

**Gold Wing Road Riders Association  
Iowa Chapter I**

Volume 37 – Issue 9      September 2019  
“Friends for FUN, Safety, and Knowledge”



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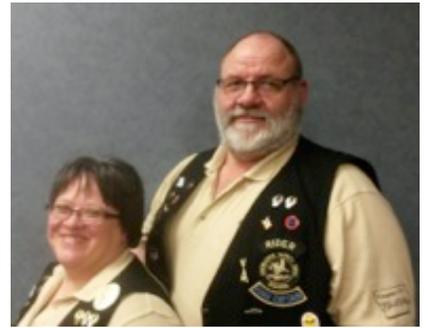
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**Gold Wing Road Riders Association  
Chapter IA-I Gathering – August 25, 2019  
Junie’s – Elk Run Heights, IA  
Eat @ 5:30; Gathering @ 6:00**

*Watch for school buses and students!*

## **The Good News from the Chapter I Directors - Roger & Lisa Fleming**

Where did the summer go? We were all in a “big yank” for it to get here so we can ride and see friends, and now it is all but gone. We all know that means school is starting. Please watch out for the little ones and for the big ones too. The bus drivers need you to help them keep all those children safe. After school starts, the farmers will start harvest. That means farm machinery, especially combines, will be on the road. Please be careful when passing them. I know you are in a hurry to get around them, but watch for signs that they are turning left as this may help you avoid an accident. And, last but not least, please do not use your phone to text while you are driving any motorized vehicle. It is not only dangerous and possibly deadly, it is also plain dumb! You would not believe how many people I see texting who swerve over the center line, swerve onto the shoulder, and/or swerve in front of my semi. Taking your eyes off the road to check a text message or type a text message may mean your life or the life of someone else. Honestly, if your message is that important, pull off the road and stop.



We hope to see you all in Oelwein for the Iowa District Rally for fun, friends, and rides on September 20 and 21. Our Iowa District Staff has been working hard and the rally is “gearing up” to be great time!

Until we meet again, ride safe and hug your loved ones.

Roger and Lisa Fleming  
Chapter I Directors

## **From Assistant Chapter Directors – Arden & Janice Terfehn**



Summer is more than half over. We rode to Branson for the Missouri Rally, but other than that we don't have any more long trips planned for this year. We have made a lot of short trips on days when the weather was good. Between rain, heat and humidity, there have not been a lot of days to ride. I guess we better enjoy it, because if next winter is going to be anything like the last one, watch out!

We have been getting some huge tomatoes out of the garden. I just measured one Janice put in the refrigerator and it is 15” around! There are at least two more out there bigger than that.

Ride safe and always keep the shiny side up!  
Arden & Janice

# Steve Lensing, Chapter Ride Coordinator and Michele Lensing, MEC

## Vittles, Tidbits & Treats Review Challenge

Here are some more Vittles Tidbits and Treats reviews.

- \* Beijing Buffet in Galena, IL "Ride on by!" Food over cooked. Service? Where? Ice cream probably the best part of the meal... they didn't cook it....
- \* Old Fashioned Ice Cream Parlor in Galena, IL "Whether you go with the cherry pie and ice cream or get a double scooper you can't go wrong! 32 flavors... many unique from a family run Cedar Crest Ice Cream!"
- \* Victory Café Galena, IL" Definitely recommend the Chicken BBP (grilled chicken, hickory smoked bacon, pepper jack cheese on a pretzel bun) lots of fries!"
- \* The Viking in Ventura, IA "Better have a big appetite if you order anything larger than a small cone! Unbelievable!"
- \* The Family Table in Decorah, IA "Always a GREAT breakfast destination."



Steve and I went on ride after work one evening, had a wonderful and relaxing ride, many scenic roads with a winding road along the Cedar River that ended up at a restaurant called Old County Seat Bar and Grill, near Mitchell, Iowa. Really good food and GREAT service - recommend this one for sure.

Keep the entries coming LOTS of Vittles, Tidbits and Treats to experience.

