



**OCTOBER 2018**



[www.gwrra.org](http://www.gwrra.org)



## ***CENTRAL CANADA DISTRICT CONNECTION***

***Where the District Teams Meet***

### **District Directors**

**Gary McDermott & Kristina Magic**  
[dir.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:dir.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **Senior District Assistants**

Raymond Borris and H el ene Dubois  
[rborris65@hotmail.com](mailto:rborris65@hotmail.com)

### **District Assistants**

David Hay  
[dnjhay@gmail.com](mailto:dnjhay@gmail.com)

Mark and Teresa Fleury  
[mandtfleury@bell.net](mailto:mandtfleury@bell.net)

Paul and Sheila Haller  
[directorquintewings@gmail.com](mailto:directorquintewings@gmail.com)

Garvin Cole  
[garvincole@yahoo.ca](mailto:garvincole@yahoo.ca)

### **District Educator/University Coordinator**

Michel Lavoie  
[lavoiem@rogers.com](mailto:lavoiem@rogers.com)

### **District Membership Enhancement**

Dave Lawrence  
[mec.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:mec.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **District Secretary and Asst. MEC (ARL)**

Lynette Babin-Mackay  
[sec.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:sec.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **District Treasurer**

Suzie Pilon-Mainville  
[treas.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:treas.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **District Ride Coordinator**

Adrian Young  
[drc.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:drc.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **District Motorist Awareness Coordinator**

Bob Cochrane  
[darbob3@sympatico.ca](mailto:darbob3@sympatico.ca)

### **District Newsletter Editor**

Helen Young  
[htyoung@bell.net](mailto:htyoung@bell.net)

### **District Patches and Pins**

Karen Hatton  
[patches.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:patches.centralcanada@gmail.com)

### **District Webmaster**

Kayleigh Fleury and Matt Rederer  
[kayleigh@techboomers.com](mailto:kayleigh@techboomers.com)

### **District Trade Show Coordinator**

Ralph Van Dorsten  
[rvandorsten@gmail.com](mailto:rvandorsten@gmail.com)

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## AWARDS!

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We were so proud of Canada this year with all the awards and recognitions that were given out across Canada.

We are especially proud of Central Canada District that was recognized in different programs.

Central Canada District brought back home the Director of the Year award (we will leave Gary and Kristina to talk about that one since they are the Directors of the District)

But **wow!** We had Michel Lavoie receive the Merit award at Wing Ding for District University Coordinator, and Darleen Drouin of Chapter ON-G received the Senior Director's award at Rendezvous for Chapter Director.

We had the chance to read the letters from different chapter members, and you guys made a huge difference in your chapter and other chapters. Thank you so much for taking the time to do what you do.

Darleen and Michel had no clue these awards were coming to them. They received them because they love what they do and make it all fun. Keep on going guys; we are proud of you and everyone that had a chance to receive these awards.

For more information on the Director award, please refer to: <http://gwrra.org/oconnect/officerresources.html>

To have prestigious awards consisting of three levels of recognition for the GWRRA Director and Coordinators Corps that acknowledge and honor notable Directors and Coordinators, who are industrious, dedicated, and worthy of consideration for further advancement. These levels will be...

- Senior Director
- Merit Award
- Director of the Year Award



**Chantal & Francois Seguin**

TEAM GWRRA  
Presidential Assistants



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## ***DIRECTORS' CORNER***

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The cooler temperatures are now coming. What a great few weeks of interaction and riding we all had in the past month.

**TEAM GWRRA** did a fabulous job with WD40! Thank you to all those from Central Canada District that helped with volunteering at WD40.



The ride to Knoxville was great. Coming home I had the privilege to ride with Don Guppy, Martin Mcilvanna and Garvin Cole. We decided to head home via the Tail of the Dragon. Excellent ride with good friends!

September 7, 2018 Chapter ON-H TEAM held a campout at Sault Ste. Marie. If you have never been to Knights of the Hatchet, it's a must. The weekend was fabulous with three excellent guided rides!



September 21, 2018 it was off to North Bay for the Annual Colour Run. CD Mike Parent and his TEAM did a fabulous job with the Colour Run. Very well organized, and we all had a great time. Another event where, if you have never been to the Colour Run, it's a must!





