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# CENTRAL CANADA DISTRICT CONNECTION



<http://www.ccdistrict.ca>

## Where the District Teams Meet

### APRIL 2021



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## DIRECTORS' CORNER

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### *HAPPY SPRING!*

A big thank you to all those who attended our District Operations sessions these last few weeks. Some good information was shared about Chapter operations, and it was a fantastic opportunity for Q&A and problem solving together. We sincerely appreciated everyone's time and input. Thank you as well to the District Team for their leadership and expertise. We look forward to some next steps that developed from these sessions.

Check the May newsletter for the winners of the prize draw for best attendance! Be sure to visit the District website's **Resources** page to find the new Chapter Stats Reporting "cheat sheet"!

Check your inboxes soon for information about upcoming GWRRA University Classes presented by our District!

Have a wonderful Easter everyone, and enjoy a sunny ride!



***Darlene Drouin and Bob Cochrane***

Central Canada District Directors

[dir.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:dir.centralcanada@gmail.com)



**WELCOME  
NEW GIRL ON THE BLOCK!**

Hello fellow Canada GWRRA members,

Let me introduce myself.

My name is Geraldine Haller. I am the NEW Assistant District Director for Central Canada, assigned to Chapters E, S and A. I have been asked to help where I can for our Central Canada Directors Darlene and Bob.



My husband and I have been active with the GWRRA for almost 10 years now. When we first joined, Tim was newly retired and it was time to enjoy bike riding again. We have been able to attend a few Wing Ding Events over the years in the States. We have also been to many Rendezvous events in our area. These events gave us the opportunity to meet many new friends with the same interest. We have travelled on our motorcycle to the Maritimes, many places in Ontario, and a few states, including New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Florida.

Over the years I have lent a hand in our Chapter, always helping where I could. I have held a few positions within Chapter S: Event Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, as well as Chapter Director with my husband Tim. We have hosted many chapter events as well. Tim and I enjoy travelling on the bike, seeing what this country has to offer, and we will enjoy the new adventures we plan to do over the next few years.

Please feel free to contact me when you are looking for ideas or advice. If there is something I do not have the answer to; don't worry, I will find it for you. Being part of GWRRA is another family in our life. Friends and adventures, we will have in our memories for many years to come.



***Geraldine Haller***  
Assistant District Director  
[g.haller1961@gmail.com](mailto:g.haller1961@gmail.com)



## RIDER EDUCATION



To all CCD members. Below are the (1) - Range Only Course extension Levels Program explanatory letter, and (2) - Approved Rider Education Courses List to maintain your Level or access to the next Level.

**REMINDER** to all members: indicate to your Chapter Skill Enhancement Coordinator or Chapter Directors if you require to attend a Rider Course to maintain or pass on to the next Level. Chapter Director, let me know as soon as possible.

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO DISTRICT EDUCATORS, DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS

**March 15, 2021**

The GWRRA Rider Education Program Team continues to explore different ways we can better serve the Membership during our collective recovery from the unexpected challenges caused by COVID-19.

GWRRA Rider Education Program policy for any GWRRA Member in the Levels Program who's *last on-bike course was "Range Only"* requires their *next* on-bike course to be a "Full" course (with both a classroom and a range portion) to be eligible for level course fulfillment.

*Due to the continued lack of classroom space available to accommodate Federal, State and Local distancing guidelines, temporarily, any Member with a rider course expiration on or after January 1, 2020 may renew their Level by participating in another Range Only class until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.*

Because many of us may be starting to ride again after a year or more, this decision was made to make it possible for more Members to participate in the valuable on-bike skill practice necessary to ride safely and proficiently.

We do encourage those Members able to attend a Full Rider Course when offered to do so in support of your District's Rider Education Program and the Instructors who teach them. These courses are proven to be beneficial for all riders regardless of individual riding experience.

The RE Team posts all GWRRA Rider Education events submitted by Districts including rider courses and MEDIC FIRST AID (MFA) on the Association's event page: <http://gwrro.org/events/> where you can perform a search to learn what is available in your area.

We also suggest Members contact their District Educator for more information about what will be available throughout the year. Please take advantage of any courses and classes available to you.

