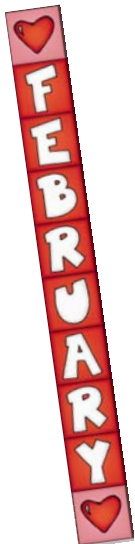


**FEBRUARY 2006
RIVER CITY WINGS
CHAPTER "F"
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**



RIVER CITY WINGS
10361 Dolecetto Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



TO

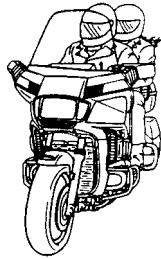
FEBRUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER

FUN THINGS TO DO IN THE FUTURE

JANUARY

21st State Staff Meeting (Selma) 9:00

28th Dinner Ride—Phil Messer



FEBRUARY

4th MID WINTER GATHERING 5:30

8th Staff Meeting-Jim's 6:30

11th Chapter Ride—Jelly Belly—Gil Bell

19th Breakfast Ride—8:30

25th Dinner Ride—Gill Bell

CHAPTER WEB SITE
www.rivercitywings.org

If you need a flyer for any events it can be found on the State web site under events

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WEB SITE
www.gwta-norcal.org

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Bill Meyers, Phil Messer
Gil Bell

**Chapter meets for a Breakfast Ride on the 3rd Sunday of the month at Mom's,
7028 Sunrise Blvd., Citrus Heights**

2nd Saturday of the month is our monthly Chapter Ride

4th Saturday of the month is our monthly Mystery Dinner Ride

11 days before the breakfast meeting/ride is our Staff Meeting Potluck

(all members are welcome to attend the staff meeting)



Gold Wing Touring Association

FEBRUARY 2006



“Official Newsletter of Chapter “F” –GWTA”

FEBRUARY CHAPTER DIRECTOR’S NOTES

This has been a fast month so far. It seems like the farther ahead I go the farther behind I get.

We had a good Polar Bear ride, we took the four wheel vehicle and on the way home from San Andreas it would not have taken much more wind to blow us off the road. But we made it home okay and in one piece.

Our staff meeting (or business meeting) this month left us with only three couples. I guess the rest of the staff was either working or under the weather, but we did what we had to do and made the proper decisions to get the job done.

The VFW hall is now paid in full and we are ready to do the decorating of the hall when the 4th of February gets here.

I have noticed a few members are getting their bikes ready for the riding season and it would be a good idea to brush up on their riding skills.

Our Regional Rider Education Director has really been working to get everyone in our region involved in rider education and to take the Experienced Rider Course. I haven’t had any volunteers yet to head up the rider education in our chapter. If anyone is interested please give me a call. I have done it in the past and can help get the program started.

Charlie and I are looking forward to getting on the road again and now she can look through my new windshield and see without looking around the scuff marks from cleaning it over the past 12 years. I had no problem seeing through it, but she sure didn’t like it.

Jim Barber has been asked to forward articles and pictures to National, it seems that our Region B is to be featured in the Touring News. So if anyone has some pictures or can write some articles to help him out please do so and I am sure he will appreciate anything you may have.

Till next month come see us at the meetings and put in your two cents worth, just maybe it will grow in value.

Stay safe while ON THE ROAD AGAIN,

Phil Messer

REMINDER

The dinner ride will be January 28
We would like you to join us, come by bike/trike, car, truck or any other form of transportation. We will be meeting at Kmart at 4:00 and leaving a short time after. Please come and enjoy a good time with other Chapter members.

RIDE FOR KIDS MEETINGS

Gil wanted me to put this information in about some of the Task Force meetings for RIDE for KIDS They are always looking for volunteers to help out on the Task Force.

If you want more information call Gil at
(916) 961-5631

Dates for meetings:

January 22

February 18

March 19

At DAVID AND SYLVIA’S in MANTECA AT
10:00 AM

Use back entrance

Prepare lunches for the ride September 30

RIDE for KIDS October 1

PRIME DIRECTIVE Never Hit the Bike In Front of You

Group riding has lots of benefits for its participants, and a few new responsibilities.

