



Virginia District Times

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



By The Best is Yet to Come!

Roman, our illustrious Newsletter Editor, sent out an email to remind us to Roman, our illustrious Newsletter Editor, sent out an email to remind us to send in our articles. He titled it "The party's over..." Other than being slightly angry with him for putting that song in my head to play over and over, it got me to thinking about what is instore next.

First, I want to share a little about Wing Ding 41. The Virginia Members in attendance did an excellent job working security at the vendor's doors. Thanks to Debbie Dowell for collecting the names of those who volunteered and to Dan Clark for representing us and overseeing the operation while I was presenting modules.

There wasn't a costume 'contest', my mistake, but when Team GWRRA saw some of us from my home Chapter in costume they were impressed. The entertainment both nights was free after dinner and exceptional. It was a great time to spend with some Virginia people including Elvis and his hippie girlfriend fresh from WV (aka the Stanley's)! Loads of cowboys and cowgirls including Willie Nelson and a couple of inflatable horses. I must say that the men in wranglers, boots and cowboy hats sure were nice to look at. Looking forward to Wing Ding 42 in Springfield, Missouri.

Next on our calendar for the District is the **All Chapter's Picnic**. The details are as follows:

Twin Lakes State Park, 788 Twins Lakes Road, Green bay Virginia 434-392-3435. Camping is available.

It is at Shelter 1, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Bring a dessert to share and/or one to auction off. Proceeds from the auction will go to the Couples Program. Lunch will be provided. Only cost is parking (free with a disabled permit), 50/50 and the auction.

Just as a reminder:

We will have an **Officer's Conference**, formally the OP's meeting, in January. All Chapter and District Team Members are invited, as well as, any interested Member. More information to follow. It will be as centrally located as possible to best serve all of you. Breakout sessions for training on each position is planned.

It is coming! **Wingless Weekend** is back by popular demand. Traditionally scheduled for Valentine's weekend, the event is planned for the 14th and 15th of February. I have been gifted with archives of prior Wingless Weekends. What I would like to have is input from those of you who have attended in the past to share with the District Team. What did you enjoy most about it so we can include those things in the planning? Even better, volunteer to help us put it together. Contact me by phone or email.

Virginia District Directors

*Lorrie Thomas
& Dan Clark*



Lorrie Thomas & Dan Clark

VA District Directors

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wingernut93@aol.com

LT: 954-599-5178

DC: 757-343-1783



Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge



The Gold Wing Road Rider Association (GWRRA)...

... is a friendly group of people who enjoys motorcycling, socializing, and having a good time with other motorcycling enthusiasts through the freedom of belonging to a non-profit, nonpolitical, nonreligious organization.

Membership in GWRRA is not limited to just Gold Wing or Valkyrie owners. Anyone may join and participate in any activities, regardless of the brand of motorcycle they ride. Our emphasis is on having fun, sharing knowledge, and stressing safety. If you're a motorcycle rider and want to meet and make new friends, we invite you to join us. Whether you are a new or seasoned rider, you will be welcomed to our organization, in a Chapter close to your home or joining friends that are already members. That's up to you. We'll help you build/hone your riding skills through ongoing ride education and many different seminars with loads of fun.



Allen & Debbie Dowell
Asst. District Directors North
mickeydowell1240@gmail.com
804-222-1303

Once you join GWRRA, you may participate with as many chapters as you choose; you decide your own level of involvement. Wherever you travel, you're welcome. A GWRRA membership opens doors to friendship wherever you ride! There are no expectations, riding requirements, elections, politics, or required uniforms. Put up your feet and stay a while - you'll find all sorts of information on GWRRA and our Chapters. Be sure to check out the newsletters from each chapter puts one out each month on the latest news and events.

The doors opened at Wing Ding 41 on Tuesday where recognition was given to Awards and Couple of the Year Day! Arriving early to join in all recognition and some of our outstanding Officers, Directors, University Instructors and more! Allen & I had the chance to meet our International Couples of the Year. They are:

Overseas: Roger & Rafhella Hefez,

Canadian Territory: Mark & Dale Williams

Northeastern Territory: Bob & Liz Fowler, Northwestern Territory: Don & June Detwiler, Southwestern Territory: Robert & Joan Partigiani. Southeast Territory: Carl & Kathy Williams

Congratulations to all!

