

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

## Low Country Wing Riders



Chapter C of Beaufort, South Carolina  
*Beautiful Beaufort by the "C"*  
**December 2010**



### Director's Download *by Reggie Bythewood*

I missed going to the Sweet Potato Festival in Ocilla, Georgia, again. The last few times the Festival came, I avoided going because the weather was cold or it was raining. This time I had personal business to take care of. This is a great place to camp out and enjoy the events, so I am told. I asked a few people who had attended and they really enjoyed the festival, but said there was a smaller crowd this year, maybe because of the economy, because the weather was perfect. I will keep trying and I will make it, sooner or later.

Oh, here's something I did and enjoyed. A few of my friends, who are not members of GWRRA, and I joined the Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) on a ride to the Veterans Victory House, in Walterboro, South Carolina. I tried to get them to join the Association, but no luck. They want to remain independent, so I will respect their choice.

There were 21 bikes and 26 riders on November 11 for Veterans Day. The event really made us feel good about going and being there with other Veterans. The Veterans were allowed to come out and look at our bikes and exchange stories.

Did I say anything about the weather? It was a perfect day for riding. After visiting the Veterans, we went to Long Horn Restaurant for dinner and more stories were exchanged among the riders. We told CMA that we would join them again next year for the Veterans Day Ride, and any other event they have. Thank you, CMA.

Enjoy your holidays.

Be safe, be blessed and I will see you out there on road.

Reggie

### Chapter C Staff:



Director

**Reggie Bythewood** **Charlie & Sandy Spears**

843-525-1640

[goldwing522004@yahoo.com](mailto:goldwing522004@yahoo.com)

843-522-3502

[charlie29902@embarqmail.com](mailto:charlie29902@embarqmail.com)



Educator &  
Treasurer

Newsletter Editor: Howard Harris, 843-524-0981: [howardharris@hargray.com](mailto:howardharris@hargray.com).

Educator & Treasurer: Charlie & Sandy Spears, 843-522-3502: [charlie29902@embarqmail.com](mailto:charlie29902@embarqmail.com).

Chaplain: Marty Martinez, 843-525-6854: [mmartymartinez@aol.com](mailto:mmartymartinez@aol.com).



# GWRRRA

## Rider Education



## Educator's Corner by Howard Harris

### Lesson Learned

### Traveling with a Novice Co-Rider Means "Changing Things Up" a Bit

By Larry Cole

I've been taking solo trips on my 1976 GL1000 for 25 years now. Most of them – thanks to good weather and a reliable Gold Wing – were mercifully uneventful. A few, however, turned into real adventures. One such trip was the one I'm about to share with you.

This year, as I was planning my 34/64 Tour (the relative ages of the bike and me) to the Grand Tetons, my wife offered to go along. Now, Katherine has ridden before. In fact, she had a motorcycle endorsement on her driver's license when she was younger, but asthma and back problems had limited her trips with me over the years to just an hour or two at a time. Now, thanks to better living through chemistry (improved drugs), she was willing to try a longer trip.

Before we left, I gave her all the admonitions about how – once we were on the road – we were committed, no matter what the road threw at us. Riding with a Co-Rider again – and a novice Co-Rider at that – was a learning experience for us both. I'd like to share some of the lessons we learned.

#### **A WELL-TRAVELED RIDER MAY FIND HIS OR HER NOVICE CO-RIDER:**

##### **HAS NOTHING TO WEAR FOR THE RIDE**

We often hear this from our significant others and, in this case, it was true. And I certainly couldn't see crossing the Continental Divide half a dozen times with my Co-Rider only equipped with a denim jacket and jeans.

So we discovered that, when rolled up, my fabric chaps would fit her. In addition, we purchased a close-out motorcycle jacket for Katherine. It had lots of vents, a zip-out liner, removable armor, and a waterproof (but breathable) liner. It was "just the thing" to make her comfortable as a Co-Rider.

##### **CAN'T SEEM TO BRING ENOUGH CLOTHING TO WEAR**

We left home (Conifer, Colorado, near Denver) Labor Day morning and were soon climbing to the Eisenhower

Tunnel approach at 10,000 feet. The Gold Wing rolled along smoothly, even with a loaded single-wheel trailer behind us.

It was windy, and the temperature dropped as the elevation rose. I was glad for my heated grips, but the GL's anemic electrical system didn't have enough extra juice for anything for my Co-Rider. Katherine ended up with five layers under her jacket, chaps and rain pants! So bring plenty of layers.

##### **SHOULD BE WARNED ABOUT BELIEVING MANUFACTURERS**

We pulled into one of my favorite campgrounds in the Ashley National Forest, north of Vernal, Utah, at sunset, and we were virtually the only ones in the camp. The camp host came by to collect the fee (half price, thanks to my Senior Pass). Ten minutes later, he returned with a trailer full of free firewood attached to his golf cart. Katherine got some dinner going while I built a fire.

