



A-WING NEWS



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER A OFFICERS FOR 2018
CHAPTER DIRECTOR

Juanita & Gary Rackley
cd1@gwrra-gaa.com
cd2@gwrra-gaa.com

TREASURE

Phil Pitrowski
trea1@gwrra-gaa.com

MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT

COUPLE OF 2019

CHAPTER HISTORIAN/SCRAPBOOK

Karla Greer
mec1@gwrra-gaa.com
hist1@gwrra-gaa.com

MOTORIST AWARENESS

CO-ORDINATOR

2019 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

Bob & Karla Greer
mec1@gwrra-gaa.com
ridecord1@gwrra-gaa.com
coy1@gwrra-gaa.com

SECRETARY

Beverly Ensley
sec1@gwrra-gaa.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Nathan Ensley
photo1@gwrra-gaa.com

CHAPTER RIDE COORDINATOR

Dick Hopkins
ridecord1@gwrrw-gaa.com

WEBMASTER

Bob McCroskey (770)954-1924
wm1@gwrra-gaa.com

EVENT COORDINATOR

Bonnie McCroskey
event1@gwrra-gaa.com

CHARITY COORDINATOR

Joyce Pittorski

PROOFREADER/SUNSHINE LADY

Peg Hopkins
proof1@gwrra-gaa.com
sun1@gwrra-gaa.com

NEWS LETTER EDITOR

Ken & Anita Maynard
ed1@gwrra-gaa.com



JANUARY 2019



Here we are at the beginning of 2019, boy how time flies. I remember when I was in the 6th grade, (for the third time) the teacher was speaking of what the world would be like in the year 2000. My thought was, "yeah sure, by that time I will be dead." Well here I am, still kicking, (although not very high or often.)

This year is beginning with a bang, and I don't mean someone shot me, although it has just started. Last year I could not get a paragraph of writing for the news letter and for the first one out of the box we have several nice long articles to read. So many that this is the third try at getting it completed, but that is ok.

At our age we have more time than money. I hope you will turn off the tv and enjoy the articles. You might even get the fever to write one yourself. Don't worry we have spell check, it's called "Peg."

ken maynard

NewsLetterEditor

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

District Director
LARRY & PAMELA CLEMMER
GeorgiaDD@gwrra-ga.com 678-525-5433

Asst. District Directors Northeast
Couple of the Year Coordinators
Vance & Fern Oakes

Asst. District Directors South
Berry & Barbara Owens
 229-263-7906
bcowens@windsream.net

Asst. District Directors Northwest
Dick & Gail Coss
 678-488-0980



Membership Enhancement Coordinators
Norman & Wendy Morton
norwen@att.net 404-761-3775

District Treasure/Event Coordinator
Lawana Burrell
lawanag@hotmail.com 770-310-8280

Georgia District Educators
Frank & Melinda Brothers
fmfarms@gumlog.net 706-356-4966

Bob & Karla Greer
Motorist Awareness Coordinators
 770-473-1316

Georgia District Couple of the Year
Joe & Janel Piper
 678-640-7469

Gatherings Held @:

SOUTHERN COOKING

715 INDUSTRIAL BLVD, McDONOUGH GA.
 Meet every third Saturday

Eat 5pm to 6pm, Meeting 6pm till 7pm

<http://www.gwrra-gaa.com>

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11. What To Do With Heated Gear Problems
12. Days to Remember



Meet your Chapter A 2019 Couple of the Year
Bob & Karla Greer

We joined GWRRA in 2001 and within a year we became very active in Chapter A. In 2003 we were the Chapter A Couple of the Year. We proudly took on a title of “Rally Bums” because we just loved to go to as many GWRRA rallies as we could. We have held leadership positions in GA Chapter A, the GA District, the Southeast Region A and on the GWRRA International Team.

One of my GWRRA friends told me to never quit participating with and having FUN with your local home Chapter while you serve in other GWRRA leadership positions because your, local Chapter friends will always be there when your leadership positions are gone. How wise these words of wisdom were, so, when we stepped down as the GWRRA International Directors for the Membership Enhancement Program in 2015 we immediately took on officer positions in GA Chapter A. Karla has been the Chapter A Membership Enhancement Coordinator (MEC) for 3 years and I am currently the Motorist Awareness Program Coordinator, have served as Ride Coordinator a couple of times and was the unofficial Chapter Educator for 2-3 months just before that position disappeared.

What’s goes around, comes around. So here we are, January 2019 and we are the GA Chapter A Couple of the Year once again. Although, quite surprised to be selected as your Couple of the Year again, we will enjoy it and do our best to make you proud. We are already looking at our already busy travel calendar to make room for GA Chapter visitations and to attend as many rallies as we can. We will keep you informed of our travel plans and hope you will join us.

