

GOLD WING TOURING ASSOCIATION

October 2009



As the weather turns colder and ground turns whiter we are reminded that riding days are becoming limited. As our thoughts turn to more indoor type activities we find there are a lot of things still to do and camaraderie to enjoy. We had a great meeting with everyone in Ellensburg and want to thank everyone for making the trek over the mountain or across the prairie. At the meeting we discussed:

- **News from the Board:** Life Memberships are no longer available. If you are in the process of paying for your life membership, you will not be affected. If you have any questions about this you can contact our local Board Member Evelyn Carroll.
- **News from the Region Directors:** JR made the announcement that Steve and Cameron Gillit will be your new State Directors starting in mid-2010. They are excited about taking this next step in their GWTA lives and are really looking forward to their new roles. Also:
 - JR addressed the need for complaining in the chapters to stop: GWTA has lost over 1000 members last year and when contacted as to why they left, a big majority said it was due to bickering and complaining within their chapter. We need to keep the members we have and bring in new members but to do so we need to find a way to stop the negativity within the chapters.
 - JR also discussed the type of motorcycles the officers need to have to hold office: CEO, Board of Directors, and Regional Directors: Have to own an operable Gold Wing; State and Chapter Directors: do not have to have a Gold Wing.
 - If you have an issue/problem to discuss you should start with your Chapter Director first. If you are not able to resolve the issue you would then go to your State Staff. If they are not able to help you, your next step is Region A staff. At that time if you are not able to get resolution you then take it to the National level. Bruce Keenon and the Board should not be your first stop to get answers.
 - Lindy: Thanks to everyone for selling National Raffle Tickets: goal of over 9000 for Region A was exceeded. Tickets will be coming available again soon so let her know how many tickets you'd like so she can get them to you as soon as she gets them.
 - Rave-N-Ride: Has been a great success and will be continued next year from Jan 1st thru Oct 31st, so get ready for some great new adventures. If you have a

business or Chapter or someone who might be interested in being a part of RnR please let JR & Lindy know ASAP.

- **Washington State Gathering 2010:** This year's theme is **Down on the Farm**. We had many great submissions for theme ideas and a month's time to vote. We are now looking for our Rally logo, so here are the rules:
 - We are going to do an electronic vote for the rally design again this year so that all members may have a hand in choosing the design.
 - All entries must be ***received*** by November 30, 2009. You may submit your design electronically to wastatedirs@makingitdigital.net, or on paper to Don and I and we will scan for posting on the web page.
 - Voting will start on December 1st, the choices will be posted on the web page for members to vote on at the web site. Voting will close on December 15, 2009.
 - All entries must contain the words "GWTA" or "Goldwing Touring Association" "Washington State Gathering" "Ritzville" and "2010".
 - All entries must indicate if they are an original design or computer generated design. The submitter of the design must be the designer.
 - All entries will be posted without the name of the submitter to provide an impartial atmosphere.
 - The winning design will be announced on the web site December 16th, 2009
 - The winning designer will win one free registration, one meal ticket, and one rally shirt with the design printed on it.
- ✓ Jobs for State next year were discussed: Some Chapters have already signed up for their assignments; some Chapters did not and there are still jobs that need to be filled. We will be contacting the chapters to complete this process.
- ✓ Setting a World Record: Details are still being worked out and we're hoping to conclude the weekend with an event of INTERNATIONAL PROPORTIONS!!!! We will attempt to break the world record of "Largest Parade of Honda Motorcycles". The record for the largest parade of Honda motorcycles is 884 achieved by the Shadow Motorclub Nederland in Alkmaar, Netherlands on 11 September 2005. We want to get more than that, and believe we can! This will be something that will not be a GWTA Rally event...but open to ALL Honda riders...and will take place right after closing ceremonies of state rally (State rally closes on Sunday and Monday is the July 4th holiday in 2010.)
- **Gambling Regulations:** Each chapter will have to get their own gambling license to have 50/50's and raffles. We are currently working with the Gambling Commission to find out specifics. Each Chapter will need to register for their own Not-For-Profit Status with Washington State and the paperwork is being assembled to be mailed to each Chapter to assist with your registration.
- **Gold Rush 2010:** Will be held in Billings, Montana this year from July 19-22. There is great info on the National website about the hotels and other local information.

- **Family of the Year:** It is time to ask each Chapter to submit someone from their Chapter to serve as Family of the Year 2010. The new TA Way is online and all the FOY info you would want is there. Please submit a photograph with a piece of writing regarding your nominee to Don and Carol by November 30th.
- **State Trailer:** We are looking at needing to make some repairs to the State Trailer. The item we need to start working on right away, due to the weight of the trailer contents, are the axles. In case anyone is plugged in to auto repair stuff we are looking for (2) 5000-6000 lb torsion axles with brakes in very good condition. We are also open to the prospect of purchasing a larger trailer that would be better equipped to hold the weight of the stuff inside the trailer and then selling the current trailer. Anyway, if you have any information regarding what we're looking for let Don Sims know.
- **STP:** The 2010 STP is July 17-18 due to a scheduling conflict CBC has with their ending location in Portland. Now is the time to start thinking about volunteering to be your Chapter STP focal. CBC meetings start in January and although the news is pretty limited at first it is an important part of the STP process to have a Chapter focal.

Don and I are happy to be having Steve and Cameron Gillit “job shadow” this year and learn the ropes. We have felt for a long time that they would be perfect State Directors and will breathe new life into Washington State with their vitality and enthusiasm. We thank them for their commitment and look forward to working with them.

Don & Carol

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