Remember for next year, all these great weekends can be found on the Central Canada District Calendar at [www.ccdistrict.ca](http://www.ccdistrict.ca) . Thank you to Presidential Assistants Chantal and Francois Seguin, and the entire Central Canada District Team, for participating in all these events. What a summer!

**Gary McDermott and Kristina Magic**  
Central Canada District Directors

## WINGING THRU THE DISTRICT



I am hoping that everyone has been able to enjoy this past riding season as much as we have. This year has been a whirlwind of activities within ours and neighboring districts, and although difficult to attend everything, we have done our best to visit as many as possible and apologize to those we couldn't.

Although we have been members of GWRRA for a dozen or so years, we had never been to Wing Ding before this year, and it sure makes us wonder why we waited so long. It was a great opportunity to get together with other members and share stories, meet new friends, reconnect with old friends, and even pick up some new "necessities" and "safety chrome". I am sure you have already heard but the hi-light of this year's Wing Ding was the awarding **Chapter Director of the Year** to Central Canada District's very own **Larry and Linda Shaule of Chapter H!** This is the first time a Canadian has won this prestigious award, and a more deserving couple couldn't have been chosen.



Although each chapter hosts a major event each year for their own and visiting members, it seems that a couple of the best are saved for last. That's to say that **Sault Ste Marie Chapter H and North Bay Chapter N** hold their major events late in the season, and both do a great job of proving their organizational skills while showing off their areas.

**Chapter H** (yes, I am bragging here) for about 23 years now has hosted a camp-out in early September that draws participants from all parts of Ontario, Michigan, Quebec, Wisconsin, and even North Carolina this year. This weekend is full of friendship, bon fires, area tours, prizes, great food, and the famous (or infamous) "**Knights of The Hatchet**" ceremony that remains a GWRRA "must see" event. Tours this year included a choice of either back country roads or a highway run to the shores of Lake Superior for lunch. This year we hosted approx. 94 people from more than 14 different chapters who promise to return for more fun next year, and we sure hope you join us for a great time.

Most recently, **Chapter N** showed more than 60 GWRRA members a great time touring and partying in North Bay. CD & ACD Mike & Mike, along with a fantastic support team, put on a weekend at the Best Western with a great welcome evening, area tours, superb buffet, and game night, along with prizes and a "special recognition" (thanks guys) that all will remember for a long time. Our 300km area tour even included a lunch stop at a restaurant that closed its doors to host us exclusively! Now that is some great organizing skills that use chapter talents. Our day-long tour took us on some great area roads showcasing the beauty of the area.

It doesn't matter which GWRRA event you are able to attend and enjoy, the message at each is always the same – "C'mon in, meet your friends and have a great time". So, if you have been to a chapter event and had fun, please tell your other members or a potential new member, and keep the good times rolling. And if you didn't get a chance to attend an event, please make time to do so and see what we are all talking about!



Now to start planning for next year and get to the ones we missed this year.....

**David Hay**  
Assistant District Director



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## **THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD**

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We will be holding a Medic First Aid Course on Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup> in Belleville, Ontario.

If you would like to come to this class, please send us an email with your information and we will add you to the list

Remember, a First Aid Course is needed to move up to or keep your level 3 in the GWRRA Levels Program.

Watch the District Newsletter for more upcoming courses

***Teresa Fleury***  
Assistant District Director



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## MEDIC FIRST AID

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### Wing Ding 40

Wing Ding 40 in Knoxville has come and gone, and it was another great GWRRA event. This was my fourth Wing Ding, and after missing the last two I was glad to get back.

Initially I was not sure I would be able to make it, but Gary McDermott was looking for volunteers to help him in the registration area on WD40 Day One, so I made sure I was available to support him.

My support was cut short as I was informed by Michel Lavoie that I had to attend a Medic First Aid meeting. Lydia Bourg, our MFA director, was stepping down and introduced Linda Hojnacki as her successor. Lydia has done a great job and has provided me and others with great support. We will miss her, but know that Linda is more than capable to continue this support.

As the meeting closed, Lydia announced some awards to a number of people with a long tenure in supporting the MFA program within GWRRA. Then came the big surprise and the reason Michel insisted on my attendance. I received the **“You Make the Difference”** award. I was quite surprised, and pleased.



The real thanks for this goes to everyone who supports and promotes our Medic First Aid program. Without you this could not be successful. Thank you!!!