On January 21, 2019 we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We have four adult children who are all married, ten grandchildren and one great grandson.

Bob & Karla Greer
2019 Chapter A Couple of the Year

Chapter A Spring Ride 2019 - South Georgia & Beyond

Thursday, April 11 – Sunday April 14, 2019

Visit GWRRA GA Chapter K, Okefenokee Swamp, Plains, GA & Providence Canyon State Park
(Georgia's Little Grand Canyon)

Everyone needs to call and make their own hotel reservations. The sooner you book your room, the better chance you will have at being able to stay with the group. Hotel reservation information can be found below for each day.

All back roads/No Interstate
Always at or below posted speed limits
We will stop a minimum of 15 minutes every 1.5 hours

Day 1 - Thursday, April 11, 2019

Dpt from Chevron on Hwy 81 at 8:30 AM
To South Brunswick, GA

Total Miles for the day will be approximately 250 miles. This will be the longest day of the trip.

We should arrive in plenty of time to check into hotel before going to Chapter K

Dinner & Meeting with GA Chapter K at 6:30 & 7:30 PM

Hotel for 1st night/Thursday, April 11, 2019

Super 8
211 Palisade Drive
Brunswick, GA 31520
(912) 217-4949



To make your room reservation at this Super 8 call (912) 217-4949 and press 1/reservations. Refer to Booking Itinerary Number 5136B81524508. The Booking Itinerary is under the name "Block GWRRA". This hotel only has 7 King Rooms, so I blocked those 7 King Bed and 5 2-Queen Beds. The price for a King is \$57.80 + \$6.94 tax = \$64.74 and the Queens are \$62.05 + \$7.45 tax = \$69.50. These prices go away, as does the group block reservation, Wednesday, March 27, 2019/2 weeks prior to arrival. If anybody has any problem with making their reservation, please call Lula at (800) 363-2297. She is the person that set up this group block for me. Once your reservation is made you can cancel your reservation without penalty on or before Tuesday, April 9, 2019/2 days prior to arrival.

Room Amenities are: Free WiFi, Continental Breakfast, Mini-Fridge, Microwave & A/C.

Waffle House next door and Denny's across the street

Day 2 - Friday, April 12, 2019

Depart Hotel at 9:00 AM



Back roads to Okefenokee Swamp, East Entrance near Folkston, GA
Swamp East entrance is approximately 50 miles and then we will have another 45 miles from swamp to Hotel in Waycross at the end of the day
We will spend all day in and around the Okefenokee Swamp East entrance.

There is a place for us to buy a sandwich and get a drink at the Swamp.
Karla & I will be doing the following things in that area which will take about 5-6 hours:

(continue from prev page)

Richard S. Bolt Visitor's Center (912) 496-7836

- Interactive Exhibits
- Guided Boat Tour (\$19.50 per person)
- 7-mile scenic drive (paved road with 15 MPH Speed Limit) to Restored 1920 Homestead & Boardwalk & Observation Tower

A \$5.00 per vehicle parking fee gets you into everything except the guided boat tour.

If you have a National Parks Senior Pass, bring it. You won't have to pay the \$5 parking fee.

If you don't want to stay with us or do the "Swamp" things, you can take a motorcycle ride in and around that area. If you want to ride all the way around the swamp, it is about 160 miles. We will not be doing this as a group during this trip. The ride around the entire swamp will take you about 4 hours of windshield time + stops.

Hotel for 2nd night/Friday, April 12, 2019

- Super 8
- 132 Havanna Avenue
- Waycross, GA 31501
- (912) 584-1517

To make your room reservation at this Super 8 call (912) 584-1517 and press 1/reservations. Refer to Booking Itinerary Number 5136B82405629. The Booking Itinerary is under the name "Block GWRRA". This group block is for 10 Kings and 2 Doubles. All the rooms are the same \$48.00 price + \$6.72 tax = \$54.72. These prices go away, as does the group block reservation on, Thursday, April 4, 2019/1 week prior to arrival. If anybody has any problem with making their reservation, please call Lula at (800) 363-2297. She is the person that set up this group block for me. Once your reservation is made you can cancel your reservation without penalty on or before Thursday, April 11, 2019/1 day prior to arrival.

Room Amenities are: Free WiFi, Continental Breakfast, Mini-Fridge, Microwave & A/C. If you don't want to eat another Continental Breakfast (2 mornings in a row) there are lots of restaurants in the area. Go eat, come back to Super 8 and be ready to leave at 9:00 AM.

