



# Gold Wing Road Riders Association Iowa Chapter I

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“Friends for FUN, Safety, and Knowledge”



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**Gold Wing Road Riders Association  
NO November Gathering  
Christmas Party has been cancelled  
due to high CO-VID numbers and new state guidelines.**

*Thinking of all of you! Stay safe and healthy!*

After much thought, prayer, discussion, and loss of sleep, the decision has been made to cancel our Christmas party. Due to the huge increase in Covid numbers and the new state proclamation, we feel it is in the best interest of our members to not gather in person as a chapter for the holidays. As much as we will miss seeing everyone, we want all to stay healthy. We may hold a “party” in the spring instead, so stay tuned. PLEASE be safe! We miss you and care so much for all of you!

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

As the holiday season approaches, it is a time to realize that this holiday season will be different from those in the past. Whether it is wearing a mask around your family, distancing and not hugging those you love, or celebrating a dinner via ZOOM call, we are all trying to do our part by keeping each other healthy and safe. There are so many people who will have it hard this holiday season whether because of losing a loved one or by losing their job. We hope you are doing well and staying safe.

Until we meet again, keep dreaming of those beautiful motorcycles, the warm sun on your skin, and the wind in your hair.

Roger and Lisa Fleming,  
Chapter I Directors



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

Even though it was a tough call, I finally had to concede and admit that the riding season is over for this year. We are always hoping for one more ride. I finished with Orangey (the gold wing trike) and started with Wolfie (the Spyder). There are many thoughts on what is the best time to do this oil change. Some say they wait until the riding season starts to have the oil as fresh as possible, others do it before the winter nap. I have been doing the oil change at the end of the riding season. I guess I like the idea of getting the dirt and moisture out while it is still in suspension, before it settles out, then everything is covered with fresh oil for the winter. I remember when I was younger and living on the farm, for winter storage we would pull out the plug on the small engines, shoot in a squirt of oil and give the rope a couple of pulls. They always started in the spring with a little smoke but it worked. This year we also went to the original Honda oil and filter, along with the Spyder original oil and filter. This is just my thoughts on this subject. Everybody needs to do whatever works for them. Until we can ride together again, please be safe and take care of each other.



Michele Lensing MEC  
Steve Lensing Ride Coordinator

# My Thoughts... on Motorcycling... and Covid-19:

As a Level IV Master Tour Rider in the GWRRA Rider Education program and as a career active paramedic (which I described to someone the other day as being the scouts sent out ahead of the frontline) in this current pandemic, I'd like to share some of my personal thoughts:

## My Motorcycling

I prefer to ride "All the Gear All the Time" March

I've been saved by my gear as I've slid down the highway following a crash. No road rash thanks to my gear, but four days in-hospital and eight weeks in C-collar.

My daughter is less likely to join me on my motorcycle following the crash six years ago.

I hope someday to share my love of motorcycle touring with my grandsons.

I choose not to leave on a fun day ride if it's raining, and I don't ride in Iowa's winter.

I've chosen to take GWRRA education on how to ride safe as a group.

We've lost close friends in motorcycle related crashes.

I do all I can to keep my Goldwing in the best operational condition, and try to keep its rider and co-rider from being distracted.

I am not saying I am the perfect motorcycle rider.... I hope this virus situation gets handled so I can go to Safety Weekend next spring to sharpen my skills! I am not saying I'm a superhero who drives around in an ambulance! I AM SAYING that I understand riding motorcycles comes with inherent risks... But I'm "All the Gear - All the Time". I AM asking you to PLEASE GEAR UP when you HAVE to go out to the store! PLEASE WEAR A MASK, WASH YOUR HANDS!

Roger Bahe, EMT-PM/Level IV Master Tour Rider

## Paramedic in Covid World

I've been wearing a mask in public since

I've lost count of the positive Covid patients I and my EMS partners have encountered. So far we've been lucky and stayed healthy. That means mask, gown, face-shield, gloves.

My daughter thinks she needs to shield us her high risk of exposure working as an ER nurse in a large hospital overrun by Covid.

Our grandsons have risk of exposure from their nurse/mother and paramedic/grampa.

I cannot visit my mother in the nursing home because of Covid restrictions to keep her safe.

We follow the rapid changing guidelines on how to protect our crew, the Covid positive patient, and the next patient to ride with us.

Our chapter friends have family affected by the virus... some mild cases... some serious.

We spend extra time after every ambulance call to disinfect every surface whether it was touched or not. We keep our crew safe too!