Now we had recently bought a double sleeping bag that was rated to 30°F. We have another bag for car-camping, but it was too heavy to this trip. However, we discovered that, even while wearing long underwear, the "30 degree rating" was overly optimistic. In the morning, our food and water (which had been left out on the picnic table) had even partially frozen.

It's probably best if both you and the Co-Rider check ahead of time to see if a manufacturer's claims are true.

##### **NEEDS TO EAT MORE OFTEN**

The fact that a Co-Rider who is hungry is often also not too happy is an obvious statement, but I was used to long hours in the saddle by myself, during which I seldom stopped to eat.

That had to change this trip, and three meals a day and ice cream at gas stops helped improve Katherine's mood and stamina. Remember, a hungry Co-Rider is an unhappy Co-Rider.

##### **WON'T HAVE AS GOOD A VIEW ON THE BACK OF THE BIKE**

Besides being occupied with keeping 1,200 lbs. of people, machinery, and camping gear balanced on three in-line wheels, I had to great vistas that Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and Idaho had to offer. My Co-Rider

essentially had just wind and the back of my helmet to experience 8 to 10 hours a day.

A sound system with expensive headsets was not in my budget, so a pair of ear buds and a tape player helped her pass the time.

**WILL BENEFIT FROM RESERVATIONS MADE AHEAD OF TIME**

We knew it would be too cold for tent camping in the Tetons and Yellowstone, so I had made reservations at the Elk Refuge Inn outside of Jackson (nice place, we recommend it). We were surprised at all the people and “No Vacancy” signs in Jackson when we rolled in on day two of our trip.

It used to be you could go anywhere after Labor Day and easily find accommodations. Evidently, the demographic shift (with the “graying of America”) has changed that.

We (and certainly Katherine most of all) were both very glad to have already had a room booked for two nights.

**WILL COME TO APPRECIATE THAT – WHEN YOU STICK TO A SCHEDULE – SOME THINGS TURN OUT JUST THE WAY YOU PLANNED**

On day three, we unloaded the camping gear from the trailer and headed north. We had a great lunch at Signal Mountain Lodge in the Tetons then pressed on to Yellowstone. We had a little rain, but it stopped when we pulled into the Old Faithful parking lot. I squeezed the rig in next to an adventure tourer in a corner spot, across from the Visitors Center.

We walked over to Old Faithful, turned on our cameras, and – right on cue – the geyser erupted! It was very fortuitous because we had dinner reservations at Jackson Lake Lodge and would not have had time to wait another 90 minutes.

This was a very fortunate and happy lesson learned.

**MAY ENJOY HAVING A NICE DINNER EVERY OTHER DAY**

We made it back to Jackson Lake 15 minutes before our dinner reservations. I took some pictures of Katherine – on the curb in the parking lot – shrugging out of her riding clothes and adding jewelry. (In the interest of matrimonial harmony, I won’t share them here.)

If you’re ever in the Tetons, here’s my best take-away: Make dinner reservations, for around sunset, at the Jackson Lake Lodge Mural Room, get there half an hour early and have an adult beverage on the patio, take pictures of the moose gamboling in Moose Flats, and then go inside and have a fabulous dinner while watching the sun set over the Grand Tetons. Just do it.

**WILL HAVE TO ENDURE WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS SHE (OR HE) ISN’T USED TO**

No offense to you “Wyomingites,” but you have the windiest darn state on the continent. I’ve seen “Wyoming wind chimes” made out of 3-lb. electrical insulators – and they work!

After I pointed my tail light at the Tetons, we headed back south. We encountered road construction, wind, cold, wind, rain – and did I mention wind? As heavily loaded as we were, I had to lean our rig into what felt like a 50-mph crosswind for six hours.

My Co-Rider was mostly suffering in silence, but I felt her pain – because I was in pain, too.

**MAY FIND EVEN THE BEST-LAID PLANS AREN’T A SURE THING**

By the time we got to Flaming Gorge, the wind and rain had stopped. The sun came out, and we pulled into a totally empty campground a short distance from the Utah border.

A clear stream, with large fish, bubbled noisily beneath cottonwoods and a high cliff face. We would finally be able to relax. After setting up camp, we even broke out a bottle of chardonnay and started dinner. And it was much warmer at the lower elevation than at the camp we made earlier a few miles farther south.

All was well until around 11 p.m., when some other campers pulled in. Eight empty campsites and they chose to set up in the one right next to us! The entourage came complete with music and a campfire until midnight.

Early the next morning, for good measure, I started the Gold Wing and began topping off the tires with my electric air compressor.

**MAY LOVE THE RIDE MORE THAN SHE (OR HE) EXPECTED**

The rest of the trip to Colorado was uneventful, and we arrived at our house in the foothills shortly after dark.

