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CENTRAL CANADA DISTRICT CONNECTION

Where the District Teams Meet

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First, Kristina and I would like to wish all our GWRRA family and friends a safe and happy Holiday Season! **(MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR)**

November started as a productive month with several ZOOM meetings within the District. If you want an easy way to have a meeting and not leave the comfort of your home, Google ZOOM and give it a try. You will be very impressed with the quality of video conferencing. The first forty minutes are free.

On November 8th the CCD Team had their monthly meeting with all the new arrangements for next year. **Rendezvous 2019** is moving ahead fast and furious. It appears Niagara-On-The Lake is going to be a very exciting location for Rendezvous 2019. There will be a Rendezvous update going out in January with links on the CCD website. In December the winning Chapter for the **Chapter Challenge** will be announced, and the lucky Chapter will have their charter fees paid. With 2018 changes and all the CCD Chapters working together as a TEAM, Central Canada District will again pay the U.S exchange rate for all the CCD Chapter charter fees.

On November 15th Chapter ON-Y had their first Core Team ZOOM meeting.

On November 20th CCD Chapter Directors had their quarterly ZOOM meeting where we discussed future plans for the upcoming year and Chapter issues the group would brain-storm for a solution. Due to hunting season, the group was smaller than expected, but was a success. Quarterly ZOOM meetings are being arranged for CCD CD's, and will be sent out a week prior to the meeting.

Reminder to all CCD CDs: email your 2019 breakfast dates, riding season rides, events, social functions, etc. to Kristina and me to update the CCD website Calendar and the GWRRA.ORG events. Remember to download GOOGLE CALENDAR to keep up on all the CCD Chapters'

functions. Chapters can use their own google calendar on their Chapter website, and they will be able to interact with the CCD calendar.

I would like to thank all the Central Canada District Chapters and members for your support with the new GWRRA Structure that was implemented January 1, 2018. Working together was very rewarding, and we were able to achieve a strong foundation to advance GWRRA successfully in a positive direction.

I have made Central Canada District's **GOAL for 2019 "increase our GWRRA membership in the District"**. I'm confident with all our Chapters and Teams we should reach our GOAL by late 2019.

Gary McDermott and Kristina Magic
Central Canada District Directors



WINGING THRU THE DISTRICT



Snow, snow, snow, who doesn't love all the snow? Oops! Sorry, thought I was talking with the snowmobile club for a minute there. But since I have your attention anyways, let me tell you about a fun weekend we had here locally that started as a different idea and turned into what will now be an annual event.

Always looking for an excuse to party, someone said we should enter a float in our local Santa Clause parade that would include putting some bikes on a flat-bed trailer, maybe a sleigh of some kind, and we would hand out candies to the kids of all ages along the parade route. Not bad, eh?

Well, some nameless fool mentioned that we should really ride our bikes in the parade, since it would be a lot more fun and show our dedication to our cause. OK so this is when the snow part starts. 5 days before the parade was scheduled it snowed non-stop for three days, laying down a crisp, deep blanket of white beauty. Well that was enough to make the wiser of our group wrap up their bikes for the season, leaving one fool (still nameless) willing to ride as long as the city had the streets bare and safe for this short 3 km, low speed run. The weather man did his part, the city did their part, and all the roads were bare but a bit damp as the group got together and built a wonderful Christmas float to pull along the parade route while enjoying a lot of laughs around hot pizzas and cold drinks.

A  plan was set, a time scheduled, and the bike and float transported safely within an enclosed trailer to the staging area for everyone to gather for a new adventure. Well, the truck and trailer had barely pulled away after unloading and the skies opened, and, you guessed it, the snow started again with a vengeance, covering what had been a bare but damp main street where we had committed to ride. After second-guessing the decision to do this and wondering if he could sneak away unnoticed, this nameless fool was suddenly trapped by a multitude of Chapter members all dressed in costume, singing, dancing, and ready to party so...never one to let the crowd down....on the bike he got and away they went.

With great music blaring, a nip in the air, and a cheering crowd, this enthusiastic Chapter marched, danced (and rode) for just under an hour while handing out approx. 30 pounds of candy to hundreds of spectators who will not soon forget **GWRRA Chapter H.**

The after-party full of chicken wings, French fries, salad, and home-made desserts, along with a hot or cold beverage of your choice, while laughing and remembering the evening, topped off a great two days of doing something that was new to us and not your average "bike group" activity.

