



Goldwing Road Riders Association



Mississippi District Region A



Mississippi District Newsletter July 2011



District Directors
Bobby & Lori Bryant
rbigdog4@aol.com

Asst. District Directors
Mike & Joyce Rist
msfwings@bellsouth.net

District Senior Educator
Buddy Shirley
budwing99@comcast.net

*District Assistant Ride
Educators*
Ruth Ann & Lomax Rosamond
gl1800@comcast.net

District Leadership Training
Bobby & Coleen Knight
coleen.fay@rcsd.ms

*District Membership Enhancement
Chapter of the Year Coordinators*
Lemuel & Jane Jones
msdmec2@yahoo.com



We are on Facebook



*District Couple of the Year
Couple of the Year Coordinators
Motorist Awareness (MAD)*
Woody & Debbie Jones
woodman50@comcast.net

District Treasurer
Debra Baldwin
dshop55@bellsouth.net

*District Newsletter Editor
Webmaster*
Ronnie Baldwin
mswebmail@bellsouth.net

In Their own Words



Greg and Renee Dempsey

We are Greg and Renee Dempsey, the Alabama 2011 District Couple and former, Chapter B, (Rocket City Wings of Huntsville, Alabama) 2010 Couple of the Year. I've been riding a Goldwing since January 2010, and Greg has been riding a Goldwing since 2008, with me as his co-rider. Greg rode and raced motorcycles, mostly dirt-bikes, since his teen years. In the fall of 1982, I was on an observer ride and Greg was skydiving out of the same airplane. Some romances start out with a glance, some with a smile, and some with just falling, literally, Greg really fell for me – something like 12,000 feet – he jumped out of that airplane, but before he did, he handed me his goggles and said “I'll catch you when I land”. By the time I landed, I realized that I was falling for him. Little did he realize what he was getting himself into!

We were blessed with three children; one girl and two boys, we also have two grandchildren; one girl, one boy and one on the way. Life goes by, and before we knew it, we were empty-nesters. Now what? Fortunately, our dilemma was solved. Since joining Goldwing Road Riders Association in 2008, we've discovered a whole new family. Along with this new family and friends, we have continued our education, but now it is motorcycle-oriented. To date, we have taken ARCs, TRCs, PLPs, completed the Horizons Program, and to further enhance all of that, Leadership training; and it doesn't end there, Greg became a Senior Leadership Instructor, as well as an ARC & TRC instructor. I'm a PLP facilitator and a Leadership Instructor. Along with the family aspect of Goldwing Road Riders Association, education is important to both of us, after all “Knowledge is power”.

December 2009, we were surprised with the honor of being selected Chapter Couple of the Year. We considered ourselves JAMs and were merely enjoying all of the benefits of being a member of Goldwing Road Riders Association, while trying to learn as much as we could. We devote all of our free time to the part of the motto which is about FUN which includes participating in fun days, rallies, and all of the GWRRA events that we could. We are having fun, simply by participating!

Being Couple of the Year is a humbling position. We enjoy being with, helping, and meeting other people. And all of the couples that we have met and learned beside are wonderful people and believe in the Couple of the Year program. For us, to have continued in the program and been chosen as the Alabama District Couple, with our friends and family standing alongside of us, is truly more than just a motorcycling experience. This program has brought us even closer together. Not only are we happily married, we are a TEAM. Since joining Goldwing Road Riders Association we have traveled from coast to coast, region to region, chapter to chapter, and have attended as many couple selections as we could. One thing we have noticed is that each and every one of the couples we've met, talked about the encouragement and support they have received from their chapter, district or region, regardless if they were chosen to continue to the next level or not. Across the board, they all just want to encourage others to join in the fun. Our goals as members is to continue to have fun, encourage others, and become the best that we can be. Goldwing Road Riders Association has enriched our lives beyond anything we have ever participated in before. Being the Couple Of the Year at any level is an honor and we plan to represent our District, our Chapter, the association, Our family, in the most positive way that we can. As ambassadors of GWRRA, we are proud to have been selected to represent our family and friend in GWRRA to our community, state, and region, we are thoroughly enjoying each and every minute of this. Thank you.