For example, recently we hear about a group ride that turned sour when the lead bike failed to recognize where he was supposed to make a left turn and drove past that road. The second bike in the group did recognize the turnoff and decided to make it. He turned left and the third bike promptly ran into him. What went wrong: It was argued that if nobody was following too closely then the actions of bike two would have kept everybody in the group (other than the lead bike) from having to make a U-turn and there would have been no accident. Probably true, but almost any group rider with experience understands that it is up to the leader to make decisions about when and where the group will change directions. It might well have been that the leader had a reason for failing to make that turn. He could, for example, have realized that the group was going too fast to safely make that turn. (If anybody in the group understands the danger to a group for making sudden moves it is an experienced lead bike.) Further, what if the second bike did not willingly make that left turn-that he had a mechanical problem such as a flat tire that caused it. Since all members of a group are expected to follow the directions set by the lead bike, **UNLESS IT IS INTO DANGER**, all other bikes in the group (other than the drag bike) should have attempted to avoid bike two and continue behind the leader.

For example: The past State Director for GWRRA in Texas was once leading a ride in which he took a turn too fast and left the road. Not one single rider behind him followed-they were experienced group riders, not just 'chicken'. You are, ultimately, responsible for your own ride from a safety point of view.

Bike two, in the accident described earlier, was way out of line to unilaterally decide to take over lead position-to mutiny, if you will. However, the fact that third rider ram into the second rider suggests that she was either riding too close to the second rider, or was inattentive, or was so confused by the

unorthodox behavior of bike two that she could react fast enough to prevent the accident. Whatever the reason, bike three broke the prime directive-"Never hit the bike in front of you!"

When you are riding in a group as other than lead or drag your principal activity is 'station keeping'- maintaining proper distance between yourself and the bike ahead of you. Since the vast majority of accident threats present themselves to you from the front, each person should be encouraged to focus their attention primarily in front of them. In other words, it is dangerous to spend too much time watching your rear-view mirrors. Thus, the prime directive.

That said, if you accept the prime directive and assume that all the others have done the same, then you are also tacitly acknowledging that you trust the rider behind you. But, of course, you may never have ridden in a group with that person before. Further, it is common practice to put the weakest and least experienced riders towards the back of a group. Is that not setting up for an accident?

Not at all!! The weakest/least experienced riders are in the back because these are the people most likely to have an accident. Thus, they are placed towards the back so that such an accident can put the fewest other people as possible into danger. It also allows the drag bike to observe how these riders handle themselves and to work with them at stops about the little things that they may be doing wrong.

As to their potential danger to the riders in front of them that can be managed. Let me give you an example of savvy group riding behavior by an experienced rider who was concerned that the bike following was too close to her. She simply used a hand signal telling the bike behind her to slow down.

Even though most of us have CBs, we tend to use hand signals as well-to keep those without CB' informed. While there is a stated rule that all hand signals must be passed back, most individuals in a group ride tend never to originate such a signal thinking that this is just one more job of the lead bike. The exception to this is the case when an individual rider in the group notices a hazard in the roadway and points to it so that all behind will be alerted.

An individual group rider CAN ALWAYS initiate a hand signal telling the person behind him/her to slow down. This is the way to reduce concern about an inexperienced rider in the rear driving too close to the bike ahead of him. On the other hand, nobody but the lead bike is entitled to originate a hand signal to tell the person behind him/her to speed up (This is another way of saying the spacing in a group is usually specified in terms of minimums ('no closer than 1 second')-the riders can individually decide to use a larger space.)

The prime directive, if flawed, errors on the side of conservatism. It mandates that attention be primarily directed towards the front. It mandates that you not follow too closely. It makes you think about what the bike ahead of you (closest ahead of you, not literally 'straight ahead') is doing or might do next rather than what the lead bike is up to. It gives you a modest suggestion about what to do if *you* are about to have an accident. (i.e., if you are riding in the right track and there is a hazard in the road ahead of you, the prime directive forces you to tend to turn towards the right to avoid that hazard-thus, taking you farther away from the closest bike head.