Steve Lensing, Chapter IA-I Ride Coordinator  
Michele Lensing, MEC

## Upcoming Events

\*\*\*\*The MAP Ride on August 25, 2019 has been cancelled due to the leader's knee surgery.

1. **August 25, 2019** – Chapter IA-I Monthly Gathering – Junie's, Elk Run Heights – Eat @ 5:30 P.M. – Gathering @ 6:00 P.M.
2. **August 27-31, 2019** – Wing Ding 41 – Nashville, Tennessee
3. **September 20-21, 2019** – Iowa District Rally, Knights of Columbus Hall, Oelwein.
4. **September 22, 2019** – Chapter IA-I Western Home Ride – 2:00-4:00 P.M. – Cedar Falls (prior to September gathering) Please bring your driver's license and insurance card if you plan to be giving rides.
5. **September 22, 2019** - Chapter IA-I Monthly Gathering – Junie's, Elk Run Heights – Eat @ 5:30 P.M. – Gathering @ 6:00 P.M.
6. **December 14, 2019** - Chapter IA-I Christmas party – LaPorte City, Iowa

**FYI** – The October newsletter will NOT be out prior to the September gathering, due to the editor being out of state on vacation!

## Ronald McDonald House ride 2019

On Sunday morning, August 18, nine people from Chapter IA-I joined in the annual ride to the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois in Iowa City. The caravan consisted of a bike, a trike, an SUV and a minivan. As we always say: “Come on 2-, 3-, or 4-wheels!” We had all the above! Don and June joined us there and we got to see June’s new four-wheeled ride!



Though we only encountered a few brief spits of rain (nothing to even operate the windshield wipers,) it ended up being a beautiful day for a wonderful cause!

Chapter IA-I was greeted with hugs from members of IA-A, D, E, F, O, and W who had also made this annual pilgrimage to Iowa City. These Goldwingers brought with them 361.5 pounds of pop tabs.... Down from previous years, so WE CAN DO BETTER! Donations also included four large totes of toiletry items (hotel soaps, shampoos, conditioners, etc.), and another large tote of children’s toys. Cash donations for the day topped \$1800 with some donations still to be added to that total.

Following an inside “picnic lunch” of grilled hotdogs, baked beans, coleslaw, and chips, we enjoyed an assortment of ice cream treats to make the visit an official Winger event. Thank you to Denis, Janice, Arden, Roger, James, Lisa (and her sister!), and my Sue for taking the ride with us!

Roger Bahe, Ronald McDonald rider



**Thank you – “It made a difference for that one!”  
from Royal Family Kids’ Camp**

Dear Sue,

I want to thank you and your entire organization for your support of RFK. The camp supplies you provided came to good use. Fundraising is always the most difficult part of camp for me, so when a group volunteers to donate items, I am beyond ecstatic. You helped make a difference for 32 hurting kids this summer!

Blessings,

Kasey Buchholz

Director, RFKNEIA



**The Story of The Starfish**

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, “Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?”

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied “Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can’t return to the sea by themselves,” the youth replied. “When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water.”

The old man replied, “But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I’m afraid you won’t really be able to make much of a difference.”

The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, “It made a difference to that one!”



**GWRRA Chapter IA-I Raffle**

14” diameter stained glass

“Country Rides”

Proceeds to: Royal Family Kids’ Camp

Drawing to be held: December 14, 2019

(Need not be present to win.)

Tickets - \$1.00 each

Book of 6 for \$5.00

Contact a member of Chapter IA-I for tickets.

Royal Family Kids’ Camp of Northeast Iowa is a weeklong camp for abused and neglected children, primarily in foster homes.