Wing Ding rolls out the carpet when we arrive starting with the "Welcome Party". Allen & I didn't make that event. Boogie with the live music, dinner with friendship. Then we rode over to watch the Drill Teams precision. Fantastic job.

I know Allen & I walked in 5 days 75miles inside the Gaylord Opryland Hotel, at least that's the way our feet felt! Between where we had to be at a certain time or just finding our room, it was a walk or a climb up or down stairs. But, we still had fun. As part of the VA District Team, Allen & I wish to say "THANK YOU" to all of you from Chapters A, C, D, E, L, O, X, and the District Team for volunteering at Vendors doors for checking armbands.

I believe there were over 5,500 people attending WD 41. Next year "Wing Ding 42" will be held in Springfield, Missouri on June 30 – July 4, 2020.

Asst. District Directors North

Allen & Debbie Dowell



Wing 42 Ding

SPRINGFIELD EXPO CENTER

Springfield, Missouri | June 30 - July 4, 2020

Photo courtesy of the Springfield, MO Convention and Visitors Bureau.



- Convenient location near University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center.
- Over 100,000 square feet of floor space.
- Great local cuisine.
- Ride across Route 66.
- 4th of July Celebration.
- Great entertainment and fun rides to enjoy.

Register for Wing Ding 42

3 Packages available

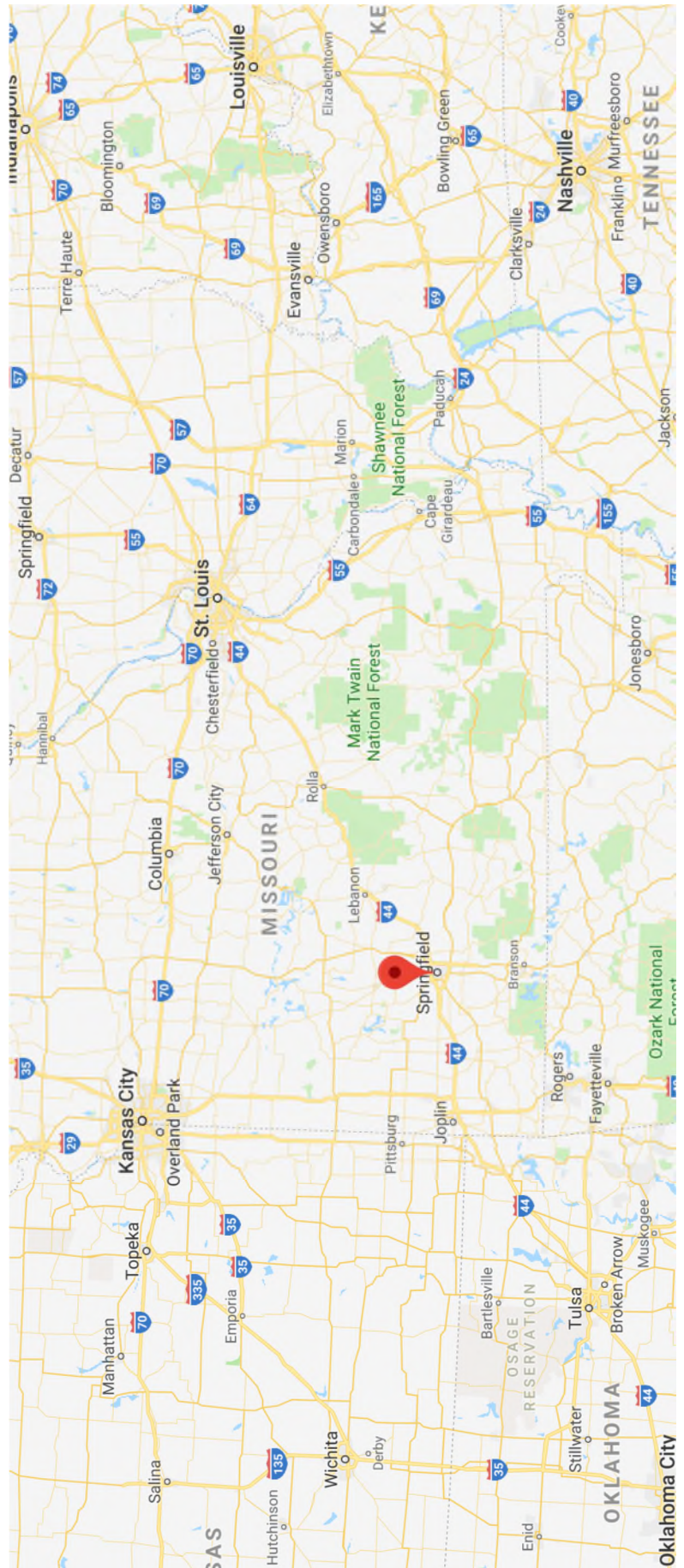
Premier
Gold Wing Night
Standard

Each package includes:
Full Registration(s)
Gold Wing Ticket(s)
50/20/15/10/5 Ticket(s)
Event Shirt(s)
Dinner(s) (not in standard package)

[Click here for more information.](#)

wing-ding.org | 800-843-9460

FOLLOW WING DING NEWS ON FACEBOOK!

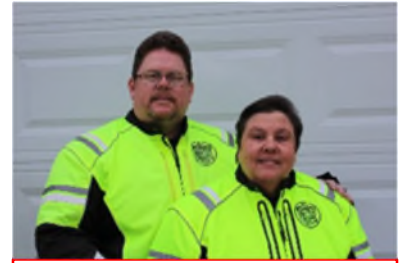




Are you coming?

... TO THE ALL CHAPTER PICNIC

Why not? Let me know. Email me at the following
eastondm@cox.net



Dennis & Phyllis Easton

VA District Couple of the Year
757-636-1023
eastondm@cox.net

See attached Flyer for all the details. The exciting part is the VA District is picking up the cost of the food. We are having the picnic catered.

We are still asking members to provide desserts for eating and auctioning off.