Susan N Huttman, Team GWRRA Director, Rider Education Program

Approved for Distribution 03.15.21

The courses eligible and available in Canada to maintain your Level are:

- 1- 2-UP Co-Rider participating in a Rider Course
- 2- ARC - Advanced Rider Course
- 3- ARC-R - Advanced Rider Course Range Only
- 4- TC - Trailering Course - 2 wheels
- 5- TRC - Trike Rider Course
- 6- TRC-R - Trike Rider Course Range Only
- 7- TTRC - Trike with Trailer Rider Course
- 8- VRC - Vanguard Rider Course.
- 9- CSC - Canadian Safety Council

***Ride Safe Always***

***Rouler toujours prudemment!***

***Michel Lavoie MIT 023***

Central Canada District Educator  
Educateur du District Central du Canada  
University Coordinator  
Coordinateur Universitaire  
613-290-5574

***The following invitation is sent on behalf of Michel Lavoie, GWRRA CCD University Coordinator.***

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Thank you to everyone who submitted their feedback & preferences for upcoming GWRRA University modules & seminars online. The first one offered will be the ***“Planning a Chapter Event-We’re Doing What?”*** module, **7:00 pm on April 6.**

Please also share with your Team and Chapter. Space is very limited, first come first served, and there is a quick turnaround time. All RSVPs for this module can be sent to this email address ([dir.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:dir.centralcanada@gmail.com)). Darlene will be the Presenter.

Stay tuned for announcements for other upcoming GWRRA University opportunities over the next several weeks!

## NOTES FROM THE NORTH

It shouldn't take you long to realize that this is far too well written to be one of my original articles, but the information is important and timely.

As we all get our bikes out after a long winter rest, please do all you can to ensure a safe start to a great riding season.



Credit: advpulse.com

After months of cold weather, Spring Fever can cause you to hastily embark on your first ride of the season.

Winter is the most loathed time of year by motorcyclists and those of us that live in colder climates suffer even more while enduring months of winter motorcycle storage. Once the weather warms up though, we are typically itching to get our bikes out of storage for that first ride of spring. But before you hastily push your bike out of the garage and thumb that starter button, there are a few things you should check to help ensure your first ride is a successful one.

### Pre-Ride Bike Inspection

If you prepped your bike for the winter by adding fuel stabilizer and either removed your battery or had it on a trickle charger, then your bike should come to life without too much trouble. Once you have the bike running, it's a good time to give it a thorough mechanical inspection to make sure it's safe to ride.

A great checklist for inspecting your bike after a long winter motorcycle storage is the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's T-CLOCS checklist. The T-CLOCS checklist is extensive and it's a good idea to check all of the items listed there, but it can be overkill for just a few months in storage. At the very least, you should check these items on your motorcycle:

**Fuel:** Gasoline can break down quickly and clog up injectors and jets. The easiest way to avoid this is to winterize your bike by adding fuel stabilizer before you put your motorcycle into storage. Nevertheless, your first ride of the season should be to the gas station to get a tank full of fresh fuel.

**Tires:** Your tires can deflate and crack while in winter storage, so check them over well and make sure they are properly inflated before going on your first ride.

**Fluids:** Check your oil, antifreeze and brake fluids to make sure they are at proper levels. If you didn't change your oil before putting your motorcycle into winter storage, now is a good time. Check the floor around your bike and make sure there aren't any leaks. If you find leaks, try to track down the source before starting the motorcycle.

**Chain:** If your bike is chain driven, make sure the chain is properly lubricated and doesn't have any tight spots or excessive wear. Also, look for worn sprockets and make sure the chain tension is adjusted to manufacturer specifications.

**Suspension:** Rust can build up on suspension components during winter motorcycle storage leading to premature failure of seals. Look for light rust or tarnishing on the fork tubes and the rear shock shaft. If you find any rust build up, you can usually remove it with steel wool.

**Partially Completed Projects:** When you put your motorcycle away for winter storage, there may have been a project or two you started but never completed. You can easily forget about these projects after months have passed by. Give the bike a good once over to make sure there aren't any loose bolts or clamps that could give you trouble on your first ride of spring.

### **Taking Your First Spring Ride**

Assuming you've inspected your motorcycle and prepared it for the first ride, then you're probably eager to get out on the road (or trail). Here are a few more things to keep in mind before you rush off on your first ride in months.