2011 Mississippi District Directors

Bobby & Lori Bryant

rbigdog4@aol.com

Put Your Thinking Caps On!

Ok Guys, we have just returned from the GA District Convention (still a rally to us!) and had a blast. There was a lot of "Clowning Around" going on at their rally! They had great participation from their chapters and other district chapters, and it was just FUN!!! So.....you all know what that means? It's time to put your thinking caps on and get together your Hill Billy Outfits, chapter pride skit, talent show act, crazy hats, scrapbooks, etc. together for our district rally. Remember the theme is "Hill Billy Style" and we want to see all the Hill Billy's participate.... Remember the key to having fun is participation!

We visited the Arkansas District rally the last week of May and had a wonderful time visiting and meeting new folks. We even found some acts from their talent show that plan to "take it on the road" and participate in our MS District Talent show in Tupelo! They know Hill Billy!.....Chapter O didn't disappoint with their fun day. It was a great event, hot, but all had a wonderful time! Chapter O, you guys ROCK!

The last OCP class offered in MS was held on June 11-12 and we had a wonderful time and even had some out of state folks come and join us. Thanks to those of you that attended. I hope that each of you found the class informative and fun. We had a great time visiting and I even got an apple from one chapter member as a bribe! Not mentioning any names, but the initials would be Skip Hinton from Chapter L. So, you guys better watch out if Skip shows up at your fun day holding an apple. There is no telling what he will ask you to do for him! (We love ya Skip!)

Please make plans to attend Chapter D's fun day in Louisville, MS on June 25th. They are thinking out of the box and we are looking forward to seeing all of the fire trucks!

We are planning for the trip to Wing Ding. I hope that each of you make plans to attend so that you will not miss the fun! Remember: fun is there, you just have to go out and find it!

Please don't forget to get you MS District Convention Registrations in the mail; we are looking for **yours**....until next time

We are YOUR MS DISTRICT DIRECTORS
just having fun,

Bobby and Lori Bryant

Mississippi Assistant Director
Vendor Coordinator
Goodie Shop
Mike & Joyce Rist
msfwings@bellsouth.net



WOW! Can you believe that October is just around the corner? There are still so many things to get done before our Convention. We are excited and a little bit nervous as you could guess being the new kids in town. We really need your support to help us have a GREAT Convention. Only with your support can this be accomplished. Please come to your Convention and have the time of your life. We are going to do our best to accommodate your needs. We need your talent. Be thinking of something you could do in a talent show. It would be nice if we could have at least one act from each chapter. Remember the title is “Wings over Tupelo Hillbilly Style”.

We are still traveling to Chapter Gatherings and District Conventions. We attended Arkansas District Convention in Rogers. They had a nice convention – the weather kept a lot of folks away. They had several bad storms in their area all that week. Thank you, Chris and Pam DePriest along with your District Team for your hospitality. We attended Chapter O Fun Day in Picayune. It was HOT – 100 plus degrees. They did their best to make you comfortable, but Mother Nature had other plans. We surprised Chapter E at their monthly gathering at Goldies Trail Barbeque. They have good barbeque. We have just returned from the Georgia District Convention in Duluth. There were clowns everywhere you looked. Carlos and Dee Lozano, District Directors, made their farewell speech. They will be seen at conventions just not in the Director capacity. We, the Mississippi District Team, came home with 7 awards. Thank you - Carlos, Dee, and your District Team. You sure put on a GREAT TIME FOR ALL!

August 6, we will be having our **South District Picnic** at Paul B. Johnson State Park. Please make plans to attend this. We are hoping for a great turn out. We invite **all** chapters to the picnic. **August 27**, we will be having the **North District Picnic** at Grenada Lake. Please make plans to come to this one. Again, **all** chapters are invited. We will play games, eat and have a good time. We will be emailing more on this later.