We are bringing back Chapter Challenge Games. Come prepared to have fun.

Come join Phyllis and I as we travel and attend all VA Chapters. I will be sending out a schedule in the upcoming months where we will be. Stay on the lookout as we travel the state.

See you at the All Chapters Picnic.

Come join us as we uphold Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge.

2019 VA District Couple

Dennis & Phyllis Easton



Baby, it's Gonna be Cold Outside

The beginning of the end of riding season is upon us. Some of us ride until there is snow on the ground, but some start thinking about winterizing the bike and packing it in when it drops into the 60's.

Winter, whenever it is for you, is a good time to start planning indoor training events. Couple it with a potluck dinner or before a hayride and hot cocoa.

There have been several requests recently for Medic First Aid© throughout the District. Check your My RE, contact me or the MFA Coordinator for Virginia, Ken Taylor or ask the District Educator for the date your MFA will expire. The MFA Instructors are more than happy to come to you. I will assist you in finding a location to hold the class, if you need the help. Doing the training as a Chapter each year at the same time makes it easier to plan for the event and remind Members when it's time to re-new.

There will be position specific training for Officers at the Officer's Conference (formally OPS meeting) in January. If you have new Members on your Chapter Team, I can arrange for group training for them at any time. The Instructors are ready and willing!

On GWRRRA.org, the University website, there are now recently released new "HOW TO's". They are step by step instructions on several dozen topics. The "HELP FOR NEW OFFICER" topics have been approved and will be posted. Anyone has access to these, not just Instructors.

Interested in the position of District University Coordinator? The position is vacant and requires an interest in training and the ability to become, if not currently, a University Instructor. Contact me for further details.