**Full Riding Gear:** So you think the bike's ready and you want to go around the block for a quick test ride? Don't skimp on the riding gear. Accidents can easily happen on that first test ride when the bike's condition is still iffy, so make sure you are fully protected. Once you go out for a longer ride, always bring along cold weather gear even if temperatures are warm. In these early days of spring, you never know when winter might make a surprise return.

**Getting in Riding Shape:** It's great to be riding again and it may feel like you haven't missed a beat but your skills are not going to be as good as they were last fall. Your reaction speed and timing can be a little off and corners can sneak up on you unexpectedly. Start out with a nice easy pace and slowly blow off the cobwebs on both man and machine. The first ride isn't the time to be pushing your limits. An accident now could easily end your riding season before it's even begun.

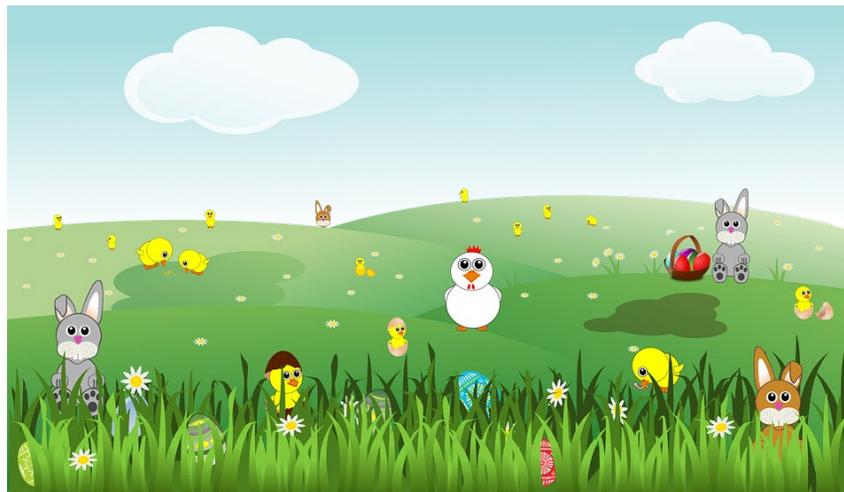
**Stay Connected:** Sure, your bike may have seemed fine while it was running in the garage, but there could be some hidden issues that develop miles down the road. You may just be planning a short shakedown ride, but don't forget to carry a mobile phone or GPS Messaging Device that will allow you to call for help and avoid being stranded should you encounter mechanical problems.

**Unpredictable Road Conditions:** Many riders wait until there have been a few rain showers to help clean off the roads before taking their first ride of the season. If you can't wait for the roads to get cleaned off, be aware of the hazards you may encounter. Road crews typically use salt or sand to melt ice on the roads during the winter and much of it is still waiting for you in the spring. Also look out for ice hiding in the shadows and snow melt running across roads that can be extremely slippery. Corners and intersections are where you are most likely to encounter bad traction, so stay alert to avoid logging your first crash of the year.

**Ride Defensively:** You need to be aware that other motorists haven't seen motorcycles on the road for months and they may have forgotten they share the road with you when spring comes around. During this time of year more than any other, you need to be on the look out for cars straying into your lane and turning in front of you. It's your life on the line, so take responsibility and assume they don't see you — always drive defensively.

***David Hay***

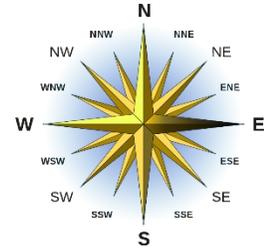
Assistant District Director



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## **NOTES FROM THE EAST**

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As I sit here on this Sunday Morning, I was hoping it would be warm enough to go for a ride, but the weather did not co-operate again. It is raining here. I went to go out last Wednesday for a ride, it was sunny and warm. I uncovered the bike, checked, it over, oil was good, did my circle check, then went to start it and it would not start. I had forgotten that I had unplugged my battery charger to do something else. What a waste of a good day to ride. So anyway, I had to find something else to do, like go for a walk.

As for the East Region of our organization, here in Quinte we are still in the green, Kingston has moved back up to yellow due to a number of cases at Queens University, and I noticed on the news on Friday that Ottawa is being moved back to red.