The above article is an extract from
The Master Strategy Group
Martin Rowley, Safety Director

POLAR BEAR RIDE

The Polar Bear Ride put on by the Grape Stompers, Chapter A, in Stockton, is a nice way to start a New Year, it is even better if you are able to make the ride on your bike/trike. Since the weather people were calling for rain in the afternoon and we all thought we might get cold and wet on the first day of the year, and really didn't want that, cars replaced the trikes

Phil & I met Jim, Karen, Mary and Gil at Kmart. Since we were going to meet Ralph and Char on Jackson Road near the Jackson turn off we headed out on Sunrise Blvd to Jackson Road. The timing was just right, as we were getting ready to make our turn on to 49, Ralph and Char were ready to make their turn from the opposite direction.

The end of the ride for breakfast and the rest of the doings was going to be at Main Street Trattoria in San Andreas.

Since the ride started in Stockton, we had to wait for the group of riders to arrive, there was a large number of bikes, guess the idea of rain didn't bother them.

We had to wait a little for breakfast. There was lots of food and beverages to drink, coffee and tea, juices. After the meal, it was time for the door prizes. There were a lot of nice prizes and our group came home with a bunch of them. They also had a raffle and of course 50/50, which none of us were lucky enough to win.

By time we got ready to leave it had started to rain, the wind was blowing and it was cold.

The best part of the day was getting to spend time with friends we see a lot and friends that we don't see as often as we would like.

Missed those that couldn't make it.

Charlie

GOLDEN THRONE AWARDS

The Golden Throne Awards is another fun event to go to. It is put on by the Redding Chapter O, Shascade Wings. It was held at a restaurant in Orland. Sure can tell that some of us are getting older, not old, and don't like cold weather or the possibility of fog when we travel on the bikes/trikes so we took cars again.

Phil and I picked up Gil and Mary at their home and left for the rest stop at Dunnigan to meet Ralph and Char. When we all arrived at the rest stop, Char thought it would be nice if the women rode together so we could visit., so Mary and I got into Char's vehicle and Ralph rode with Phil and Gil.

The trip was straight up Hiway 5 to Orland. When we got there we were in for quite a surprise, there was a very large number of bike/trikes already there and also a large number of 4 wheel vehicles. When we got in the room where the function was going to be held, it was so full of people, that we were lucky to find a

place to sit. They did have to add another table and chairs. Butch and Connie were already there. We had breakfast first, buffet style, lots of it and good. After breakfast the fun began.

Ken Downs, Chapter Director and members of Chapter O started out by reviewing who the past members were and what they did to be awarded the Golden Throne. Since this was the 20th time they have had the award, there were a few given the honor, some even received it twice.

There were two candidates from the Chapter and an honorary mention for three Woodland Chapter members for the award this year. Since one of their Chapter members had it twice it went to Bob Wallace.

There were lots of nice door prizes and a special raffles. Some of us won door prizes and I won one of the raffle prizes.

On the way home Mary and I rode back with Char until we got to the rest stop out by the airport, then it

was time to change . It was another nice way to spend a day.

Charlie



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FUNCTIONS PUT ON BY OTHER CHAPTERS

January	21	State Staff Meeting	State	Selma
March	5	Blossom Trail Ride	Chapter E	Fresno
April	23	Shriners Toy Ride	Chapter V	Woodland
	29	Fallen Rider	Chapter O	Redding
	30	Bob Reese Ride	Chapter L	Clearlake
May	5-7	Cinco De Mayo	Chapter T	Marysville
	5-7	Hobo Campout	Chapter C	Las Vegas
	20	Mall Show	Chapter Z	Milpitas
July	14-16	Lake Tahoe Campout	Chapter S	
	17-20	GOLD RUSH	National	Hot Springs, Arkansas
August	11-13	Diamond Lake Campout ??	Chapter O	
October	7	Zfest	Chapter Z	
November	5	Woodland Toy Run	Chapter V	Woodland
December	1--3	SLO Wing Fling	Chapter Q	San Luis Obispo

Mon. - Sat. 9:00 - 6:00
Sunday 10:00 - 4:00

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RIVER CITY WINGS 2006 RIDE CALENDAR