See you in the classroom

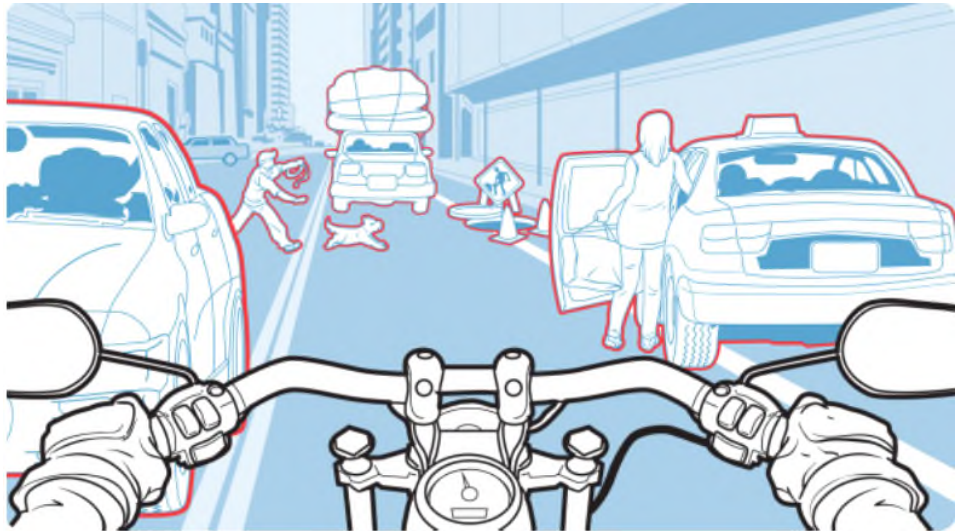
Lorrie Thomas



TOPIC: TARGET FIXATION

"Target fixation is a process by which the brain is focused so intently on an observed object that awareness of other obstacles or hazards can diminish. Also, in an avoidance scenario, the observer can become so fixated on the target that they will end up colliding with the object. This is a common issue for motorcyclists and mountain bikers. A motorcycle or bicycle will tend to go where the rider is looking; if the rider is overly focused on an obstacle (puddle of oil, tree, branch, patch of sand, small child, etc), the cycle can collide with that object simply because of the rider's focus on it, even though the rider is trying to avoid it."

The Basic rider course teaches "Look where you want to go", and it's sound advice no matter how much experience you gain. The bike is going to go where you're looking. If there's a pothole or debris in front of you, or a car pulls out, or an animal runs into your path, don't look directly at it—look for a way out, where you want to go.



It is insufficient to simply advise that you should avoid target fixation. Saying "don't fixate" is all very well, but once it starts, you need a positive technique to get yourself out in one piece. So once you are in trouble, *use target fixation* to save your skin.

Don't look at the oncoming truck/tree/pothole; figure out where you would rather be *and fixate on that instead*. In fact, those of you that have taken an MSF classes know that "target fixation" is an excellent way to control skids - fixate on a point dead ahead on the horizon, and you'll be well on the way towards automatically correcting most skids.

So, be aware. It's common sense, watch where you're going.

Chuck and Chris Jacobs
Team GWRRA
AR / WV District Educator
bluewing@bluemarble.net



Fun Facts: Front tires dis-

perse water at three times the rate of rear tires.



LABOR DAY WEEKEND TRAFFIC CRASHES CLAIM 11 LIVES IN VIRGINIA

Release 16 For Immediate Release: September 3, 2019

Five traffic deaths result from three motorcycle crashes

RICHMOND, Va. – With 11 traffic deaths occurring over the Labor Day weekend, the preliminary number of total traffic deaths for Virginia in 2019 is quickly catching up to the 2018 to-date total. As of Sept. 1, 2019, there have been a reported 510 traffic fatalities statewide, compared to 520 fatalities last year on this date.

“Despite our enforcement and outreach efforts in advance of the Labor Day weekend, Virginia still had 11 men and women killed in traffic crashes on our highways,” said Colonel Gary T. Settle, Virginia State Police Superintendent. “Speed and alcohol were common factors in many of the holiday fatal crashes, which pushed us over 500 traffic deaths for the year so far. At what point have Virginians had enough of men, women, teens and children dying on our highways? All we ask is for Virginians to make responsible driving practices and habits an every-day priority. Please make that commitment today, so we can save more lives than lose them in these final months of 2019.”

During the 2019 four-day holiday statistical counting period, 11 men and women were killed in nine traffic crashes across the Commonwealth. The traffic crashes occurred in the counties of Albemarle, Franklin, Goochland, Prince George, Prince William, Richmond, Spotsylvania and Wise. Prince William County had two separate fatal crashes occur over the Labor Day weekend. Prince William and Franklin counties each had one traffic crash that resulted in two deaths. State police investigated a total 684 traffic crashes during the holiday weekend.

Motorcycles were involved in three of the nine fatal traffic crashes. Both of the Prince William County fatal crashes involved motorcycles, with one claiming the lives of the motorcycle’s operator and passenger. The Franklin County crash also involved a motorcycle, with the operator and passenger being killed in the crash.

Both state police and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) provide extensive training for motorcycle enthusiasts. On Sept. 21, 2019 in Wytheville and Salem, Virginia State Police will be offering its “Ride 2 Save Lives” Motorcycle Assessment Courses free of charge. Simply sign up through the Virginia State Police Facebook page. Information on DMV’s Virginia Rider Training Program Courses is available at https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/drivers/#m_course.asp.