As we all know, we are going to have to be careful in the next few weeks and maintain our distancing, wearing of masks (some areas are recommending the N-95 mask for use). And the most hurtful to Wingers – **NO HUGGING!** I am hoping that when we all receive our vaccines and this third wave is defeated, we can get back to some form of normality, as this is hard on all of us not being able to see family and friends.

So, remember, keep up with the Circle Check of your bike, check those tires before every ride, and keep the shiny side up and the throttle cranked.

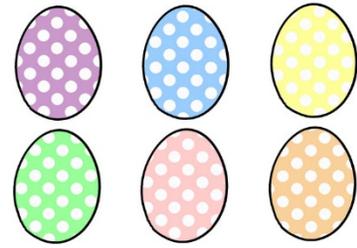


***Paul and Sheila Haller***

Assistant District Directors

### **EASTER FACTOID:**

*About 800 years after St. Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland, King Edward I ordered 450 eggs to be coloured, gilded, and given as Easter presents. Today's pastel descendants help spread the springtime joy of new life after a long winter.*



## **St. Patrick's Day Trivia 2021 ANSWERS**

**When is the St. Patrick's Day holiday?** St. Patrick's Day is on March 17th every year

**Who is St. Patrick and why do we celebrate him?** He was a guiding saint in Ireland who lived in the 5th century. He is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland. It's been told that he used a three leaf clover as a metaphor to explain the Holy Trinity, (Father, Son, Holy Ghost), to the Irish people.

**Was St. Patrick Irish?** Nope! While many people think he was, he was actually born to parents in the Scotland and Wales areas.

**What US city has the largest St. Patrick's Day parade?** New York City holds this honor. It's often more than 6 hours long and draws over 2 million visitors who line the streets to see the floats, listen to music played on bagpipes, and feel some Celtic pride.

**What city dyes the river green for St. Patty's Day?** That would be the city of Chicago. Every year the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union use vegetable dye to turn the Chicago River a bright shade of emerald green. They are mindful of the environment and the dye lasts only about 5 hours.

**What are traditional Irish meals eaten on St. Patrick's Day?** Corned beef and cabbage is an Irish staple and quite popular on the holiday. Shepherd's pie, a meat and potato dish, is also a favorite, and Irish soda bread works well as a nice carbohydrate to round out any St. Paddy's Day feast.

**What exactly is a leprechaun?** Typically depicted as short bearded men wearing green outfits, they are characters invented in Irish folklore. They are shoemakers by trade and have placed a pot of gold at the end of rainbows. Trivial fact: there are no female leprechauns, this may have to change in our day and age.

**What does Erin go Bragh mean, and why do people say it?** It translates to Ireland forever, and is spoken as a phrase of Irish national pride. It's referenced regularly at St. Patrick's Day parades and Irish pubs around the world.

## **ITEMS FOR SALE**

Canadian Flag - only 1 in stock \$2.00 Plus Postage

Round GWRRA Lady Rider - only 4 in stock \$4.00 Plus Postage

Purple Crest Lady Rider - only 8 in stock \$7.00 Plus Postage

Gold/Yellow Goldwing - only 5 in stock \$5.00 Plus Postage

Red Goldwing - only - 6 in stock \$5.00 Plus Postage

The Central Canadian District - 28 in stock \$6.00 Plus Postage



## **Contact**

**Mike Beaudoin**

District Pins and Patches

[patchesnew.centralcanada@gmail.com](mailto:patchesnew.centralcanada@gmail.com)



I have been dealing with Hully Gully in London for 23 years. It's a great dealership with good people, in my experience. Right now, they don't have enough bikes to match the demand. They have floor space for used bikes, and buyers asking for bikes to buy.

Best wishes,  
Doug

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# CANADA'S 11 SEASONS

winter  
fool's spring  
second winter  
spring of deception  
third winter  
mud season  
actual spring  
summer  
false fall  
second summer (1 week)  
actual fall

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## Editor's Note



How well do you know Latin? Here's a tricky phrase for you - translation next month!

Q sibili si emgo  
fortibuses in ero.  
Nobili, demis trux  
Sewatis enim?  
Cowsendux!

**Helen Young**  
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