January	28	Dinner Ride	Surprise—Phil Messer	4 PM K-Mart
February	4		MID WINTER GATHERING	5:30 VFW Hall-Antelope
	11	Chapter Ride	Jelly Belly Factory—Gil Bell	9 AM K-Mart
	19	Brkfst Meeting	Impromptu	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	25	Dinner Ride	Surprise—Gil Bell	4 PM K-MART
March	11	Chapter Ride	Presidio of San Francisco --Karen Padilla	9 AM K-Mart
	19	Brkfst Ride	Delta—Phil Messer	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	25	Dinner Ride	Surprise--Karen Padilla	4 PM K-Mart
April	8	Chapter Ride	Santa Cruz Boardwalk--Ralph Bazensen	8 AM K-Mart
	16	Brkfst Ride	EASTER	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	22	Dinner Ride	Surprise--Ralph	4 PM K-Mart
May	12,13 14	Mother's Day	Orchard Springs (Colfax)	Meet at Campground
	21	Brkfst Ride	Black Diamond Mine--Gil Bell	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	22--29	State Rally	Plymouth	
June	10	Chapter Ride	Carson City—Jim Barber	9 AM K-Mart
	18	Brkfst Ride	Rio Vista Train Museum	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	24	Dinner Ride	Surprise—Jim Barber	4 PM K-Mart
July	8	Chapter Ride	Ice House—Bill Meyers TAKE LUNCH	9 AM K-Mart
	16	Brkfst Ride	Barryessa to Silverado Trail—Bill Meyers	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	23	Dinner Ride	Surprise (Open)	4 PM K-Mart
August	12	Chapter Ride	Sonora Pass—Bill Meyers	9 AM K-Mart
	20	Brkfst Ride	Kennedy Mine—Phil Messer	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	26	Dinner Ride	Surprise--Phil Messer	4 PM K-Mart
September	9	Chapter Ride	Feather River Canyon-Bill Meyers TAKE LUNCH	9 AM K-Mart
	17	Brkfst Ride	Georgetown to Icehouse	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	24	Dinner Ride	Surprise (Open)	4 PM K-Mart
October	14	Chapter Ride	Fun Ride—Different leaders BRING LUNCH	9 AM K-Mart
	15	Brkfst Ride	Apple Hill—Phil Messer	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	22	Dinner Ride	Surprise—(Open)	4 PM K-Mart
November	11	Chapter Ride	Point Reyes--Karen Padilla	9 AM K-Mart
	19	Brkfst Ride	Impromptu	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	25	Dinner Ride	Surprise--Karen Padilla	4 PM K-Mart
December	9	Staff Meeting	Phil & Charlie's	1:00 PM
	17	Brkfst Ride	Nevada City/ Victorian Christmas	8:30 AM Mom's Restaurant
	23	Dinner Ride	Surprise (Open)	4 PM K-Mart

All Chapter & Dinner Rides will leave from K-Mart at Sunrise & Coloma
Breakfast Meetings will be at Mom's on Sunrise in Citrus Heights

Staff meetings are held at 6:30, 11 days before the General Meeting of each month (Potluck dinner)

Dinner Rides in April, July and September and December are on the 4th Saturday not the last Saturday of the month.

MID WINTER GATHERING

Chapter F (River City Wings)
&
Chapter V (Road Runners)

VFW HALL
3300 U Street
Antelope, CA

50/50
&
RAFFLE

FOOD

POTLUCK
Saturday February 4
5:30 until 10:30

FUN
&
GAMES

\$5.00 per person
and
a dish



For more information call:

Charlie Messer
(916) 362-0431

or

Ralphine Andrus
(707) 429-9547

February 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>Happy Birthday Alison Reynen</i>	3	4 MID WINTER GATHERING 5:30
5	6	7	8 Staff Meeting Jim's 6:30	9	10 <i>Happy Birthday Connie Dimars & Marie Calkins</i>	11 Chapter Ride Jelly Belly 9:00
12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13 <i>Happy Birthday Marie Honig & Don Brooks</i>	14  <i>Happy Anniversary Phil & Kathy Honig</i>	15	16 <i>Presidents's Day</i>	17	18
19 Breakfast Ride 8:30	20 <i>Happy Birthday Jay Hadley</i>	21 <i>Happy Birthday Mary Bell</i>	22	23	24	25 Dinner Ride 4:00 <i>Happy Birthday Patsy Secco</i>
26	27	28				