The Virginia State Police participated in two annual, traffic-safety enforcement programs over the 2019 Labor Day weekend: Operation Crash Awareness Reduction Effort (CARE) and Checkpoint Strikeforce. Operation CARE is a nationwide, state-sponsored traffic safety program that aims to reduce traffic crashes, fatalities and injuries caused by impaired driving, speeding and failing to use occupant restraints. Virginia State Police’s participation in the program began Friday, Aug. 30, 2019, at 12:01 a.m., and concluded at midnight Monday, Sept. 2, 2019.

As a result of state police traffic safety enforcement efforts during the 2019 statistical counting period, Virginia troopers:

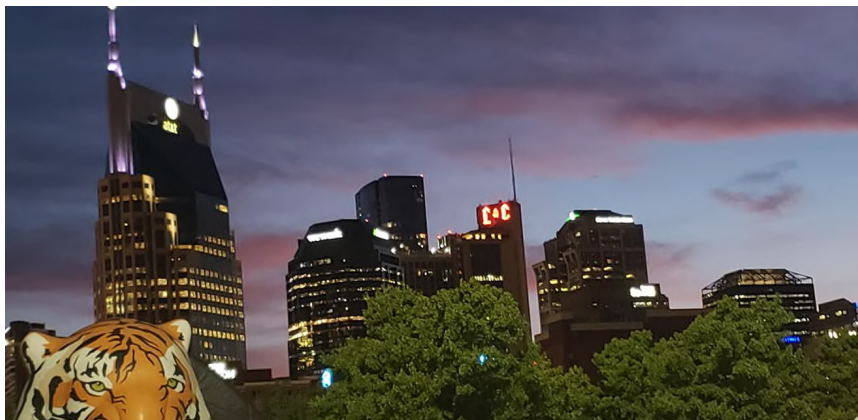
- Stopped 7,279 speeders
- Stopped 2,283 reckless drivers
- Arrested 76 drivers for DUI/DUID
- Cited 723 seat belt violations
- Assisted 2,148 disabled/stranded motorists

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Captain Norman E. Gray, Sr.
Bureau of Criminal Investigation
BCI-Support Services Division

Virginia State Police
P. O. Box 27472
Richmond, Virginia 23261
norman.gray@vsp.virginia.gov
(Note Captain Gray is a member of VA-O)





ALL CHAPTERS PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

We will celebrate each other and especially our Couples of the Year, past and present.

Back by popular demand

Our awesome Dessert Auction to supplement the Membership Enhancement Program

\$5 to Park

\$0 to Party

11am to 3pm



Location

Twin Lakes State Park is near Farmville, about an hour southwest of Richmond.

To get there, take U.S. 360 West of Burkeville to Route 613 (Indian Springs Rd.). Then go east on Route 629 (Twin Lakes Rd.).

Its address is 788 Twin Lakes Rd., Green Bay, VA 23942-2525.

Latitude, 37.174829, Longitude, -78.273242.

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/twin-lakes>

In the heart of central Virginia, this 548-acre, historic park offers many cultural, environmental and recreational activities. Overnight accommodations include a 33-site campground and 11 climate-controlled cabins. Visitors enjoy swimming, fishing, hiking, boating and lakeside picnicking.

Chapter Directors:

Please put this on your Chapter calendar and pass on the information at your Gatherings.

We will need a head count by September 7, 2019



CHAPTER SKILL ENHANCEMENT ADVISOR



Job Summary

The role of Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor (CSEA) is to proactively support Member/Participant by providing them with information they can consider on ways to become skilled, prepared and safer riders and co-riders.

Encouraged Responsibilities

- Serve as an example by being actively engaged in the Levels Program.
- Monthly, or as often as possible and weather permitting based on Members interest, put on an on-bike skills day with skill practice, bike games for riders and co-riders.
- Team with the Chapter Ride Coordinator to promote the importance of best riding practices at chapter gatherings, rides and events.
- Utilize the quarterly Chapter Levels Report provided by the District Educator to support the Members and assist them in achieving milestones and earning recognition.
- Communicate directly with the District Educator to advocate for classes and courses to serve any chapter participant with an interest in progressing in the levels program, becoming a more proficient rider and being better prepared to respond to emergency situations.