This weekend, we will be attending Chapter D’s Fun Day Event. They are thinking outside the box. We will tour the big Red Museum in Louisville. Then we will have a picnic at Legion State Park.

Wing Ding 33 in Knoxville, TN is only 2 weeks away. I hope Mother Nature will help us out with a little cooler weather.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!!!

Ride Safe and Keep the Shiny side UP

Mike and Joyce Rist
Mississippi Assistant District Directors

PS Keep praying for those that are sick/injured and/or hospitalized.



Mississippi Senior District Educator



Buddy Shirley
budwing99@comcast.net



SUMMER RIDING,

When the temperature is as hot as it has been you need to stay as hydrated as you can. Riding in this heat with all the gear on you will start to dehydrate pretty quick so make sure that you drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks. Wing Ding is coming up in Knoxville Tn. If you have plans to go we will see you there and if you haven't made up your mind yet the chance to win a 2012 Goldwing may change your mind. If you just have to miss Wing Ding then please make plans to attend the Mississippi Rally/convention we are offering you everything we possible can, so as Jim Hodge always says come to Tupelo and play with us.

Ride safe and ride prepared

Eldon "Buddy" Shirley Senior District Educator



Make A Difference

Mississippi Assistant Riders Ed.

Ruth Ann & Lomax Rosamond

gl1800@comcast.net



Adventures of Ruth Ann and the Blue Spyder.



June 3 – Along with Lomax, Buddy and Stephanie, I left Meridian, MS with some good friends wishing us a safe and fun trip. It was a beautiful morning with light traffic but the temperature was pushing toward 90 degree and this was 8 in the morning. I was very thankful that all the road work which had traffic backed up, was going the other way. The goal was to stop for the night on the other side of Cincinnati, Ohio, which we did but boy did I have a tried butt. Oh by the way, that was 641 miles in one day . 😊

June 4th – It was cooler than the previous morning with the sun shining. All our bikes were purring along beautiful. After Spam sandwiches at Geneva-on-the-Lake we rode a short distance along Lake Erie to get a view of the lake. We arrived in Niagara Falls (438 miles this day) in time to pick up tickets for all the tourist attractions for the next day and to try to see the Falls as the lights came on for the night. But I think half of the world's folks were lined up along the falls to see them too.

June 5th- Time to be a tourist at Niagara Falls. We went down into the Cave of the Winds where we were just feet from the falls with the thundering of water spray falling on me. Next we visited the Niagara Gorge Discovery Center with its Interactive displays showing the constant changes of the falls since the ice age then we all took the Maid of the Mist boat ride where you get up close to the bottom of the falls.

Lesson Learned – Check your Passports well before your trip. We had planned to enter Canada where there is a much better view of the falls and perhaps ride around the north side of Lake Ontario. I got our passports out a few weeks before leaving and guess what, they had expired with no time to get them renewed before the trip. 😞

We left Niagara Falls and took another detour to ride along the southern shore of Lake Ontario where we got a photo op at the Olcott Lighthouse in Olcott, NY. The Olcott Light was built on a pier in Olcott, New York at Eighteen Mile Creek, named for being eighteen miles from the Niagara River. The light was no longer needed in the 1930s, and was moved to a local yacht club, where it resided until the early 1960s when it was destroyed. In the summer of 2003, a replica was built from old photographs.

June 6th - We had spent the night in Rochester, NY and now headed to Lake George for Americade. We left I90 in Utica for a beautiful ride through Adirondack Park with a picnic in Speculator, NY. We arrived in Lake George in the early afternoon. When I was making reservations the first question I asked was “do you have a laundry room for the guests”, I knew I would need to do Laundry by then. Lesson learned, make sure the washers are plugged in and the dryers work before doing the wash. But I did get the clothes dry and at no cost. Clinton Inn had very clean rooms but wasn't ready completely for guests after being closed all winter.