How would I rate my 34/64 Tour? A resounding success! I took a 34-year-old motorcycle, my wife, and a trailer full of gear 1,500 miles without a breakdown. And my Co-Rider, while hating the same weather conditions I did, had a great time with only a little (just a little) whining. As pilots say, any landing is a good landing.

Oh yes, and one last lesson that was learned by my patient, long-suffering Co-Rider on this longer-than-usual journey: Never spit out your gum with the face shield down.

[Wing World, December 2010]

## December Celebrations:



Don Reed, 12/9  
Sandy Spears, 12/6  
David Spears, 12/1

Howard & Joan Harris, 12/27  
Carl & Barbara Hille, 12/22  
David & Katrina Spears, 12/22  
Joe & Billie Jo Walters, 12/9

If you do not see your birthday and/or anniversary dates celebrated here, please let me know so I can list the month and day. Call me at 843-524-0981 or email: [howardharris@hargray.com](mailto:howardharris@hargray.com). *Happiness shared is happiness multiplied.* The lists published here reflect information **older than 2009**. – Ed.]

## Ride and Kick Tire Schedule

*\*Watch your email for additional times, rides or changes\**



**Friday, December 3:** Kick Tires at Outback, 100 Buckwater Pkwy, Bluffton, 6:00 pm.  
**Saturday, December 4:** Location 1 at 8:00 am. Wingmen Toy Run with GA-E2. Perkins at 9:00 am.  
**Sunday, December 5:** Location 1 at 12:30 pm. Ride to Statesboro Brown Nursing Home with GA-E2 from I-95 Exit 102, Gate Service Station.  
**Friday, December 10:** Kick Tires at Jade Garden, 2317 Boundary Street, Beaufort, 6:00 pm.  
**Saturday, December 11:** Chapter C Christmas party at Fred Williams Club House, 145 Barrington Road, 10:00.  
**Friday, December 17:** Kick Tires at Big Joe's BBQ, 780D, Parris Island Gateway, Port Royal, 6:00 pm.  
**Saturday, December 18:** **Watch the Internet for ride.**  
**Friday, December 24:** Christmas Eve. No Kick Tires.  
**Saturday, December 25:** Merry Christmas!  
**Friday, December 31:** No Kick Tires.  
**Saturday, January 1:** Location 1 at 9:00 am. Join GA-E2 at I-95, Exit 94 (Perkin) at 10:00 am and ride to Mudcat Charlie's for lunch.  
**Location #1:** The BP Gas Station on Hwys 170 & 802, at the eastern end of the Broad River Bridge.  
**Location #2:** The Shell Gas Station/KFC on Hwy 21 in Gray's Hill, three miles north of MCAS.

## GWRRA 2010 Regiona and District TEAMS:



### **Directors**

Bob & Nancy Shrader

### **Assistant Director/Webmaster**

Ed Porter

### **Assistant Directors**

Jim & Sue Jackson

### **Rider Educators**

Chuck & Anne Reed

### **Treasurer**

Joanne Jacob

### **Trainers**

Dave & Sharon Aikens

### **Motorist Awareness Coordinators**

Ray & Cindy Erickson

### **Membership Enhancement Coordinators**

#### **& Chapter of the Year Coordinators**

Bob & Karla Greer

### **COY Coordinators**

Lynn & Lyn Edwards

### **Medic First Aid Instructor/Coordinator**

Eldon (Buddy) Shirley



### **SC District Officers**

#### **District Directors**

Charles Coleman

[CharlesLColeman@gmail.com](mailto:CharlesLColeman@gmail.com)

#### **Assistant District Directors**

Buddy & Kim Summer

[Joe](#) & Nadine Cooper

#### **District Trainer**

Larry & Mary Rosselot

[ljr@knology.net](mailto:ljr@knology.net)

#### **District Educator**

Jesse & Sue Sammons

[JesseeSammons@bellsouth.net](mailto:JesseeSammons@bellsouth.net)

#### **Membership Enhancement Coordinators**

Glenn & Donna Bumgarner

[bumgarnerg@bellsouth.net](mailto:bumgarnerg@bellsouth.net)

#### **District Treasurer**

John & Janet Crabtree

#### **District Public Relations**

#### **Couple of the Year Coordinators**

Larry & Sandra Kelly

[sccoyncord@charter.net](mailto:sccoyncord@charter.net)

#### **District Couple of the Year**

Ron & Becky Lees

#### **SC District Ambassadors**

Faye Hood

[Steven](#) Smith

#### **SC Goody Shoppe**

Faye Skipper

[FSkipper@sc.rr.com](mailto:FSkipper@sc.rr.com)

#### **Senior Web Master**

Dennis & Sue DeFendi

[WebDesign@gwrrasc.com](mailto:WebDesign@gwrrasc.com)

Wear Your Helmet