Qualifications and Skills

The Chapter Skill Enhancement Advisor:

- is not an officer; and the position is not mandatory.
- has a basic knowledge of the GWRRA Rider Education Program
- is appointed by the Chapter Director
- is interviewed by the District Educator
- completes a Confidentiality Agreement
- is a current Level II Rider or Co-Rider
- receives guidance and support from the District Educator
- communicates with the District Educator directly, keeping the Chapter Director in the loop to assure the needs of the chapter participants are met. Remember, the Chapter Skill Enhancement Adviser is an active participant on the Chapter staff and primary direction comes from the Chapter Director
- does not have access to the RE database and relies on the District Educator for the information.

*Chapter Directors,
A new position was introduced at Wing Ding 41. It is not required to fill this position, but I am certain that you will see the benefit of having a Team Member who encourages safety and the involvement in the Level's program.*

If you choose to fill this position, please let me know who it is. Any questions, please contact me.

*Lorrie Thomas
lorriemthomas@aol.com
954-599-5178*

Goal: To provide the membership with the basic support needed to participate meaningfully and successfully in the GWRRA Rider Education Program at the Chapter level.



VIRGINIA CHAPTERS

CHAPTER	LOCATION	CHAPTER DIRECTOR	PHONE	SOCIAL GATHERING
VA-A	Burke	Mary O'Connor director@gwrravaa.org	703-365-6775	2nd Wednesday
VA-B1	Tappahannock	Jim & Beverly Evans jevansez@gmail.com	804 -836-7704	No Gathering
VA-C	Newport News	Dave & Donna Huey dhuey1800@verizon.net	757-719-0668	2nd Sunday
VA-D	Richmond	Fritz Sassine & Iris Guillet fritz.sassine@gmail.com	804-938-9183	4th Wednesday
VA-E	Fredericksburg	Claude Revely knightwing263507@gmail.com	540-207-7646	3rd Wednesday
VA-F	Winchester	Stephanie Davis davis.stephanie80@yahoo.com	540-664-6430	4th Sunday
VA-H	Abingdon	Paul & Dorothy Baker 09nellie@comcast.net	276-628-6047	2nd Tuesday
VA-I	Manassas	Mack and Tracey McMillan mack.mcmillan52@gmail.com	571-338-5418	2nd Sunday
VA-K	Roanoke	Bobbie Jo Harrison threewheelcruzin@verizon.net	540-890-2890	2nd Monday
VA-L	Chesapeake	Zac & Angie Bon zachkbon@gmail.com	757-581-0908	4th Tuesday
VA-O	Williamsburg	Ray & Tammie Pierce gwrravaochapterdirector@cox.net	757-268-6286	4th Sunday
VA-R	Harrisonburg	Gary Hoover hoov@shentel.net	540-742-1751	1st Sunday
VA-V	Bedford	Jonathan Whitworth otterridevav@gmail.com	540-425-0028	3rd Sunday
VA-W	Chester	Sheila Hazen gwrravaw@gmail.com	804-396-9088	2nd Tuesday
VA-X	Salem	Larry Stanton larry25022@gmail.com	540-922-1401	1st Saturday