\*\*\*\* Drawing for the stained glass raffle benefiting the Otter Creek Animal Shelter has been postponed. Due to Covid, we haven't been able to "see" people to sell the number of tickets we feel this raffle deserves. Therefore we are going to continue to sell tickets for the next few months and will have the drawing early in 2021. Tickets are available from Ch IA-I members or contact Lisa Fleming or Sue Bahe. Thanks for understanding!

**Upcoming Events – Please check with chapter or district directors to see if events are happening.**

1. **December 5, 2020** – Chapter IA-F Christmas party – St. Isidore Catholic Church, 603 6<sup>th</sup> Street, South, Springville. Festivities begin @ 11 and will wrap up (pun intended) around 2. Chapter will provide the meat. Bring a dish to share, if you want. Feel free to bring something for the raffle.
2. **December 12, 2020 – NO Chapter IA-I Christmas party – Cancelled due to COVID.**
3. **June 29 – July 3, 2021** – WingDing 42 – Springfield Expo Center, 635 E. St. Louis St. – Springfield, MO
4. **September 24-25, 2021** – Iowa District Rally – Fairfield, IA – Host hotel – Quality Inn and Suites, 2200 W. Burlington Ave, Fairfield, IA – Stay tuned for more information.



## Chapter IA-I Charity for 2020

The Otter Creek Animal Shelter has a wish list that includes:



- \* money
- \* paper towels
- \* dish soap
- \* antibacterial soap
- \* plastic spoons
- \* Glade spray air freshener
- \* HP65 printer ribbon
- \* clumping cat litter
- \* brooms & dustpans
- \* laundry soap
- \* dryer sheets
- \* toilet paper
- \* Kleenex
- \* air fresheners (Renuzit extra strength)
- \* gravity water bowls
- \* general office supplies, especially sticky notes
- \* trash bags (all sizes, including 33 gal.)
- \* Windex, floor cleaner and other cleaning supplies
- \* name brand cat food (canned and dry)
- \* dog and cat collars or leashes in a variety of sizes

\*\*\*\*\*

The Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City is still accepting donations and is in need due to the lack of visits due to Co-vid 19. Please continue collecting pop tabs and toiletries for drop off. The Iowa District is planning on sponsoring a picnic in mid-August 2021. Contact the Ronald McDonald house for drop off instructions prior to that date.

## A Message from your GWRRA International Directors

### GWRRA Levels Program Update

For GWRRA Members who expired at their highest level of achievement in the Rider Education Levels Program on or after January 1, 2020, the Levels. **Program expiration grace period is being extended until July 15, 2021** so as not to detrimentally affect level progression for any Master Program advancement.

The Levels Program expiration grace period will be extended to July 15, 2021 for ALL GWRRA University and Rider Education Instructors and Trainers so as not to detrimentally affect level progression for any Master Program advancement, however, due to their specific roles and responsibilities please review the following exceptions for ALL GWRRA University and Rider Education Instructors and Trainers.

**All RE Program Instructors & Trainers (On-Bike/MFA):** Any Rider Course Instructor or MFA Instructor not current in the Rider Education Levels Program on or after January 1, 2020 will not be permitted to conduct a rider course or class (including MFA) unless or until current at their highest level of achievement.

**All University Instructors & Trainers:** Any University Trainer or University Instructor not current in the Rider Education Levels Program on or after January 1, 2020 will not be permitted to present any of the University Seminars or University Modules on the list accompanying this statement unless or until current at their highest level of achievement. **University Instructors will be eligible to present any other University library offerings not included on the list distributed with this announcement during the Level Program grace extension period through July 15, 2021.**

### From your Iowa District Educator – Greg Hayes

The October edition of the Iowa District Newsletter included an update to the GWRRA Levels Program. It might be a little complicated so I am attempting to simplify and add to it. Knowing me, I probably won't make it simpler, but I can try. Obviously, since we have not been able to hold first aid, CPR or any riding classes since COVID there are a number of people who would not be current in their Levels status. As a reminder, CPR and first aid certifications are good for two years. Our riding courses, which include the ARC, ARC-R, TRC and TRC-R courses, are good for three years. However, you might be able to find a CPR, First Aid or riding course that is approved by GWRRA that is being offered by another organization.