Next Page

June 7 & 8 – Americade here we come. We pickup up our packets, checked over the schedule and went to the vendors. If you are looking for something for your bike or gear for you, at Americade, and you don't find it, then they don't make it. There were vendors all over the place and even in other nearby towns. The Spyder now has a third brake light so you can see me when I'm stopping, and I got a new item for my helmet. Check it out at www.e-tintproducts.com and ask me how I like it. While the guys were signing up for a demo ride, I went to Fred Rau's Coffee Club for just talking about anything and everything. But guess what most of the talk was about, the Can-Am Spyder. If you would like to know more about our demo ride on the 2012 Gold Wing, just ask us. We attended a presentation by Lee Parks the Total Control Guy, and watched Geoff Aaron, 10 times AMA Trials Champion perform. We had a great time but when night came the streets filled by the "who has the loudest bike crowd" so for us it was time to go to the motel. Is this age or common sense speaking?



June 9th – We went back to our childhood with a visit to the Crayola Crayons Museum in Easton, PA then to Hershey, PA to find some sweet chocolate to eat . We got to make our own chocolate bars and boy they were so good, wish I had one right now.



June 10th – Near Shanksville, PA we went to visit the temporary memorial for Flight 93. This is the site that brave folks fought to take over the hijacked plane from the terrorist on 9/11 but lost their lives and saved our capitol. Phase one of the memorial is scheduled to open on 9/11/11. We headed down through West Virginia on US 219 twisting and turning our way down to Lewisburg for the night. Deal's Gap is nothing compared to highway 219. I was mentally tired from concentrating on all the twists and turns and I was ready to call it a night. My first words the next morning was, "do we have any more roads like 219 to do today?" if so let's find another way to go.

June 11th – We spent the morning visiting the very unique New River Bridge near Fayette, WV, the longest steel arch bridge in the world when completed in 1977. At a height of 876 feet it is the second highest vehicular bridge in the Americas and the fifth highest in the world. We rode to Cleveland, TN for the night.

June 12th – Three Thousand Ninety miles, nine new states and a wonderful time, we arrived home safe and looking forward to our next trip. Would I do this adventure again? Oh yes, I'm ready.

See you at Wing Ding.

Ruth Ann



Membership Enhancement Chapter of the Year Coordinators

Lemuel & Jane Jones

msdmec2@yahoo.com



It's hard to believe that it is already July and that the Mississippi Convention is just a little over 3 months away. I would like to start off by thanking all the Chapter MEC's that have already signed up to volunteer at the MEC table at this year's convention. We really appreciate everything that you do.

If you haven't already registered for the MS District Convention/Rally on October 13-15, please take the time to do this. It will be here before you know it.

Also, for those Chapters who are competing in the Chapter of the Year Competition, there will be a Chapter of the Year seminar at the MS Convention/Rally this year. Remember there are points to be gained by attending this seminar, so make your plans now to attend.

As you travel to the Chapter Fun Days or other Chapter events don't forget to take your passport with you and have the Director sign them. At this year's MS Convention, there will be a drawing for those of you who have 25 or more events filled out. If you lack some, there is still time, just get out there and travel.

Remember the GWRRA motto: Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

See you down the road, but until then, ride safe.

Lemuel and Jane
MS District MEC
msdmec2@yahoo.com



Leadership Training
Bobby & Coleen Knight
coleen.fay@rcsd.ms



Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a restful and safe summer. Please remember to stay hydrated and cool! Leadership Training is moving right along this year. We had two trainings on June 11th that were a lot of fun. Bobby and I offered the Life Skills Program with Woody and Debbie Jones and Jimmy and Susan Harrison teaching modules. All trainers, please remember that we would love for you to teach any and every time you would like (HINT,HINT).

