

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Region N



Virginia



Virginia District News

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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2003

Summer finally came after all the rain in June and July, and of course it came in with the usual heat and humidity. And it also arrived with two Region Rally events, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Waller in the Holler - West Virginia recap – A big thanks to Darrell, Debbie and all the WVA crew for another fantastic rally. And goody for Virginia, cause we took largest state inside the Region, plus Bruce and Gail Babcock participated in Best Dressed, and took best in riding class. Angie won the coveted wooden bench built and painted by the WVA educators, Buck and Ruby Wyatt, and Judy Hunt from North Carolina walked away with the afghan and quilt rack. Rosalie was again entertaining, and Mike took part in the entertainment by recreating one of the scenes from the movie “O Brother Where Art Thou”. Bruce Babcock was highly convincing as the “Governor” too. This was a natural for Mike since he has seen the movie about ten times. He ought to know the script. Anyway, when you see Bruce Stanley, just call him “Marilyn”.

Two weeks later, it was off to:

Kentucky Bluegrass Blast – thanks Glynn and Lesia – we had a “blast”. Those of you that know our own Linda Johnson of Chapter H in Abingdon, ask her if she is awake yet. Better yet, ask her about slaying dragons, going back to her childhood, and being caught in a very precarious position. She has a story that will keep you in stitches.

The heat was definitely on in KY, but the vendors were inside, and we were provided with Frostys to cool us off while perusing the vendors, looking for that special purchase.

If you've never attended these rallies, put them on your calendar for next year. You won't be sorry you did.

Chasing the Region N Plaque - Frank Dotson and his merry band of Chapter G participants headed out for Paducah, KY to reclaim the Region N plaque and bring it back to Virginia. This was done the first week in August. They brought it back just in time for their FIRST meeting when VA Chapter O came and took it away from them. I think Chapter G only had it in their possession for a few short hours. However, North Carolina K-2 sent some folks to Chapter O's Casino Picnic on the 23rd, and took it away from Chapter O, so it's up for grabs again.

The enthusiasm everyone within Region N is showing in capturing the Region plaque is growing. If you can, get your chapters out there to capture not only the Region N plaque, but also the District plaque. You'd be surprised about how many new friends you can make, from not only the District, but from around the Region.

NEWSLETTER AWARD

The newsletter award for July goes to Chapter H. Way to go guys. The winner for August is Chapter O. We get some great looking newsletters.

UPCOMING DISTRICT RALLYS

PENNSYLVANIA RALLY – September 5 – 7, 2003 – Gettysburg, Virginia

This rally is within a couple of hours driving distance of Virginia, so if you get a chance, you might want to catch this rally. As you know that famous Civil War battle was fought in Gettysburg, and of course that's where the Gettysburg Address was given by Abraham Lincoln, so not only is it a good place for a rally, but a good place to revisit some of America's past.

WINGS OVER THE SMOKEYS - September 21 - 24, 2003 – Fletcher, NC

Most of us here in Virginia are well acquainted with this rally – more vendors than you have a chance to get to, great mountain riding, the COY of the Year Selection, and of course, they give away a brand new 1800 Goldwing with matching trailer. And because it's their 20th anniversary, they are selling chances on a new Silverwing too. A.J., Betty and their crew are just waiting for you, so send your registrations in.

DEADLINES HAVE PASSED

Deadlines have passed now for the Rally Logo Ad, Restaurant Guide Ads, Photo Contest submissions and Spirit of VA Nominations. We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you that have submitted your photos, rally logos, getting the restaurant guide ads, etc. So, now it's just wait and see to find out whose Rally Logo was chosen, what chapter got the most restaurant ads, who submitted the winning photo in the photo contest, and what deserving person will be awarded the Spirit of Virginia recipient. But you won't have to wait too long, cause Rally in the Valley is right around the corner.

And Speaking of Rally in the Valley – don't forget to get your registrations in. This is the last Region N Rally of the season, and of course we want to see you there. If there is any chapter that is not clear about their rally assignment, please contact me ASAP.

SCAVENGER HUNT

As you all know by now, we will be having a Scavenger Hunt at Rally in the Valley this year in conjunction with the Salem Retail Merchants Association. **What you don't know is that the lucky winner of the Scavenger Hunt will leave the Rally with an additional \$100.00 in his or her pocket.**

For those of you that arrive early for the Rally, come by the Civic Center on Thursday morning to pick up a scavenger hunt sheet. Although each participant will get one in their registration packets, this is an opportunity for those of you that will get there before registration to go ahead and do this now.

Scavenger Hunt Times:
10am to 4pm Thursday
10am to 4pm Friday
10am to 3pm Saturday

All Scavenger Hunt sheets should be turned into the registration no later than 3:30pm on Saturday afternoon.

As stated, one of the purposes of this event is to get to know Salem better, and have the folks in Salem get to know us a little better. This is a great PR chance for all participating Goldwingers, and a chance to win a monetary award, not to mention just having some fun away from the rally site for a couple of hours, and maybe stopping at one of the many restaurants and coffee shops in downtown Salem. For those that do their Christmas shopping early, this is a great chance to pick up some unique gifts. The streets of downtown Salem will be decorated for the Fall season, and the merchants are looking forward to a visit from Goldwingers. Mr. Bob Garvey, President of the Salem Retail Merchants Association will be on hand Saturday night to present the award to the lucky winner.

We would like to thank Linda Hall and Bobbie Jo Harrison of VA Chapter K for planning the Scavenger Hunt route for us, and also for their assistance in selling the retailers on this venture.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR RALLY IN THE VALLEY

**Door Prizes
Goodies for the Hospitality Room
Packet Stuffing Goodies**

Everyone loves the hospitality room, and we like to brag that we have the best-baked goods in town. So, don't forget to bring that pie, cake, cookie, brownie, whatever for the hospitality room. Chapter B will be handling this again this year. They do a great job, and let's keep them busy with passing out goodies to hungry travelers.