The mission of this camp is to create positive, life long memories for these children

## From your Iowa District Educator – Greg Hayes



I attended the Region E Reunion ride last weekend in La Crosse, Wisconsin and had a great time. The main purpose of the event was just to get together and ride some fine roads. There were a number of organized rides, where they had already solicited a road captain and tail, then allowed up to 5 more bikes to sign up, limiting the groups to 7 bikes. I got to sign up for a ride each day with a different group. Every bike came from a different chapter, so it was interesting to see how well the team worked. Most everyone has had the same training, so you would expect that people who had never ridden together before as a group would still be following the same rules. I was impressed that this was the case and this really helped make the ride enjoyable. When there is some predictability in what to expect from your fellow riders, we will tend to feel safer. That being said, I found the two groups a little different, both in what the road captain did, as well as the rest of the team.

Both road captains did a good job of having a pre-ride meeting where they let us know how often we were stopping, where we were going and some basic riding etiquette, such as the staggered pattern, what to do at a stop, avoiding too big of gaps, and so on. On the road, both of the road captains called out changes in road speed, turns coming up and lane changes. The tails were great in securing the new lane for the lane changes and communicating with the road captain. However, one road captain tended to change lanes before the tail had communicated that the lane was secure. Also, one team was much better in staying close together. One advantage of staying close together is that other vehicles are less likely to try to merge into the group of motorcycles. Another problem with getting spread out is that sometimes the tail and the captain can lose communications. That is probably because the squelch is turned up fairly high and a weaker signal does not activate the CB receiver.

I think groups get spread out for a variety of reasons. When we get tired we know our reaction time gets longer so people start to leave larger gaps in front of each other. Same thing happens when we are distracted, which could be caused by having other conversations, checking our GPS, enjoying the scenery, thinking about supper plans, and so on. It could be some people just don't like staying close together. Staying close in requires staying alert. Or, they may be concerned about their own skills or are concerned about their reaction times. There may be valid reasons for increasing gaps. Certainly curvy roads, wet roads, poor roads and darkness can be good reasons. However, we typically can be safer if we can keep our spacing tighter.

It is obvious that the common training we receive with the Road Captain and the Team Riding courses make riding with other GWRRA groups much easier, more predictable and more enjoyable. I found neither group performed perfectly, yet I never felt unsafe with the group. But, I think we should always strive to get better. No one does it perfectly. There are challenges to being the Road Captain (RC) or the Tail (TG) and we should be grateful to anyone that steps up to be one of these. But, all of us can improve in whatever we do. Team riding is a big part of GWRRA for many members. We all want it to be safe and very enjoyable. My recommendation is to never become complacent and to always look at how you can improve no matter what position you are in a group ride. The people in the middle are just as important on paying attention to their role in the group as the two ends are.

Look at any opportunity to take another Team Riding or Road Captain course. Please don't think the Road Captain course is only for RCs and TGs. Every member on a ride will benefit from understanding roles of the RC and TG. We held a Team Riding course before the Crazy Supper this year and we would be glad to come to your chapter to hold another one. We are also going to have more Road Captain courses in the next year and a half. I hear people are afraid to take that class thinking that they will then be pressured to be a Road Captain. However, if you are not comfortable with that position I don't think people will be expecting you to do something that is outside what you feel you are capable of doing. But, please do attend these courses. Everyone who rides in our groups should take these courses eventually. If you have taken them before, taking them again is a great refresher and an opportunity to get even better.

Until next month, enjoy your ride and I wish you a safe one.

Greg Hayes

Motorist Awareness  
stepping stone  
Buy raffle tickets at the Iowa District Rally  
for a chance to win  
this beautiful stepping stone.



Support our sponsor –  
Junie's Restaurant,  
Elk Run Heights

# September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Rick Ohrt</b>	2 <b>Shirley Bagenstos</b>	3	4 <b>Denis &amp; Sue Tasker</b>	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <b>Jim Elliott</b>
15 <b>Roger &amp; Lisa Fleming</b>	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 <b>Ch IA-I Western Home Ride – Cedar Falls 2-4 Gathering- Junie’s Elk Run Hts. Eat @ 5:30 Gathering @ 6</b>	23	24 <b>Arden Terfehn</b>	25	26	27	28
29	30					