

Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Iowa Chapter I

Volume 36 – Issue 2

Iowa District

February 2018

“Friends for FUN, Safety, and Knowledge”



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***IA-I Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Gathering – January 28, 2018
Junie’s – Elk Run Heights, IA
Eat – 5:30 PM Gathering 6:00 PM***



**2017 Iowa District Newsletter of the Year
2017 Region E Newsletter of the Year**

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

The first snow of the season is always a debate at the Fleming household. Lisa likes how clean the white snow makes everything look and how it glistens in the moonlight. Roger hates the snow and dreads driving in it all day. While sometimes he will admit the snow looks pretty; mostly the thought of driving, sliding, and pushing snow takes the loveliness of it away. Regardless of the snow, we hope you will all be able to see some beauty in it while staying safe in your travels.



February is heart month. Whether it's a Valentine heart or your own heart, it's a season of love and health. What are you doing to keep your own heart healthy? Walking? Eating more fruits and veggies? Lowering your stress? Looking forward to some wind therapy, planning some rides, and meeting up with your Goldwing friends will all help to make your heart happy. Keeping your CPR updated is a great way to help someone else's heart someday.

Our next gathering will be held Sunday, January 28. Barring any inclement weather, we hope to see you there!

Until we meet again, use your knowledge to keep you safe, gather your loved ones close, and smile, smile, SMILE!

Roger and Lisa Fleming
GWRRA Chapter I Directors

Bill's Pizza & Smokehouse

BILL VERSLUIS, Owner



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2018 Iowa District Couple of the Year – Steve & Michele Lensing

Motorcycle Blues

I think Elvis (that's right, "the King") said it best, "I'm going to have a blue, blue, blue, blue Christmas without you." Christmas is past, but the blues are still here. The thought of the warm breezes, green leaves and the warm sun shining down as we go down the road on our two, three and even four wheels, with our riding friends and family, makes us feel a little blue now, as we bundle up and head into the cold, cold, cold and we turn blue, blue, blue. The wait for riding weather is like being a kid, waiting to open Christmas presents.



Oh, what can a person do to beat the blues? Other than going out to the shed, uncovering the bike and sitting on it making motorcycle sounds (or lack of sound), this does not work. I know. I have tried. It only makes it worse. Some things that do help are: if you have access to a motorcycle show or outdoor sports show, maybe you can use the gift cards for something you can't live without like bling or fringe.

Maybe you can start reading motorcycle magazines, or Google new riding destinations, start thinking about summer rides for the group that have not already been done.

We could also check into new riding courses or maybe sign up for courses that we have not done in a while to bring our ability and skills back to better than top notch. If you have a place to work on the bike in the winter, pull the cover off like you mean it and take care of some of the things that you have been putting off for awhile or add the accessories that you picked up at the outdoor sports shows or received for Christmas. Maybe the motorcycle could be hauled to a riding buddy's shop and have a maintenance day.

If you plan it right, you could travel south to some warmer weather and take your bike for a winter break, or rent one, to take in the local scenery of your chosen warmer destination. If you do this, make sure you check the local riding laws.

The number one thing to help get rid of the Motorcycle Blues is to be social. Go to winter gatherings and events. Have a movie night or dinner, meet with old friends and remember, "We Come As Strangers and Leave as Friends".

Don't forget about your sweetie in the upcoming month. You know they want something shiny (for the motorcycle), of course.

Enhancing our Members
Steve & Michele Lensing
2017 Chapter I Couple of the Year
2018 IA District Couple of the Year

From the Iowa District Educator

I want to start out and introduce myself to you as the new District Educator for the Iowa District. Many of you may know me. After starting out as a Chapter Educator for a couple of years, I then became the Assistant District Educator in Iowa for a number of years, working with John Olenick and then Doug Beomecke. Then, I moved to Region Educator for Region E about two years ago. Lonnie Borseth stepped into the role of District Educator for Iowa about a year and a half ago, but he had decided he wanted to step down at the end of 2017. You may also know me from the Iowa Safety Weekend, which I have been a riding course instructor, primarily conducting the 2 wheel course, but I have also taught the 3 wheel course. My primary profession is being an architect, but I have also been a rider coach at DMACC for about 12 years where I teach about 18 classes per year for beginners and a few advance rider courses. That's my short intro.