Day 3 - Saturday, April 13, 2019

Depart Hotel at 9:00 AM

Back roads to Plains, GA to visit all the President Carter things

First, we'll find something to eat when we get to Plains then we will see:

- Plains High School
- Jimmy Carter National Historical Site
- Jimmy Carter Peanut of Plains Statute



- Plains Train Depot
- Billy Carter Service Station
- Georgia Visitor Information Center
- Plains Historic Inn & Antique Mall

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All the above could take 4-5 hours but after we all agree, we will head to Americus, GA (only 10 miles) for the night. If you get tired and/or have seen this before you can head to the hotel anytime.

All historical sites in Plains is free.

Hotel for 3rd night/Saturday, April 13, 2019

Econo Lodge
1611 E. Lamar Street
Americus, GA 31709
(229) 928-5400

Rooms should start at around \$51.00 for a non-fundable rate through CHOICE Hotels website and \$64 for their refundable rate. I called the hotel for a group rate and no one returned my call.

Hot Breakfast Included

Day 4 - Sunday, April 14, 2019

Depart Hotel at 9:00 AM

Back roads ride approximately 175 miles.

First, we will ride about 45 miles to Providence Canyon State Park (\$5.00 per bike parking fee)

Here are some things you can do at Providence Canyon:

- Visitors Center
- Look & Take Pictures from the top rim
- ¼ mile hike down to the river bed and ¼ mi. back up



Follow this link to read more about Providence Canyon. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Providence_Canyon_State_Park

When we are all ready to leave, we will ride 25 mi. to Cusseta, GA for a good BBQ lunch After lunch it is another 105 miles back to McDonough

Come be a part of Chapter A History. Here are all the past Chapter A Spring Rides. This is a great way to get to know your GWRRA Chapter A family.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Destination(s)</u>	<u>Ride Leader</u>
2003	Kingsland (GA Chapter K), Brunswick (GA Chapter C) & Statesboro (GA Chapter H2)	Bob Greer
2004	St. Augustine, Okefenokee Swamp, Chapter K (Kingsland), Chapter C (Brunswick), H2 (Statesboro)	Bob Greer
2005	Charleston, USS Yorktown, SC Chapter G	Bob Greer
2006	Florida "Springs"	Steve Fagan
2007	Chattanooga, Rock City, TN Chapter V	Steve Fagan
2008	Huntsville Space Museum	Steve Fagan
2009	Savannah Chapter E-2, Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum & Flea Market	Steve Fagan
2010	Iron Horse Lodge, Deals Gap	Dick Hopkins
2011	Mount Eagle, TN	Dick Hopkins

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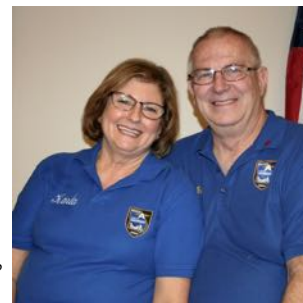
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- | | | |
|------|--|---------------|
| 2012 | Big Lynn Lodge, Little Switzerland, NC | Jim Sallee |
| 2013 | Blue Ridge, GA, Train Ride, GA Chapter J (Hiawassee) | Larry Clemmer |
| 2014 | The Dragon, Cherohala Pkwy, Tellico Plains, Foothills Pkwy, Tuckaleechee Caverns, TN Chapter M | Larry Clemmer |
| 2015 | Maggie Valley, NC, Deals Gap, Old TN Scenic Hwy, TN Scenic Hwy | Dick Hopkins |
| 2016 | Chapter K (Brunswick, Cumber Is. Tour, St John's River Ferry & St Augustine | Bob Greer |
| 2017 | Iron Horse Lodge, Deals Gap | Bob Greer |
| 2018 | Big Lynn Lodge, Little Switzerland, NC | Bryan Douglas |

Bob & Karla Greer
2019 Georgia Chapter A
Couple of the Year
(770) 473-1316 Home
(770) 680-0158 Bob's Cell
robertbgreer1@att.net



With a New Year Comes...



It's a brand new year. You can do anything with it that you like. It motivates us to make a conscience decision to start over. You can reach goals, lose weight, ride more, get in touch with old friends, exercise more, keep your house cleaner, learn to play the piano, travel to faraway places...you get the idea. We all have our own goals, resolutions or dreams for the new year.

Chapter A, as a whole, also has their own goals or resolutions for the new year. Your team is going to work hard to make sure you have a FUN 2019 with GWRRA. It will be our **#1** resolution to ourselves and to you. We also hope to have some new rides, new destinations and new challenges for you to enjoy. Bob G. is planning a FUN Spring ride for the Chapter, April 11th- 14th. Plan now to participate in this 17th annual Spring Ride. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Wingers better. The old saying comes to mind, "It's not about the destination, it's about the RIDE". Don't worry about where we are going. Come explore with us.