2017
Chapter of the Year
VA-D Richmond





Date	Chapter	2019—2020 Event
2019	2019	2019 (Greyed out dates are past events)
Feb 23	<u>F</u>	VA-F Crazy Supper
Mar 10		Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar 21—23	<u>Florida</u>	40th Florida District Rally Altamonte Springs, FL
Mar 23	<u>Virginia</u>	Medic First Aid / CPR Class—Dulles Public Safety Center
Mar 30	<u>Virginia</u>	Couples's Meet & Greet Luncheon Buffet City 14346 Warwick Blvd Newport News, VA
Apr 6	<u>X</u>	VA-X Spaghetti Dinner Evangelical Methodist Church, 1920 Lucas St. Salem, VA
Apr 20	<u>A</u>	VA-A Picnic in the Park Shenandoah National Park Mile Marker #37, Pinnacles Picnic Area
Apr 25—27	<u>S Carolina</u>	South Carolina District Rally “Wingin with Heroes & Villains”, Newberry, SC
Apr 27	<u>Virginia</u>	Advanced Rider Course (classroom and range) Blue Ridge Hotel and Convention Center, Roanoke, VA
Apr 27	<u>D</u>	VA-D Picnic & poker Run in the Park - Candela's Pizzeria & Ristorante Italiano
Apr 27		American Diabetes Tour De Cure 2019 @ Suffolk Executive Airport
May 2-4	<u>Tennessee</u>	Tennessee District Rally “Spring Fling”: Ranada Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
May 11	<u>Virginia</u>	Trike Rider Course (classroom and range) Blue Ridge Hotel and Convention Center, Roanoke, VA
May 16 - 18	<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Pennsylvania District Rally “Ride of the Roses”: Wyndham Garden York, York PA
May 18	<u>V</u>	VA-V Chick’n Pick’n
May 27	Holiday	Memorial Day
May 31	<u>I</u>	VA-I 31st Anniversary Celebration, Manassas, VA
May 30-Jun 1	<u>Missouri</u>	Wingin The Ozarks MO District Rally Branson, MO
Jun 4-8	<u>New York</u>	Americade 36 – Lake George, NY
Jun 15	<u>O</u>	VA-O Casino Picnic New Quarter Park, Williamsburg, VA
Jun 15	<u>A</u>	VA-A Poker Run
Jun 27-29	<u>Virginia</u>	Virginia Rally In The Valley at the Sheraton Roanoke Hotel & Conference Center
Jul 4	Holiday	Independence Day
Jul 11-13	<u>West Virginia</u>	WV District Rally—Christmas In July, Bridgeport Conference Center, Bridgeport, WV
Aug 1—4	<u>Nova Scotia</u>	Canadian Atlantic District Sou’ Wester Rally Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada
Aug 15-17	<u>Kentucky</u>	The Blast—Kentucky District Rally Cave City, KY
Aug 27-31	<u>Wing Ding</u>	Wing Ding 41 : Knashville, TN
Sep 2	Holiday	Labor Day
Sep 7	<u>C</u>	VA-C Fall Sprawl Extravaganza 485 Simmons Lane. White Stone, VA
Sep 21	<u>Virginia</u>	Virginia All Chapters Picnic—Twin Lakes State Park
Sep 26-28	<u>N C</u>	Wings Over the Smokies NC District Rally Haywood County Fair Grounds 758 Crabtree Rd. Waynesville, NC
Nov 3		Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 28	Holiday	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 25	Holiday	Christmas Day
2020	2020	2020
Jan 10—12		WASHINGTON D.C MOTORCYCLE SHOW - WALTER E. WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER
Jan 17 - 18	<u>Virginia</u>	VA District Officers Conference (formerly Ops Meeting) at TBD location





Virginia District Team

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
District Director	Lorrie Thomas Dan Clark	954-599-5178 757-343-1783	lorriemthomas@aol.com wingernut93@aol.com
Asst. DD West	Wayne & Kathy Whitworth	540-875-8064	wayne69997@yahoo.com
Asst. DD North	Allen & Debbie Dowell	804-222-1303	mickeydowell1240@gmail.com
District Couple of the Year	Dennis & Phyliss Easton	757-636-1023	eastondm@cox.net
District Educator	Leroy Gross	301-641-1032	leroygross@outlook.com
Asst. District Educator	Bob Beltz	757-869-8277	beltzb@cox.net
Asst. District Educator	Gordon Combs	540-840-0394	gorcom@msn.com
	Vacant		
CPR/MFA Coordinator	Ken Taylor	703-819-6766	2012pearlwhiterider@comcast.net
Member Enhancement	Vacant		
Asst. Membership Enhancement	Ann Peterson	703-583-1655	nativepeterson12@gmail.com
District Web Master	Fritz Sassine	804-938-9183	fritz.sassine@gmail.com
District Event Photographer	Jim Peterson	703-583-1655	nativepeterson12@gmail.com
District Special Events Coord.	Vacant		
District Rally Vendor Coord.	Vacant		
Asst. Vendor Coord.	Vacant		
District Treasurer	Roman Paryz	757-687-9282	roman.paryz@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Roman Paryz	757-687-9282	roman.paryz@gmail.com

National

Directors	Jere & Sherry Goodman	540-623-0447	director@gwrra.org
President Emeritus	Anita & JR Alkire	623-445-2380	president@gwrra.org
Director of Membership Enhancement	Larry & Penny Anthony	205-492-9728	mepgwrra@gmail.com
Director Rider Education Program	Susan & George Huttman	828-368-2249	director-re@gwrra.org