With the elimination of the Chapter Educator position there are a few changes that you will see. First, I will be supplying a safety or rider education related article to each of the chapters for their newsletters each month. So, if you read other chapter newsletters from Iowa you will see the same article. This is the first article. I have several ideas for articles that I think you will find very interesting and I am rather excited to get started writing since they require some research in a particular recent motorcycle study. However, I want to invite anyone who wishes to write a safety related article to send them to me. This will give you a chance to write something that our whole district will be able to read. The most interesting articles are ones that are from people writing about personal experiences.

Another change will be that you won't have a Chapter Educator to remind you and encourage people to participate and stay current in the Levels program. But, any of the Chapter Officers should be able to get you the forms you need and to sign them for you. I plan on putting a link to some of this on the District website under Rider Education so you can download them if you prefer. Then, they are sent to me to enter into the Rider Education Database. You should know how to look up your Levels status, but if you don't here are quick instructions. Go to gwrra.org, then on the blue band near the top of the page hover over "Officers", then on the pull down click on "Rider Education". On the side of the next webpage you have a list of items on the left side in light blue boxes. Click on "My R.E. Information" to pull up the login page. If you haven't logged in before, or forgot your password then click on "I need help logging in." This gives you instructions on what your username and password are if you have not logged in before or the option to have your password emailed to you.

I wanted to thank each of the past Chapter Educators in Iowa. There was quite a bit of preparation and paperwork involved in presenting a safety topic, writing a newsletter article, recording attendance, processing Levels and other forms, etc. Having been a Chapter Educator myself I know the work put into the position and the challenge of finding the right topic each month. Many of us are very sad to see the position being retired. But this is in no way a sign that rider safety and rider education is not a priority in GWRRA. It may seem so with the office elimination but I can tell you from hearing directly from Anita Alkire, the President of GWRRA, and Paul Hildebrand, Founder and CEO of GWRRA, that Rider Education is important to GWRRA and they recognize that our program is unique for our type of organization. Our Levels program, the various seminars and modules, and the rider courses are all something of which we are very proud and will continue to be made available to our members. The directive is find methods that are less cumbersome to Chapters but remain as effective in promoting safety, rider knowledge and rider skills.

Lastly, I want to remind you about our Iowa Safety Weekend. It will be held on May 18th and 19th at the Ankeny DMACC campus again. This is a great way to keep up with the levels program, or just to get inexpensive rider training. I will write more about this next month but I wanted to explain the ARC-R and TRC-R classes, which are being offered on the Friday of Safety Weekend. The -R stands for “recertification”. These are the same as the ARC and TRC classes, except for two things. First, you must have already taken the ARC or TRC class before taking the ARC-R or TRC-R. Second, the recertification class does not have the classroom portion of the course, so it is held only on the riding range. To maintain your Level 2, 3 or 4 you can take the recertification course every other 3 year cycle. That means you only have to take the classroom portion every 6 years if you take the ARC-R or TRC-R at the third year. By the way, if you are not familiar with ARC and TRC, the ARC is the 2 wheel (bike) course and the TRC is the 3 wheel (trike) course, both developed exclusively by the GWRRA with the Goldwing in mind, but are appropriate for most motorcycles.

Here is wishing for an early spring and back to riding!