Soon you will be hearing about a new "**participation**" game or challenge we want all of you to participate in. It will add a little FUN into our rides and events. Details are being worked out and you will receive them soon. You won't want to feel left out.

As Chapter A's 2019 Couple of the Year, we have lots of ideas and places to ride in mind. We would like to invite all of you to ride with us on our new Couple of the Year 2019 adventure. I know it will be more FUN if you are there. We hope we prove to be good ambassadors for Chapter A and to have FUN doing it. Come be a part of it.

We all know why we joined GWRRA...TO RIDE these beautiful machines of ours!!! Check out the website rides/events calendar often at gwr-ra.com. Pick something that sounds like FUN to you and join in on the FUN. How easy can it get?

Okay, if you are counting, I said FUN six times in this article. It's a word I never get tired of using. It's something I always look forward to. What will the new year bring for you? When you make your new year's resolution list on paper or in your mind, be sure to list "Have FUN with Chapter A"...okay, seven times.

Karla Greer

Membership Enhancement Coordinator

It all started with..... a simple act of kindness .

In September , I decided to donate our flag photo frame that was entered in competition at Wing Fling.....no, sadly, not a winner. I had no further use for it, and my father's WWII photos already had a place.

I had read that a local group called Veterans Support Group had outgrown their small space, and the city was contemplating tearing down a house in McDonough to make way for a parking lot. Apparently the Mayor of McDonough had a better idea and decided the VSG could use it for an extremely low price. A major contribution from Home Depot, and many donations from businesses around the county, the building was completely renovated. After about a year and a half, and many volunteer hours later.... the official ribbon-cutting was held on November 16, 2018.

Veterans Support Group is a 501 (c)(3) veteran service organization dedicated to providing free assistance to veterans and their family members of all military branches with Veterans Benefits, Veteran Health, and National Cemetery. They are prepared to service as many as 500-1000 veterans, spouses, and dependent children in Henry County and surrounding areas.

So that September day, (they had just moved in that week), I met the Volunteer Coordinator for VSG, Chris Smith, and the photo frame was very much appreciated. I was then invited to meet the CEO, Bob Van Dunk. He was very welcoming and engaging , so that before I knew it an hour had passed! I then invited him to come to our next Chapter meeting in October, and he enthusiastically responded 'Yes!'. I also met the COO Jim Dunn and their service dogs Tinker and Marley. October 16th, Bob and Jim along with Tinker visited our Chapter. They captivated our meeting with their message. Sorry that some of you were out of town and missed it.

Our CD, Juanita, decided that assisting the VSG with donations for their food pantry would become a very worthwhile Chapter A charity project. Along with the food pantry, a clothes closet for the veterans is also in progress, and we will also be helping out there. We are also on their list to volunteer at any of their future fund raising events.

So a little kindness has blossomed into a very worthwhile community project that Chapter A is definitely willing and proud to be a part of. More to come....our Christmas cheer for a VSGH veteran family Christmas.
Happy New Year everyone!

Joyce Piotrowski
Charity Coordinator
joyceski@charter.net
404-406-3400



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bonnie@mousetown.com

107 Overlook Heights Way
Stockbridge, Georgia 30281
<http://mousetown.com>

Karla Greer
Independent Beauty Consultant

223 Begonia Court
Griffin, Georgia 30223
770-473-1316 hm
770-630-2328 cell
karlagreer@marykay.com
www.marykay.com/karlagreer
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**FOR THE FULL RIDE CALENDAR
PLEASE
CLICK ON THE BELOW ADDRESS:**

<http://www.gwrra-gaa.com/rides.htm>



Good Luck for the 2019 Riding Season

Many of you have heard of the motorcyclist's superstition, "Ride safely on New Year's Day and it will bring you luck in your riding for the rest of the year".

Thank you, Dick Hopkins for planning a wonderful New Year's Day ride for us.

Chapter A riders are destined to have Good Luck on their rides for the rest of 2019. Several riders braved the cold of New Year's Day to ride for luck. Well it would have been cold for riders from Miami. My bike registered a balmy 67^o as we rode the back roads of Fayette County. We all made it safely to Ken and Anita Maynard's home where a big pot of biker's stew awaited us.

