by all. The decision had been made to let the Chapter pay for the meal so that was a nice surprise to everyone. By random drawing we had six people participate in a scavenger hunt which turned out to be fun. We played 'clean Santa' with our \$1 gifts and allowed one steal. It was fun and there were quite a few gifts stolen. Everyone came home with an armload of homemade goodies to enjoy over the holidays. Thanks to everyone who joined in our Christmas celebration.

### Dec 30 - The Chuck House

*Getting together one last time for 2010 we just kept adding tables as more friends arrived. It was great fun being with Bill and Angel, Ron and Kay, Bill and Carolyn, Gary and Janice, Jack, Larry and Mary, Wes and Jeanie, and Jim.*

### Jan 6 - Ron's Hamburgers and Chili

Food was plentiful and delicious when we gathered at Ron's on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Joining in the fun times were Bill and Julie, Vern, Cliff, Wilford, Larry and Mary, Bill and Carolyn, Gary and Janice, Wes and Jeanie, and Ron and Kay.

### Jan 13 - The Delta Café

We celebrated Julie's birthday as we got together for dinner at the Delta Café in Edmond. Those joining in the celebration were Jack, Cliff, Wes and Jeanie, Bill and Carolyn, Don, Vern, Larry and Mary, Ron and Kay, and Bill and Birthday Queen Julie! There was lots of conversation and laughs! Thanks to everyone for making it a Happy Birthday!

### THE HUNT FOR WARM RIDING DAYS

In the winter time the challenge is to find a day warm enough to ride and then be able to work it into your schedule. Of course when you're retired it makes it much easier. So when the weatherman predicted a warm up for Thursday, Dec. 30th, we began making our plans. What do you know, he got it right and we headed for Stillwater and Eskimo Joe's. We took the long way up and back home again logging about 120 miles. Along the way we were treated to 3 groupings of migrating geese and ducks on ponds and grazing fields. On Friday, Jan. 7th, we talked Wes into joining us on a ride to Shawnee where we enjoyed lunch at Benedict Street Marketplace. We'd been there before and had been looking forward to returning. The couple that own and operate it have a meat market and bakery in with the restaurant which serves soups, salads, sandwiches along with their bakery desserts. Keep it in mind if you are over in that area. Now we are looking for another warm day. We've not been to the Amish Kitchen in Choteau for a long time and if you've been there, you'll know why we want to go back. If you come up with a good ride be sure and give us a call and we enjoy winter riding.

Bill & Carolyn Duvall

## News from Oklahoma Honda-Suzuki

We have switched internet providers. Please make a note of our new email addresses:

General e-mail: [okhsride@coxinet.net](mailto:okhsride@coxinet.net)

Parts Department: [okhspart@coxinet.net](mailto:okhspart@coxinet.net)

Service: [okhsphil@coxinet.net](mailto:okhsphil@coxinet.net)

Sales: [okhs\\_sales@coxinet.net](mailto:okhs_sales@coxinet.net)

Our website remains the same: <http://www.okhonda-suzuki.com>. Check often for sales updates, parts specials, service information, and Oklahoma Grand Tour news.

## Success by Steve and Carolyn Cotton, Region H Trainers

I once heard about a young man who, in his eagerness to make it to the top, went to a well-known millionaire for advice about how to get there. "What is the first reason for your success?" he asked.

"Hard work," the millionaire replied.

Disappointed, the inexperienced fellow responded, "What is the second reason?"

We laugh at this young man's desire for a quick-and-easy formula, but his response brings up a much more serious question for people who aren't doing what they know they'd like to do: Are you willing to pay the price to get there?

You don't get fulfilling success at a bargain-basement price. In fact, the cost is often much higher than many people are willing to pay. People may embark on a new path with energy and enthusiasm, only to fizzle out when they realize how much effort is involved. The way to avoid this scenario, of course, is to count the cost of doing what you'd like to do before you begin. So, what does the price tag include? Here are just a few items:

1. **Hard Work.** There's no way around this - you can't fulfill your dream without a lot of blood, sweat, tears, and maybe even a little elbow grease. You might also have to spend time - perhaps large quantities of time - working diligently at jobs you don't particularly like in order to prepare yourself for the job you want.
2. **Learning.** Doing what you love might require you to acquire some new skills, polish existing abilities, or listen and learn from others. Are you willing to devote the time, money and energy to making that happen?
3. **Discipline.** It takes focus and commitment to pursue your goal without getting sidetracked or giving up. Success doesn't just happen. You have to be intentional about it, and that takes discipline.
4. **Change.** At the surface, this might not seem like a significant price. After all, you wouldn't be engaging in this if you didn't want a change in your life, and to help others. And yet, as we all know, change isn't easy. It can cause stress, anxiety, uncertainty, and a host of other uncomfortable emotions.
5. **Emotional Stamina.** On your way toward doing what you love, you're going to stumble and you might even take a few hard falls. When that happens, you've got to have the intestinal fortitude to pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and get going again.

Now the ball is in your court. If you know what you want to do - but aren't doing it yet, stop making excuses and start taking steps to make it happen. In today's economy, many of our friends have had to take these steps, and they will succeed because of it. Don't wait until everything is perfect to begin, because everything will never be perfect. Don't put it off until tomorrow, because tomorrow you will be tempted to put it off until the next day. Don't wait for your ship to come in - swim out to meet it!