On the same weekend, Bobby and Lori Bryant offered the OCP updates class. They had 20 wonderful participants that gave up their weekend for their chapter members. Please remember to let your officers know how much you appreciate the time they spend staying current in order to give you the best chapter in the state.

We will have two more training classes this summer and we would love for trainers to teach and members to attend. Chapter Leadership Skills will be offered July 23rd. On that same night, Chapter "F" will be sponsoring a dance with sound system and fun included. Everyone is welcome to come to training for the first part of the day and then join us for some good music, fun and fellowship.

We will also be offering Intermediate Leadership Skills on August 20th. Please attend if possible. Thank you to all those who have participated so far this year. We have had a great time so far. See everyone at Wing Ding!

Bobby and Coleen Knight





2010-2011 Couple of the Year
Couple of the Year Coordinators
Motorist Awareness—MAD

Woody & Debbie Jones

woodman50@comcast.net



I guess we are glad to be riding again to the fun days and rallies .The only problem is Mr. Heat. When he comes out he really comes out. We have met several of the Chapter Couples the last two weeks and they are excited about the MISSISSIPPI Rally. Don't forget we will be having a cook out for all the 2011 couples of the year in July. This will give us all a chance to have a good time and mingle and talk and just have fun. We still need help on the District Region "A" Basket. We need three items from each Chapter. It would be a good time to bring them to the District Picnic in August. We appreciate all the help we can get. We also hope for your support at Lake Eufaula. Be safe and take care of each other.



Let's please get ready for the monthly MAP report to be sent in every month. You use form n.6 just like the Rider Educators uses. I know some of you are working on different things and project for MAP so please keep it going and if you need help with brochures or pamphlets please let Debbie I know. I will need your June report by June 29, 2011. Thank You

A Word or Two From Region "A"



Region "A" Directors

Bob & Nancy Shrader

An important announcement from Ed Price, the Marketing Director for GWRRA was made to the Regional and District Directors on May 17th. GWRRA is embarking on a new initiative called the Honda Dealer Incentive Program. As of this writing, the kick-off date is on or about June 1st. Letters from the Home Office to the individual Honda Dealers will be sent out explaining the program and asking them if they would like to participate. Those dealers who respond affirmatively will then receive the recruitment material from the Home Office. The program offers the dealers a variety of incentives to help recruit new GWRRA members and if it's the success we hope it to be, we will all benefit. Once the program is officially underway, the Chapter Directors will receive a letter from the Home Office making the announcement. The District Directors have received the paperwork that explains the program and how it is intended to work and will make it available to the Chapter Directors as the program unfolds. There are neither paperwork responsibilities nor any reporting duties for the Chapters in this program. It's probably wisest to wait until the individual dealers respond back to the Home Office in the affirmative about participating in the program before approaching them about further activities.



From National's Newsletter

Wing Ding 33...

Are you ready for an exciting Wing Ding that's packed with GWRRA friends, vendors, Drill Teams, seminars, rider courses, entertainment and even a few surprises? Wing Ding is a Members' Convention, run by the Members for the benefit of the Members. From dawn to dusk, the schedule is jam-packed, full of FUN each day. Participation is your key to having FUN!!!

Daily we will be having our World Famous Trade Show at the Knoxville Convention Center, and demo rides at the Chilhowee Park. The financial support these vendors provide through their participation gives GWRRA the means to provide this world class event. Many vendors go that extra mile for you and become Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze level sponsors. They provide those great prizes you all like to win. Be sure to show them your appreciation and support by purchasing your add-ons and accessories while you're at Wing Ding.

On Tuesday evening, at 6:00 pm July 5th, for the Early Birds, we have the "Lions, Tigers & Wings... Oh My!" Welcome Party, hosted by our great friends at American Honda and the Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation. This will be held at the Knoxville Zoo next to Chilhowee Park. On July 7th, don't miss the Thursday evening BBQ Buffet followed by J&M Evening Entertainment. John Lazzeroni, President of J&M, will raffle off thousands of dollars in motorcycle audio products all benefiting a local Knoxville charity.