For all of you that are not MFA, Rider Course or University Instructors or Trainers there is a grace period from January 1, 2020 to July 15, 2021. This mostly concerns people in Level 4, the Master Riders. They can become Senior Master Riders, Grand Master and Life Grand Master, which recognizes how long a person has been a Master Rider continuously, or for an equivalent number of years. Those are 5, 10 and 15 years. The Rider Education Database, which keeps track of everyone's Level for those that are in the Levels program, does not automatically keep track of this grace period. I need to enter information and I will try to get everyone affected by this updated. If you are concerned about this then please contact me by email at [hayeswing@gmail.com](mailto:hayeswing@gmail.com) and I would make sure that I have you updated in the database. But, I will try to update those affected on my own.

Some other districts have started holding both riding classes and CPR. We wanted to make sure that we can do this safely so we have held off on CPR classes. I tried finding a weekend that would work for a riding class but I was not able to find a classroom since many places are not open to outside groups at this time. We are tentatively still planning on the Iowa Safety Weekend next May. If your chapter is interested in a CPR and/or First Aid class then please contact me and I will see what we can do.

If you are a MFA, Rider Course or University Instructor or Trainer, and there are currently only eight of us, I will contact you directly to let you know how we can stay current with our levels.

For the rest of the District, we do plan to hold enough classes in 2021 so that everyone can get their classes that need or want them. It is not too hard to find a place to hold a CPR or First Aid class and our instructors are willing to travel to different parts of the District. The riding course are a bit more difficult to find a large enough parking lot that we can use, so we have been very lucky with the DMACC campus in Ankeny. But, if you know of a place closer to your chapter that we can use with permission, please contact me and we will see if we can get a riding course set up there.

If you have any questions about your level or anything about this article, please contact me by email at [hayeswing@gmail.com](mailto:hayeswing@gmail.com).

Until next month, stay safe and stay healthy,

Greg Hayes

## **From your District Educator – Greg Hayes**

I am not sure how timely my article is for you. However, I am writing this on November 15th and I am hoping to be able to ride a little more this season, possibly this coming Thursday. But, I am thinking ahead about the end of the riding season. By the time you read these you may have already winterized your motorcycle. We are a diverse group and surely there are people who are a lot more fanatical than I about prepping their motorcycle for a winter slumber. I am more of one of those riders that need a few reminders to take care of their bikes. So, for those who are like me, I offer some suggestions.

Here is a checklist for winterizing my motorcycle.

1. Clean and dry it. You might consider covering your bike as well once it is completely dry.
2. Fill the tank with gas. I'll switch to a non-ethanol for at least the final fill up.
3. Add a gas additive, such as Sta-Bil, to help keep my gas fresh over the winter.
4. Connect my battery to a battery tender. Do not use a trickle charger.
5. If my oil has been in the bike for a while I'll replace it so that contaminants in the oil cannot harm my engine.
6. Recheck the air in the tires, as it gets colder. Cold temperatures cause the air in the tires to lose pressure. You don't need to overdo this. When it gets to be -20F in the winter there will be less air pressure but it is not like you are going to go out and ride it in that weather.
7. Double check where I stand on preventive maintenance items, such as the motor oil, the final drive oil, spark plugs, etc. I want the bike ready to ride when it warms up next year, or during a warm spell during winter.
8. Take out extra items in the various storage areas of the bike. I can put these in a box and store them indoors. Freezing temperatures might be harmful to some of the items I carry in my storage.
9. Lastly, I will do a T-CLOCS inspection to catch anything I may have missed. I'll certainly do another T-CLOCS inspection before I get it out to ride again.

Until next month, stay safe and stay healthy,

Greg Hayes





**Support our sponsor  
– Junie’s Restaurant  
in Elk Run Heights!**

## **2020 GWRRA IA-I Chapter Challenge – Freedom Rocks of Iowa**

This year’s 2020 GWRRA Iowa-I Chapter Challenge is to visit Freedom Rocks by artist, Ray “Bubba” Sorensen II. Every Freedom Rock you visit, gives you an entry to be a winner. This is on the honor system. Bring in your entries to the monthly gatherings. If you would like to send a picture of the Freedom Rock to Sue or Roger, it may be featured in the chapter’s newsletter.

\*\*\*Get your entries turned in to Steve and Michele Lensing. Drawing will be held at our next face-to-face gathering.

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# December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 <b>Patty Bowser</b> <b>Tim &amp; Mary Peverill</b>	4	5 <b>Ch IA-F Christmas Party</b>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <b>Ch IA-I Christmas Party – CANCELLED</b> <b>Michele Lensing</b> <b>Jon Knight</b>
13	14	15	16 <b>Rodney Nordbrook</b>	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b>	26
27 <b>Keith &amp; Sharon Koger</b>	28	29	30	31		