#### WD40 Vendors

You cannot go to Wing Ding without getting onto the trade-show floor and being tempted, and succumbing, to a purchase or two! I visited with the folks at Vizon-X, one of Ram Mounts' largest dealers. I needed to mount my GPS and the Ram Mount was the best solution. Vizon-X's customer service and understanding of my application got me all the bits and pieces required. Thanks for a great experience.

One of the most interesting products was the helmet-mounted auxiliary brake light from Heads Up Braking – [www.headsupbraking.com](http://www.headsupbraking.com)

I spoke with John Henry, who invented this system. I was impressed with the ability of this wireless system to operate not only when the brakes are applied but also on deceleration. It is worth a visit to their website to further explore what this can do to make our ride safer. (See 'Rear End Collisions' below!)

Also chatted with Max at Traxxon Dynamics. I did enjoy the conversation. A knowledgeable guy on a mission.

#### Rear End Collisions

Wing Ding is about more than vendors; it's also about people. I re-connected with Mike Melton, CD of Chapter G in South Carolina. He had just come off the range after instructing an ARC.

Mike was on a mission to get everyone checking their mirrors when they stop and are stationary. Multiple chapter participants have been rear-ended over the last couple of years. Mike wants you to check mirrors and make sure you have a path to safety should the vehicle approaching from the rear is not stopping! Too many drivers are not engaged with the task of driving and are distracted. Be aware, assess, and act to protect yourself!

**Wing Ding 41** will be in Nashville Tennessee at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. Another one of my favorite cities!

#### **Garvin Cole**

Assistant District Director  
Medic First Aid Coordinator



## MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT



**Wow!** Where did the summer go? I hope you enjoyed some good riding and lots of **FUN**. We were super busy. We attended Americade, Rendezvous, Atlantic District Rally, Wing Ding, Sault Ste Marie Campout, and the North Bay Color Run. And I'm sure there will be some local rides thrown in before the riding season comes to a close.

This month I want to revisit the *Couple of the Year Program* because, since GWRRA revised the program in January of 2018, there appears to be a lot of misunderstanding as to how the program works. I'm going to try and simplify the process for you as best I can.

The program has moved from a single International Couple of the Year selection to six International Couples of the Year. The United States has been divided into four territories, with each territory having its own International Couple. Overseas is a territory with its own International Couple; and Canada, including Alaska, is a territory with its own International Couple. Six territories, six International Couples of the Year.

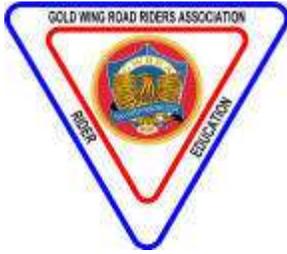
I'll skip how the United States and Overseas territories conduct their Couple of the Year program and focus on Canada. There are four Districts in Canada's territory: Atlantic District, Central District, Prairie District, and Western District which includes Alaska. And within these Districts are your Chapters. So, let's walk through the Couple of the Year program as it pertains to **our** District, which is the Central Canada District consisting of Ontario and Quebec.

The Couple of the Year program starts at the Chapter level with the selection of a Chapter Couple of the Year. Once a Chapter Couple of the Year has been selected and is interested in pursuing the District Couple of the Year selection, they compete with any other hopeful Chapter Couple of the Year within our District. This selection will usually be done at our District rally.

If one of the Chapter Couples of the Year is successful at becoming the District Couple of the Year, they have the opportunity to advance to the International Couple of the Year selection, if they wish to do so. At this stage they would compete against the District Couple of the Year from the three other Canadian Districts. This selection will be done by teleconference. Basically this means you have a 1 in 4 chance of becoming the International Couple of the Year for Canada. If selected, you would be expected to attend Wing Ding and would be welcomed and introduced to the members as the International Couple of the Year for Canada.

Of course during the whole process there are things like Resumes, interviews, oral presentations, and other basics that you'll have to contend with, but hey, you'll have the full support from your Chapter. And there's no better time than now for Chapters to seriously consider selecting a Couple of the Year for 2019. The Couple of the Year program gives members the opportunity to grow and become ambassadors for GWRRA. It is a **FUN** and **REWARDING** experience at all levels, and will certainly be a once-in-a-lifetime encounter. It's designed to honor a couple who has made significant contributions to your Chapter. Don't deny that couple the recognition they deserve for all their hard work and dedication. And besides, it's **FUN**. I hope all Chapter Directors are listening.

