

California District Gold



Golden State Gems March 2009

What a wonderful start to 2009 with the Valentine's Run put on by Chapter 11! Everyone in the chapter did a great job making the event such fun and the participation of so many chapters made it a successful event. It is so awesome to be a part of such a great organization, a family. It felt like a big family reunion, JR and I had to split our time with our GWRRA family and our "other" family as we had to leave early (before food, that was a mistake!) to celebrate the birthdays of our 20 year old nephew and 14 year old niece in Santa Monica. We can hardly wait for 1A's Bake and Craft sale on March 7th, 1M's Bake Sale on March 15th and then 1S's Leprechaun run on March 21st. Then we finish March with Rally in the Valley, an event that 1R put so much effort into and it is always so much fun! We are definitely up and running in the District!

So as we start heading off on our beautiful Wings it's time for us to pull out the T-CLOCS (yes it used to be T-CLOCK) and take a look at our bikes. Co-riders should do this right along with their riders so they know what this is all about, as we are partners in this bike not pretty cargo. So what is a TCLOCS? Good question and one that your Chapter Educator should be able to answer for you. Where do you find out about T-OCLOCS? It's the N.17 form from rider education. So, what does this all stand for?

- T is for tires and wheels.
- C is for controls, the levers, cables and hoses.
- L is for lights, battery, lenses, reflectors, wiring and of course your headlamp.
- O is for oil, checking levels and looking for leaks (what, Gold Wings don't leak!)
- C is for chassis, the frame, suspension (adjust for 2 riders if you're usually 1 up).
- S is for side stand and center stand, what is their condition?

This is an important check before you head out. GWRRA has it in an actual checklist so you can go right down the sheet and check things off. You'll have confidence when you take off that all should be good and ready to go without any mishaps. What is cool is that Rider Education has a check sheet for trikes, side cars and trailers now as well, so Educators download those forms and pass them out at your next Chapter gathering. What a great way to assist your members!

Now that we are ready to go and we know where we are going to be going, what is next? Before you take off, do a personal check. Are you ready for the ride? Do you have the right clothes for the ride? The right gloves? Do your electrics work? There is nothing worse than getting all excited for a trip, to be on the road and miserable because you're too cold or too hot! Be certain that you have invested in the proper riding apparel. That includes your over the ankle footwear and a great helmet. Look out for your personal safety and comfort so your trip will feel as wonderful as riding the roads on a Gold Wing truly is. There is nothing better than that!

A big trip that some of us will be taking will be to Wing Ding this year. A reminder that if you send in 10 registrations at the same time same envelope, each registration can take \$5.00 off. Appoint someone at your chapter to collect the registrations so they can bundle them up and send them 10 at a time so you'll

get the discount (that's \$5.00 more to spend on safety chrome) Be sure to get those registrations in well before the May 18th deadline so you can get the classes or tours that you want to sign up for, as they are first come first serve. Start saving your pennies and dollars now for all those wonderful vendors and just a suggestion: make a priority list of what you really want to buy at Wing Ding and then get that done first. Then you'll know how much you have to spend on the "impulse" items. If you have never been to Wing Ding, talk with someone who has gone before and let them guide you, as the first time can be overwhelming!

So off we go on another great year full of exciting rides, great times and wonderful friends. So be safe, be happy, have fun and may the luck of the Irish be with you in this green month of March! Happy St. Patrick's Day to all and a pinch from me to you!



Anita and JR
California District Directors

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Random Ramblings John Maguire

Motorcycles, Body and Soul

It appears a little memory loss has affected John. His article this month is the same one I received last month...unless, perhaps.....NO! It couldn't be my mind!!

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Lady Riders by Pat Bennett



I offer my apologies for not having a message for January. Both of Art's parents were in hospital. His Dad passed away January 21, as his condition deteriorated quickly the last week. Mom fell December 26, breaking her right hip and left leg above the knee. She had two surgeries to repair the damage. Since then she had strokes, a heart attack and pneumonia. On her last day, she waved goodbye to both of us. She was gone at 11:45 that night on February 5.

She lived with us since July of 2001. She was CA1D's oldest chapter member. Under her gruff exterior, she touched a lot of hearts with her warmth and generosity.

On March 7 at 10 a.m., we will have a short memorial service for both of Art's parents, and then we will motorcycle escort their ashes to Riverside National Cemetery. Dad was Army & Air Force and Mom was a proud Marine, having served in WWII.

(Apologies from your District Newsletter Editor, Pat expressed that GWRRA members were invited to attend but my tardiness in getting this newsletter out prevented that from happening)

Pat



Editor's Comments **by** **Crystal Rush**

Welcome Spring!

Those of us who do not suffer from allergies – this is the most beautiful time of year. California gets RAIN and with rain comes flowers. I love being on the bike, such an array of colors, traveling past the flower fields on I-5 in Oceanside and the aromas that fill the air. I'm looking forward to the L & Y rides – with the rain we've had I'm hoping the hillsides will be full of wildflowers.

Of course with flowers we have birds, butterflies and bees. Now the birds and butterflies aren't such a hazard but the bees are another story. I was traveling down the road just a couple of days ago and saw this "cloud" traveling toward me. I thought it was an odd sight. Fortunately, I was in my cage but my window was down and before I knew it I was in the middle of a swarm of bees. After the swarm had passed (windshield was covered) my whole focus was on listening to see if any of the bees had made it into the car. Now the reason I bring this up is because, if I felt that "panicked" in my car, what would have been going through my mind if I were on my bike? There have been several occasions that the group has been on a ride in the spring and I hear over the CB, I've been stung by a bee. I am surprised at how many people are allergic to bee stings. What is even MORE surprising is that these people do NOT carry epi pins with them. So what do you do? In hind sight this following story is funny but could have had a different outcome.

We were at Wing Ding in Billings not this past time but the time before that. Our group was heading home and was going through Glacier National Park – one of the members felt a bee go up his pant leg. I have to tell you, I have never seen anybody get their bike to the side of the road, get off the bike and drop their pants so fast in my life! Fortunately he did not get stung but it was at that point we all found out he is allergic to bee stings and does not carry anything to help him if he should get stung! What would we have done?!

So, I guess what I'm trying to convey is this, get to know those you are riding with. Try to get information out of them as to what if....One of our chapter members had a motto he always quoted and I still like to keep it in mind – My Safety is Your Responsibility.

Enjoy the spring – be prepared for your rides – but always keep in mind the hazards that are out there.

Crystal J. Rush
CA Assistant District Director
Newsletter Editor
Leadership Training

*Remember: Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, coffee in the other, totally worn out and screaming **"WOO HOO WHAT A RIDE!"***

March 2009

Sunday	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 CA1 A Bake Sale
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 CA1 M Bake Sale	16	17	18	19	20	21 CA1 S Poker Run
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 CA1 R Rally in the Valley	30	31				CA1 R Rally in the Valley

April 2009

Sunday	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Horizons Temecula (sponsored by CA1Z)
5 Horizons Temecula (sponsored by CA1Z)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 CA1L Fun Run Region F Rally NV
19 CA1Y Fun Run Region F Rally NV	20	21	22	23	24	25 Monty & Lucy Carpenter's Ride 4 Kids Dinner
26 Rendezvous With Chapter Q	27	28	29	30		