It became apparent to the group there that night that at some point we had stopped looking at ourselves as a Chapter but more as a family. Not unlike any and all other Chapters in GWRRA, we had started as strangers, became friends, and eventually formed a somewhat removed but functional family that is always welcoming that travelling cousin, aunt, or uncle, and always ready to help each other have a good time and try something new.

Now, who doesn't have a crazy relative willing to ride in the snow once-in-a-while, or an Aunt Kathy with a new idea....right?

We want to wish each and every one of you a wonderful Christmas season and a Happy New Year that is full of fun, prosperity, and joy.



David and Judy Hay
Assistant District Directors





THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD



On Saturday morning, Mark and I headed out early to Chapter ON-Q in Belleville, to put on a **Medic First Aid Course** for them. Normally, we would accept the hospitality and spend Friday evening with Paul & Sheila. With us both having been so under the weather lately, we decided we did not want to ruin their upcoming holiday season by making them sick.

We had fifteen participants taking the Course on Saturday. Some were renewing their certification, and some were newbies. This is a great course to take that gives you First Aid, CPR, and the use of an AED.

Although it is a requirement for level III in your GWRRA Levels Program, it is also a great course to take for your own personal gain. It is our hope that you never need to put these skills you are taught to use. It is however nice to know, if one of your family or friends needed your help to possibly save their lives, you are prepared to do so. The Course is taught in a relaxed atmosphere, and we do have a lot of fun doing it.



If you need this course, which is good for two years, or are about to expire (no pun intended), have your Chapter Director contact Garvin Cole, Central Canada Medic First Aid Coordinator, and have a course set up.





At this time Mark and I would like to wish all our GWRRA Family a very happy and safe Holiday Season. Enjoy some time with your friends and family.

Looking forward to a great 2019.

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year



Mark and Teresa Fleury
Assistant District Directors



From the East End of Ontario



Just looking out the window and it is snowing here already. I am already starting to get Parked Motorcycle Syndrome, and it is not even December yet. This past year has just flown by and we have had a lot of fun, some learning, and made new friendships throughout the year. As the cycle continues, we can look forward to some new and old things. Rendezvous and Wing Ding will come and go

as the summer comes upon us.

In the New Year, there will be a Change of Officers at the top of Chapter On-K with Terry and Eilene Brinklow stepping in there, and in On-Q, Don and Elaine Collins will be the new Chapter Directors.

As we all know, it is important to keep the members informed as well as having fun within the Chapter, so in the East end of the Province, everything is running smoothly.

Sheila and I would like to wish everyone a ***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.***

Until next time, Ride Safe

Paul and Sheila Haller

Central Canada District Assistants



MEDIC FIRST AID



Medic First Aid

Once again I would like to thank all those who have made 2018 a great year for our Medic First Aid program. With four courses completed this year, we have continued to educate and prepare for medical emergencies. Statistically, as these emergencies will most likely involve a family member, we have taken a vital step to protect those closest to us.



Let's keep the momentum going for this great GWRRA program in 2019.

Riding this Winter?

Up until the other day I thought that I would still get in a couple of last rides before putting the motorcycle to bed for the winter. Here in the Niagara Region we tend to get a milder winter than even our neighbors in the GTA. However, as I look out the window today, I am rather dismayed at the accumulation of snow! It will be gone by the weekend but I guess I will have to face reality and get my favorite ride comfortable for a brief hibernation.

Let's hope for an early spring...

2019 Plans

Friendships is one of the things that I like about being a GWRRA member. In 2019 I will renew some old friendships and make new ones.

First one to renew will be with our friends in Tennessee at TN-C. Once again, they will host the Bean Supper and Steak-Out at Roan Mountain. Dates are May 17th and 18th. This will be the 36th year for this event, and the proceeds go to support the work at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Over the past twenty plus years, Chapter TN-C has hosted many charity events to raise funds for St. Jude. These charity events have raised over \$100,000 to support the work at St. Jude. My participation in this event in 2019 will be the third time. A great event in a beautiful part of Tennessee.



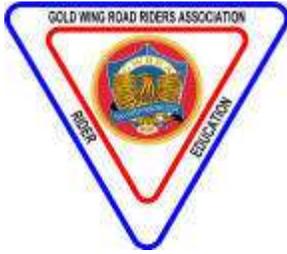
The second friendship to renew will be with the CD of SC-G in Charleston, SC. This has just become a little more interesting as he is relocating to Arizona. I guess I may get to do my Grand Canyon trip after all.

I am looking forward to 2019. With Wing Ding being in Nashville, I am certain that I will have an opportunity to expand my GWRRA friends circle and enjoy some quality (and quantity) miles on my favorite mode of transportation.