Greg Hayes

Iowa District Educator, GWRRA

Upcoming Events

1. Minnesota Wingless Weekend in St. Cloud (Horizons offered too!) - January 27-28, 2018
2. NE/SD Cabin Fever Weekend - *First or second weekend in February 2018 Stay tuned*
3. Chapter IA-E 30th Annual Sweetheart Weekend in Nauvoo, IL - February 10, 2018
4. Missouri Spring Fling in Osage Beach - March 3, 2018
5. Iowa District Training Day in Toledo at the Reinig Center - March 3, 2018
Sessions at 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM and 2:00 PM
Crazy Supper in Toledo at the Reinig Center - March 3, 2018 (Cost: \$10 per person)
6. Iowa District OPS meeting at the State Bank in Toledo - March 4, 2018
7. Motorcycle Safety Forum - May 11, 2018
Latest info at: <https://iowadot.gov/mvd/motorcycle/motorcycle-safety-forum>
8. Iowa District Safety Weekend in Ankeny - May 18-19, 2018
9. MO District Rally “Wingin the Ozarks in Branson - May 31 - June 2, 2018
10. KS District Rally in Pittsburg, Kansas - June 14-16, 2018
11. Chapter IA-E Chicken Run - June 24, 2018
12. MN District Rally at the Best Western Plus in Wilmar - July 6-7, 2018
13. MI District Rally at the Calhoun County Fairground in Marshall, Michigan - July 19-21, 2018
14. NE/SD District Rally - July 27-28, 2018 *Stay tuned for details*
15. IL District Rally in Litchfield - August 2-4, 2018
16. Wing Ding 40 in Knoxville, TN - August 28 - September 1, 2018
17. OK District Rally “Cruising on a Wing” at the Apache Casino Hotel in Lawton - Sept. 27-29
18. IA District Rally at the Best Western in Fort Dodge - September 28-29, 2018

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Elaine Seemann	2	3 Clara Boldt
4	5	6	7 Dan & Patty Bowser	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Newsletter Articles due	16 Penny Ohrt	17
18	19	20	21	22 Darlene Holmes	23 Norman Clubine	24
25 Ch IA-I Gathering- Junie's Elk Run Hts. Eat @ 5:30 Gathering @ 6	26	27	28	(29 th) Rhonda Knight		

Needed items for Homes for Homeless Vets

(Americans for Independent Living is the organization behind this.)

More information is available at their website:

www.americansforindependentliving.org

Contact AFIL @ 319-243-9932

or afil@afiliowa.org

Tim Combs, Director

General List of Needed Items

- Good quality clothing
- Shoes, bags, belts
- Hats, gloves, scarves
- Good quality underwear
- Blankets, sheets, new pillows (full/double size is the most needed)
- Towels new and used with no holes or rips
- Hand tools & power tools
- Bikes
- Musical instruments (NO ORGANS)
- Books

Food

- Unopened bags of rice, pasta, noodles & cereal
- Canned food
- Consumables, i.e. toilet paper, paper towels, self-care items, light bulbs, trash bags, etc.

Kitchen Items

- Kitchen utensils for baking, cooking and prep
- Mixing bowls, colanders and cutting boards
- Salt & pepper with shakers
- Cookbooks
- Dinnerware and drinkware
- Trash cans
- Can opener - ***MOST needed item

Bric-a-Brac

- DVDs and Music CDs – NO VCR TAPES
- Wall hanging pictures in good condition
- Working lamps

Electronic

- Working mobile phones
- Small electrical items in good condition & working order
- Working computers, printers, scanners, & laptops
- Flat screen monitors, working keyboards, and mice
- Flat screen TVs and DVD players

Furniture & Appliances

- Furniture items, as well as, bookcases, tables, dining room tables & chairs
- Washing machines, dryers, etc. in VERY GOOD condition and work
- Beds including mattress, box spring and frames-full/double size is most needed

Medical

- NO MEDICINES!
- Bandages & dressings,
- UNOPENED over the counter products
- Medical Equipment – thermometers, BP machines, etc.
- Hearing aids, glasses (Not broken or sunglasses)
- Wheelchairs, crutches, etc.

*****Bring your food items etc. to our January gathering to be presented along with our donation from the quilt raffle.

****If you have other large items to donate contact AFIL to drop them off or to schedule a pickup. 319-243-9932

Another great cause is Royal Family Kids Camp which benefits kids from underprivileged homes in Northeast Iowa.

These are a few of the items they could use.

If you wish to donate, contact Sue Bahe.

- * AA & AAA batteries (must be Energizer or Duracell)
- * shoes (closed-toe sneakers of all sizes)
- * pillows
- * sheet sets (twin size)
- * stationery
- * baby shampoo (we use LOTS and LOTS for the slip & slide)
- * Febreze
- * makeup remover wipes for sensitive skin
- * hair ties for putting hair in pony tails
- * hair detangler