Polish your ride and join the Grand Parade on Friday evening, July 8th. The parade will leave the West Town Mall at 5:30 pm and run through the great city of Knoxville. The parade will conclude at Chilhowee Park, where we have several Drill Teams performing for your pleasure. This will be followed by the Blues Brothers Tribute Show at the Chilhowee Park Amphitheater at 8:30 pm.

Billy Bob and his travels by MS-B

BILLY BOB GETS HIS WINGS



Kathy, Tim, Lyn, and Bob from Chapter O brought Billy Bob to Chapter B at our May business meeting. We enjoyed the fellowship and look forward to seeing them at Wing Ding.

Upon receiving Billy Bob, we decided to give him wings and set him free. Patsy Sweeting did the honors of making his wings and giving him some small bee friends to guide him on his travels.

He followed Dana to Pensacola, Florida, where they went to the Naval Air Station Museum.

While there, he flew a variety of WWII planes and even got to fly with the Blue Angels.

Billy Bob returned to the Mississippi Gulf Coast for some much needed r & r. He ate at a variety of restaurants—Roadhouse, The Shed (where he got to ride a chopper), Salute's, and the

Chimneys. He went to Ship Island, walked on the piers, and played on the beaches in Gulfport

and Biloxi. He went shrimping; sailing; gambling at the Hard Rock, Beau Rivage, and Island

View Casinos; and shopping at Edgewater Mall. While in Biloxi, he visited the Biloxi

Lighthouse, the WWII Memorial, and the Hurricane Katrina Memorial.

Billy Bob was so tired, Peggie had to pick him up in Biloxi at the Lighthouse Pier. One couple

thought he was so cute that they also took pictures of him.

Billy Bob came back to Chapter B with lots of good memories.

We called Mike Perronne and made arrangements to pass him on to Chapter Z. Mike joined us

for dinner at High Cotton and took him home to Diamond-head to begin his new adventures.



Chapter Directors if you get Billy Bob, please write a small article of his travels for the District Newsletter.

CHAPTERS HAVING AN EVENT IN 2011

CHAPTER D - JUNE 25TH – FUN DAY

CHAPTER F – FUN DAY - SEPTEMBER 10TH

CHAPTER Q –CHARITY EVENT - SEPTEMBER 24TH

MS District Conv. (rally) OCTOBER 13-15TH

[More Dates on page 15](#)

Rev 4/25/2011

Thanks to Joyce Rist for getting this together.

NEW Dates

August 6 District Picnic South—Paul B Johnson Park (2/24)

August 27 District Picnic North—Grenada Lake (2/24)



2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

6-9 WING DING 33, Knoxville, TN <http://www.wing-ding.org/>

23 Chapter Leadership Skills Program MS Realtors Bldg.-Flowood, MS

30 Couple of the Year - Cookout 12pm, MS Realtors Bldg.-Flowood, MS **(new)**

AUGUST

20 Intermediate Leadership Skills Program MS Realtors Bldg.-Flowood, MS

SEPTEMBER

15-17 Region "A" Conv. Eufaula, AL <http://www.gwrra-regiona.org/RArally.shtml>

22-24 North Carolina District Conv. Fletcher, NC <http://www.gwrranc.org/wos2011.htm>

OCTOBER

1 Membership Orientation Program—MS Realtors Bldg.-Flowood, MS

13-15 Mississippi District Conv. Tupelo, MS <http://www.miss.gwrra-regiona.org/>

Chapter Life Program (at the Conv.)

NOVEMBER

5 Advanced Leadership Skills MS Realtors Bldg.-Flowood, MS

[More Dates on page 14](#)



**Do not forget the
MISSISSIPPI
District Convention
in Tupelo, MS
October 13, 14 & 15
2011
Ya'll come on and join
us.**