During the upcoming cold winter it will be a great time to lay out your 2019 ride plans! Make them interesting.

Garvin Cole

Assistant District Director
Medic First Aid Coordinator



RIDER EDUCATION



Five safety tips and reminders for driving at night

With winter on the horizon and driving in the dark inevitable, the following tips will help you overcome the nocturnal challenges that lay ahead in the coming months.



1. Make sure you can see and are seen

Clean and repair windows, mirrors, and lights that are dirty, damaged, or no longer working. Pay special attention to your vehicle's headlights, tail lights and signal lights as these are absolutely critical to ensuring you can see and will be seen by others on the road. Also, if your wiper blades no longer clear the windshield properly, replace them.

2. Don't rely on your daytime running lights to brighten the way

Daytime running lights do not provide sufficient light when it's dark, even in well-lit urban areas. Use your vehicle's headlights to light the way at night, but be careful when switching over to your high beams. In general, your high beams should only be used in rural areas and only if it doesn't cause issues for other drivers on the road. If you're following another vehicle, if there is an approaching vehicle, or if you're coming to a hilltop or bend in the road, switch over to your low beams.

3. Don't overdrive your headlights

Your headlights only illuminate the road ahead of you so far and you should always be able to stop your vehicle safely within the distance you can see. Your low beam headlights, for example, likely only have a range of about 60 metres, but if you're travelling at 80 km/hour it can take up to 76 metres to come to a complete stop. At night, lower your speed to give yourself enough time to brake safely.

4. Glance to the right when faced with bright lights

When faced with the bright lights of oncoming traffic, avoid the resulting glare by looking slightly to the right edge of the lane you're travelling in until the car passes.

5. Look once and then look again

Vehicles without proper lighting, pedestrians, and cyclists are all harder to see at night which means you need to be absolutely certain that the way is clear when changing lanes or turning at an intersection. Make it a practice to double, even triple check, that the path is free because a quick glance just won't cut it when it's dark out.

Michel Lavoie

District Educator/GWRRR University Coordinator

CHAPTER QC-G (DRUMMONDVILLE) LUNCH MEETING PRESENTATION OF A "YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE" CERTIFICATE

On Sunday, November 18th, 2018, Chapter QC-G (Drummondville) held a lunch meeting to conclude its riding season. Unfortunately, no one could attend by motorcycle due to the early winter having set in! Four other Chapters were present: QC-M (Mauricie), QC-D (St-Hubert), ON-F (Orléans), and ON-B (Ottawa). In all, 34 people were present including Presidential Assistants Chantal and François Séguin, and Senior Assistant District Directors Raymond Borris and Hélène Dubois.

As District Educator and University Coordinator, I took the opportunity to present a Rider Education Seminar in French titled "Conduite en équipe" (Team Riding).

Back in Knoxville, TN, during Wing Ding 40, University Director Clara Boldt recognized the importance of all individual volunteering. For the first time a special GWRRA certificate called "You Make the Difference" was presented to many people, including three from our District, namely Assistant Director Garvin Cole, for his involvement as Medic First Aid Instructor, as well as Lyette Babin-MacKay, Secretary & Assistant M.E.C. (ARL), Central Canada District, and yours truly for our work translating GWRRA courses and seminars into French.

Because Lyette had not been able to attend Wing Ding 40, I presented her with her "You Make the Difference" certificate at Chapter QC-G's lunch meeting, on behalf of University Director Clara Boldt, for her fantastic translation work. Indeed, over the past few years, more than 20 Rider Education seminars and University modules have been translated into French for the benefit of all French-speaking members. On their behalf, and in particular on my own behalf, I would like to thank Lyette for her assistance, involvement, and willingness to work in a team.

Ride Safe Always!

Michel Lavoie
District Educator and University Coordinator
Central Canada District



RUNNING DOWN THE HIGHWAY



Hi, everybody! Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Now that all the bikes have been put away and winter is upon us with snow till next riding season in the spring, I have some good news for the CRCs/CDs: you do not have to send any reports to me in the New Year!

However, you will need to keep a record of the Chapter Rids taken each month. I will contact each of you to get this information, and will compile a report to send to Michel Lavoie.

So, that's it for now. Thank you for your cooperation this past year. I hope to see some of you at the IMS Show this January.

Adrian Young

District Ride Coordinator



Editor's Note



*Have a wonderful
Christmas Season, and
stay warm!*



Helen Young
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