How many New Year's Resolutions do people make, and then are not able to keep them? Their intentions are in the right place, and it does take effort to make changes. Just start. And as you begin, remember these three truths about the end result:

- 1) Doing what you want to do will be different than you imagined it would be.
- 2) It will be more difficult than you ever imagined.
- 3) And, it will be better than you ever imagined.

I can assure you that when you're doing what you really want to do, it's not work. It will be fun, because you're reaching your potential, and helping others to reach theirs. It just doesn't get any better than that. We call it success - and you will enjoy it, because you did it!

An old saying is: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". Go ahead and take that first step and we wish you great success in your endeavors.

### Can Am Spyders (from Gene Knutson -Intl. Dir. Rider Educator)

During the past 7 months, I have been inundated with questions about permitting Can Am Spyders into our GWRRA Trike Courses. Initially, we knew very little about the Can Am Spyder, but in an attempt to serve the members, we began our quest for knowledge of its stability and operation.

The initial contact we had with the manufacturer, Bombardier Recreational Products of Canada, produced very little cooperation in obtaining information of their product. We continued to seek information, going to multiple dealers who welcomed the inquiries and readily offered us a Spyder to test ride.

During the S.M.S.A. (State Motorcycle Safety Administrators) conference in Columbus, Ohio, we were able to discuss the Spyder at great length with Cundiff Simmons of the Virginia Rider Education Program. Cundiff is a leader in the Motorcycle Instruction field and highly respected among his peers. He had brought several of the Spyders with him and conducted demonstrations as to what the machine could do safely and its limitations.

At this point we had learned that the Spyder isn't a trike in the "traditional" sense of the word, as it sports two front wheels and a single rear wheel. It does not LEAN! It has dual (A) arms complimenting a single rear shock. The frame is a "Y" shaped cradle surrounding the 990cc V-twin engine, which is liquid cooled. Additionally, the computer does compensate when it senses a loss of traction by the Spyder, which lends to increased control.

The "Triangle of Stability" does not appear to be different than a conventional trike. While from initial observation it may appear to be off center, it does not physically move as long as the rider/co-rider maintains a centralized seating position as called for in the TRC course material.

During an Instructors course in Huntsville, Alabama, two Can Am Spyders participated in the Trike Class under close supervision of several Master Instructors and a Master Instructor Trainer. Everyone commented as to its ability to not only complete the Trike Course, but to excel at it. It should be noted that this testing on the TRC was done under less than favorable weather conditions as it was raining at times very heavily. The only exercise the Spyder could not complete is the OPTIONAL exercise, #11 which is the voluntary wheel lift. The computer on the Spyder simply would not allow for the lifting of the wheels.

My interest having been peaked, the next opportunity was to actually test ride a Spyder in St. Petersburg, Florida. The manager of the dealership offered to let me ride one to test, but I don't think he was ready for me to test it so vigorously. With full protective gear, I put the Spyder through tight corners, swerving/evasive maneuvers, emergency braking, and basically tried to "defeat" its reputation as being stable. However, my finding was that it is a stable motorcycle having withstood everything I threw at it.

As all of you are aware, we do not take lightly the responsibility of making certain that our Riding Courses are designed with the intent of Rider Safety to the max. Our members look to us with trust, that when GWRRA provides a riding course, it is done with the knowledge that all of the exercises are designed to be very safe. Our Instructors are trained to provide the ultimate Rider Instruction, with the maximum effort placed on providing a safe educational experience.

With all of this being said, after the testing, gathering of information and consultation with our Instructors and the Director of GWRRA, I have made a decision as it pertains to admitting Can Am Spyders into the GWRRA Trike Courses.

While many of our members have purchased the Can Am Spyder, it was our responsibility to them to make certain that any courses provided would be safe and enjoyable. In our association's philosophy of always trying to work for and with the members, I have decided to permit the Can Am Spyder to participate in GWRRA Trike Courses effective January 01, 2011.

Riders and Co-Riders of Can Am Spyders will be subject to the same requirements of all participants of GWRRA Riding Courses. Wearing of Proper Riding Gear at all times will be required. We are pleased to be able to meet the needs of the members by providing opportunities for safe riding education. The admission of the Can Am Spyder was not made hastily, but only in the sense that we want our members to be as safe as possible on our ranges.

There will be some who now ask about the admission of 4 wheel vehicles such as Voyager Kits, Insta-trikes, and Tow Paks into our courses. These vehicles are unsafe in my opinion and not able to participate in GWRRA riding courses. Having observed and ridden some of these in testing, I found that by having a moving central drive wheel, with two stagnant outer wheels, the stability of the bike becomes questionable. They are however welcome to take part in Parking Lot Practices to keep their riding skills sharp.

I wish to thank all of our Instructors who have tirelessly worked to provide the information needed to make this decision. Rest assured that all of our members are central to every issue as it relates to Rider Education. A very special Thank You goes to Mike Stiger, Director of GWRRA for his commitment to this issue and support of the Rider Education Program.

## Precision Driving School

Precision Driving School specializes in offering the best quality motorcycle safety and training classes in Oklahoma. Their motorcycle courses are held in Purcell. They have weekend classes offered during February and March. If interested, you may find more information on their website <http://www.oklahoma-driving-school.com/>.

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