**Dave and Linda Lawrence**  
District Membership Enhancement Coordinators



## RIDER EDUCATION



**I realize this is a USA study, but as you know constructors always follow their recommendation, therefore Canadian riders will benefit from it. Read all of it, not just for ABS. Let me know what you think.....**

### ***Federal agency seeks mandatory motorcycle ABS***

National Transportation Safety Board addresses crash causation

**September 11, 2018**

PICKERINGTON, Ohio — The National Transportation Safety Board issued a report Tuesday that calls for all new on-road motorcycles sold in the United States to be equipped with antilock braking systems and recommends the federal government publish performance standards for electronic stability control on motorcycles sold here.

At the same time, the board recommended that the American Motorcyclist Association, the Motorcycle Industry Council, and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation tout the benefits of ABS and stability control—along with other findings in the report—to the motorcycling community.

The report also recommended that motorcycles be fully incorporated in the development and implementation of technology for on-board crash prevention systems and vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure technology.

The recommendations were among 10 included in the report titled "Select Risk Factors Associated with Causes of Motorcycle Crashes" that the board adopted unanimously.

***Ride safe always***

***Michel Lavoie***

District Educator/GWRRRA University Coordinator

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## ***RUNNING DOWN THE HIGHWAY***

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Bob Henshaw and I attended a Honda Rally on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was the fifth annual rally held at Hillier Creek Estates Winery in Prince Edward County.

The Master of Ceremonies at this rally was Dave Hatch. He has been the host of ***Motorcycle Experience*** on TSN for thirty years.

The rally was well put together with a variety of Gold Wings, including an airbag model, DCT Automatic models, and standard 6-speed manual models, plus four Africa Twin bikes to ride.

There were door prizes and various giveaways, such as bandanas and sun glasses, and, of course, free coffee and sodas. All donations went to the Wounded Warriors, and it was announced that over \$600 was collected.

The winery is on 58 acres, and the barn where various seminars were held throughout the day was built in 1862. Wood-fired pizza was available for purchase.

It was well worth the 3-hour ride to the rally. Maybe an idea for next year---?



***Adrian Young***

District Ride Coordinator





## MOTORIST AWARENESS



### Monkey Business

The goal of the Motorist Awareness Program is to leave other motorists with a positive attitude and increased awareness of the motorcyclists they share the road with. The more aware a motorist is of motorcyclists, the more visible the motorcyclist becomes to him. The following attempts to demonstrate this. **Without reading ahead, please watch this video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-Dg-06nrnc>

Over 50% of viewers who don't know about the bear beforehand will not see it. The cause of this is referred to as inattention blindness, or perceptual blindness, and is defined as "a psychological lack of attention that is not associated with any vision defects or deficits." It may be further defined as "the event in which an individual fails to perceive an unexpected stimulus that is in plain sight." It is very easy to overlook something obvious just because it is not being looked for explicitly.

Now, imagine a motorist wanting to make a left hand turn from a stop sign into rush hour traffic. The driver is snapping their head and eyes left and right looking for cars and trucks approaching from both directions, trying to time a dash through and into gaps in the flow of traffic without causing an accident. Will the motorcycle be seen? Is there a better chance the motorcycle will be seen if the driver is looking for cars, trucks **and** motorcycles?

Although our concern is for the awareness of motorcyclists, let's take it one step further. **Again, please watch this video before reading ahead:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f94o3B3csYI>

What if the driver is only looking for cars, trucks, and motorcycles? Will he see the pedestrian on the sidewalk or the child on the bicycle?

The importance of driver awareness cannot be overemphasized.

#### Bob Cochrane

GWRRRA CC District MAPC

H: 905-714-9502

C: 289-646-1110



*Look twice, save a life.*

# Editor's Note



SERENITY is not freedom from the storm, but peace amid the storm.

Author unknown

**OCTOBER** is an exciting month, beginning with Thanksgiving on the 8<sup>th</sup> and carrying on to spooky All Hallows Eve on the 31<sup>st</sup>. I wish you and your family the blessings of the first holiday, and protection from the ghostly spirits at the end of the month. Have FUN!



**Helen Young**  
District Newsletter Editor



GWRRRA Central Canada District du Canada Central