The ride was great. As I mounted Lily, my Gold Wing Trike, in the garage, I noticed that all the wind wings were open as was the windshield vent. This told me one thing...I had not ridden my bike in far too long. I'm blaming it on all the traveling we had done in the Fall. But my long list of New Year's resolutions include...ride more often in 2019. Dick had told us in this ride's email reminder that it was going to be 66^o with a chance of rain. My mind still said, "But it's January 1st". I got my electric clothing ready the night before as well as my turtle neck face mask. The weather man wasn't going to catch me off guard! As it turned out, the weather man and Dick were right. It was the warmest New Year's Day ride I could ever remember.

Now this particular ride took care of all the necessities of riding for the year. We had two official U-turns, we found two dirt roads, we made an around the block turn around and we even had a bad CB in the group. Of course, Dick took some ribbing for all of this, but it just made the ride more fun and even a little exciting.

As we pulled into the Maynard's property several more Chapter A folks were there to greet us. No big fire under the gazebo was needed this year. The large iron pot was hot and ready along with cornbread, desserts and all the fixings for Biker's Stew. Thanks to all the good cooks of Chapter A...and a big thanks to our event coordinator, Bonnie McCroskey, for organizing this event. Okay, maybe Bob Mc did a little too.

This ride has always been special to me. It's a time for Chapter A to come together informally, eat, share stories and plan rides. Come to think of it, we do that a lot. But it does get the year off to a great start.

We did have to contend with a little rain, but we were dry and safe under the enclosed gazebo. It was all cleared up by the time we rode home after filling our bellies. The sun even came out for awhile. Goodbyes were said, and hugs were given and received, confident that we would now have GOOD LUCK on the rest of the rides for 2019.

Karla Greer

For those who missed it last month

BEVERLY HAD PROBLEMS WITH HER GERBING HEATED GEAR, AND IF YOU HAVE OR EVER HAVE REPAIR ISSUES, HERE IS THE INSTRUCTIONS:

Here's our Repairs Process:

1.)

Please send us your full name, address and telephone number.

2.) We will send you a work order number for your repair...this will be used to track that repair throughout the entire process.

3.) Then, please send in your gear and please reference your work order number somewhere on the package and/or your shipping label.

Please send your gear to our repairs location at:

Heated Clothing Rx (Reference your Work Order # here please)
1031 E. Mountain St
Building 309, Suite 106
Kernersville, NC 27284

4.) We will inspect and make all needed repairs and then ship back to you.

5.) If there are any bigger, major issues found during the inspection and repairs process, our team will reach out to you and gain your input and approval before doing anything.

6.) This repairs process also serves as an excellent opportunity to identify any other preventative maintenance issues that could be going on with your gear. If you would like, please send in any other gear you may want us to check. Regular check ups can help to prolong the life of the gear!

If you are interested in our repairs service, then please send us your address (step #1 above), and we will then move this right along swiftly for you!

Thx!

Steve

m: +1 (347) 510-7965

e: steve@heatedwear.com



DAYS TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 8	Becky Batt
28	Lisa Wall



SO ITS YOUR ANNIVERSARITY!

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 24 Ken & Anita Maynard (58 yrs)

**TAKE TIME OUT TO SPEND
SPECIAL TIME TOGETHER.
CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OF US AT
GWRRA.**

SPECIAL CONCERNS

We lost another dear Chapter member last month, Peggy Osse passed away on Friday, December 14, 2018. Peggy and John are GWRRA Life Members and have been with Chapter A since GA Chapter P no longer has an active Chapter. Peggy was also very active in the USO Organization. She will be missed by all who knew her. Please keep John and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our own Barbara Thayer got some good news at last doctor's visit NO RADIATION TREATMENT. She is still healing from her surgery but getting out and being Barbara. Continue prayers for a healthy New Year.

Larry Clemmer is continuing his healing from his surgery. Getting out and hope to be healed soon so he can have his shoulder surgery done and over with soon. Will be able to call him the Bionic Man when all surgeries are done.

Mike Tant had to stay in hospital emergency room for some six hours but went home after problems with his arm was solved. Hope everything is doing well, and he is back on the mend.

We have received information from Don Severs that Judy is in the ICU at St. Anthony's Hospital in St. Petersburg, FL. She has been diagnosis with AFIB, Infection Disease (undetermined at this time), Pneumonia, very low blood pressure and what they are calling "Fluid Overload", or just too much fluid in and around the heart. Please keep Judy and Don and family in your prayers. Cards of encouragement can be sent to their home address:

Don & Judy Severs
2001 83rd, Ave. N., Lot 1030
St Peterburg, FL 33702

Please keep our country in your thoughts and prayers. Also remember all our Police Officers who lost their lives in the last year. Henry County lost an officer in December. Please keep his family in your prayers. All lives are precious.