Chapters W and our newest Chapter G are handling Door Prizes this year. Feel free to drop off door prizes to either one of these chapters between now and Rally. And of course, you can always bring those prizes with you when you come.

Packet stuffing goodies can be pens, key tags, pencils, note pads, whatever. If you work for a large company, they may have some advertising goodies that they would like to donate.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR RALLY IN THE VALLEY 2003 need to be made now! The deadlines on making those reservations are coming up, so if you haven't gotten your reservation in, please, please make it now. We have learned that there will be a Virginia Tech game that weekend in Blacksburg, and rooms are already filling up. Therefore, you need to make those reservations as soon as possible.

For others of you that have blocks of rooms, now would be a good time for you to check on how many rooms have been reserved in the block and encouraging others to make reservations. Because of the Virginia Tech game, some of the hotels have announced that they will be releasing the block earlier than anticipated.

We don't want to see you all without a room, so get those reservations in now. I personally went down to Salem to see what was left in the hotels where the District had blocked rooms, and there are plenty of rooms now, but like the others, they may be releasing the blocks a little earlier this year.

These hotels and the others in the area where Gold Wings have stayed in the past are listed on the web site.

Virginia's theme for Rally in the Valley 2003 is "Living the American Dream". Those chapters that will be participating in the table decoration contest

You will be allowed in the arena at 3:00 pm on Friday to get your tables decorated. However, all tables must be decorated by 4:00 pm this year to allow the judges time to not only judge your tables, but time to get ready for the evening's events.

WE DON'T SAY THANK YOU ENOUGH! – Sometimes we forget that this is a Volunteer Organization, and that the Chapter or District Staff are not getting paid for what they do. But it's true, and even though they don't expect your thanks, and most are very humble, please give your Chapter and District Staff a hug or a word of thanks sometime. They work very hard all year long so that you get the most enjoyment and benefit out of your chapter and District.

And of course, we want to say thanks to all of you for all of your support, and a big thanks in advance for everything that all 23 chapters will do to ensure that Rally in the Valley is again a great success this year.

TIGGER TALK

Where did the summer go? I turned around and it was gone! That's OK, cause fall is my favorite riding season of them all. Riding through the mountains, the color in the leaves, the smell of apple butter cooking, the sights and sounds of Rally in the Valley. I just can't wait! Speaking of Rally in the Valley, are you ready for some fun? We have several new things going on this year along with all your old favorites. The first new thing that will be going on is the ERC courses are the new format. All range, no classroom. That means you can have your pizza, and eat it too! Another new twist is the scavenger hunt. This gives everyone a chance to get into downtown Salem and spend a little time (and maybe a few bucks) in this

nifty little town. Of course you all know about the Best Dressed Competition? You don't! Well, this year we have added a Worst Dressed category for all to have fun with. Of course we have seminars, food, Drill Teams, food, Linder & Brock, food, vendors, food, hey we even have some food vendors! Again this year we have the Virginia products vendor, Virginia Appeal that was such a hit last year. They will have many new products to ponder. Lots and lots to do and see. Hey, we even hear tell that Mike & Judy Wright will be joining us for the Rally! They were at Tennessee's Spring Fling this year so we invited them to come Rally in the Valley with us. The Rally will be here before you know it so make sure you have your Chapter Assignments all covered. We will be contacting all in the next few days to answer any questions you may have on your assignments. It's all of you working together that make the Rally what is. Thanks to each and every one of you for what you do. As you can see by the District Staff listing, we have added anew staff member. Bobbie Jo Harrison has come on as Rally Media Coordinator. For the last couple of years she has worked feverishly on getting the Rally and GWRRA out in front of the Salem community. She is a dynamic person with great ideas. Just remember that's Bobbie Jo with an ie!

Tigger

VIRGINIA DISTRICT STAFF

Assistant District Directors

Keith & Carol Lindgren
Wade & Marina Farmer
Orin & Donna Thomas

District Educator

Cundiff & Ellen Simmons

Assistant District Educator

Jim Sharkey

District Trainer

Bob & Sandy Renner

MED Coordinator

Chris & Kathy Hooper

Assistant MED Coordinator

Wayne & Lynette Stewart

Recruiting & Retention Coordinator

George Craddock & Isabel Gray

District Treasurer

Stan & Lou Smith

District COY

Joe & Nancy D'Eufemia

District COY Coordinator

Mike & Keri Nelson

Rally Registration Coordinator

Dave & Lois Nichols

Rally Vendor Coordinator

Steve & Linda Whitmer

Rally Media Coordinator

Bobbie Jo Harrison

These are the folks that make GWRRA Virginia run smooth. Without their help and dedication, Angie & I could not do this "job". Give them a hug when you see them, it's the only pay they receive. Additionally, make sure you give them a few minutes at your meetings and functions to get up and say a few words on behalf of the District.

Rally Assignments

Registration	D,U,W
Field Events	I
Bike Show	O
Hospitality Room	B
Poker Run	X
Information Fri	L
Sat	V
Security	A1,P,R,J,C
Door Prizes	W,G
Parade	C
Rally Shirts	M,Y,F
Ice Cream Social	Z
Bike Light Parade	H
Road Kill Café	K
Camping	E
Grand Prize Sales	L
Food Servers	A,F,Y

Thanks to all that volunteered for these important tasks. It is the volunteers that make Rally in the Valley the best Rally going!