



# Gold Wing Road Riders Association Illinois Chapter "U" Region "E" America's Heartland

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Vandalia Ponderosa  
Eat at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm - Everyone is Welcome !

## Chapter U Staff

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### Assistant Dist. Director

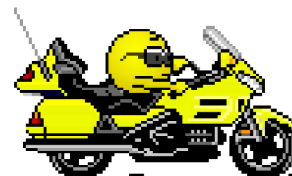
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## October 2009 Newsletter

### From Your Chapter Directors:



The riding season is slowly coming to a halt for some and to start to put the wing to bed for the winter, but for those that ride on it is time to get your warmer riding apparel out. Several members attended the Southern Illinois Ride-in and had a good time. The weather cooperated and made for some great riding. We had a dinner ride to 5 Brothers and was well attended and some good food. The Toy Ride had good weather for riding with 124 bikes and about 900 pounds of tabs, so start saving them again for next year. Four of us rode down to Chapter F to regain Chapter Z's trophy so that Z would pick it up at the chili dump on Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>. Reminder that there will be NO meeting at the Ponderosa on the 19<sup>th</sup>; the meeting will be held at the chili dump. Coming up this Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> will be a dinner ride to Good Ole Days in Brownstown. Be there at 5:30pm, then to Terry & Susan's for some cards. If there is any pretty trees left to look at for color we will leave Vandalia at 9am October 24<sup>th</sup>, if all else fails it will be a lunch ride anyway. IF it rains on the 24<sup>th</sup> we will ride on the 25<sup>th</sup>. In last months newsletter we stated that Chapter E would be meeting at Denny's in November, but that has changed back to Maverick. Clint is continuing to get his staff together and that is good. There will be only a November/December newsletter about in the middle of month. Also in November, Steve & Sandy will put on a short seminar for us again.

Don't get lost, but then that is half the fun.

Steve & Jeannie



Illinois District Website Address : <http://www.geocities.com/gwrrailu>

## From your Assistant Chapter Director .....

Hello Everyone

This last month has been a busy one. Trying to get the Officers lined up before we have to go to the Operations meeting in Decatur next month. I want to thank all that have decided to take a position to help me and to help keep the Chapter going.

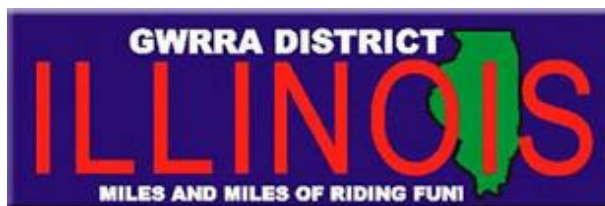
We are going to be trying to do a few new things this year and I hope that all will try to enjoy. I am quite sure that there is going to be a few surprises that some people will not expect.

The staff will be having its first meeting in December for the New Year, if you have any rides you would like to do, any places you would like to go or any other suggestions just let us know.

If you would like to host a card party please let Bonnie know when and we will try to get it on the schedule.

Thanks for everything and without you all there wouldn't be a Chapter "U".

Clint



### Traffic Camera

A man was driving when he saw the flash of a traffic camera. He figured that his picture had been taken for exceeding the limit, even though he knew that he was not speeding... Just to be sure, he went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed. Now he began to think that this was quite funny, so he drove even slower as he passed the area again, but the traffic camera again flashed. He tried a fourth time with the same result. He did this a fifth time and was now laughing when the camera flashed as he rolled past, this time at a snail's pace...

Two weeks later, he got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt..

You can't fix stupid.

## Before You Dismount

### Six things to do

By: James R. Davis

We all have our own unique way of doing things. Some people, for example, do exactly two things before they dismount their bikes: they turn off their ignition switch and they put down their side stand. Given a little thought about it, however, I think there are a few more details to attend to (however 'uniquely') before we dismount our motorcycles, and if we make a habit of doing them we can avoid some major trouble for ourselves.

- Use your engine cutoff switch to shut off your engine

Some people seem to think that switch is there for use only in an emergency. Not true. The reason you use the engine cutoff switch rather than the ignition switch to shut off your engine is because you do not have to take your hand off the grip in order to do so. Further, if you make a habit of doing so you will build 'muscle memory' as to where it is so that you can quickly and unerringly find it in the event of an emergency.

- Turn your ignition switch off

Obviously, unless you do this your lighting system is still on and your battery is discharging. By the way, it is good form to get into the habit of using your LEFT hand to turn off the switch (if possible) so that you can keep your front brake lever activated.

- Turn your fuel valve (if you have one) to the OFF position

A stuck needle valve in one of your carbs can allow a great deal of gasoline to leak past it. If a needle valve should happen to stick while your motorcycle is left in your garage overnight, that leaking gasoline can cost you your house and your life. When you start your motorcycle you should always turn your fuel valve to the RUN/ON position. Thus, by making it a habit of turning the valve off at night you also eliminate the risk of having left it in the reserve position (had it been there when you last dismounted) and running out of gasoline on the road somewhere.

- Put your side stand down - and confirm that it is locked in place

After leaning the bike onto the side stand you have insured that it is stable from side to side before you try to dismount. (Your bike should be in first gear and you should push the bike forward until all the play in your gears is gone before leaning the bike onto the side stand.)

- Turn your handlebars full-lock left

A motorcycle is several times more resistant to movement when the front wheel is not pointing straight ahead. Even a gentle nudge from behind can cause a motorcycle that is on its side stand to roll forward unless the front wheel is not pointing straight ahead.

- Squeeze the front brake lever

If you build these six steps into a habit that you always perform before dismounting, you are serious about ALL aspects of motorcycle safety.

**The ride is not over until you are safely dismounted.**

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<http://www.msgroup.org>

(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

### Upcoming events:

- Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> Chili Dump at the Tompkins. Flyer attached.  
Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> NO MEETING AT THE PONDEROSA!!!  
Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> Fall color ride leaving Van at 9am.  
Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> Rain date for color ride.  
Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> Time change  
Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> Dinner ride TBA  
Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> Operations meeting in Decatur.  
Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> Card party at Clint & Lori's home at 6:00 pm. Bring finger foods.  
Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter U Christmas party at the Bleisches.  
Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter E Christmas party at Prairie Town.

### Birthdays

- Charlotte Blunt – 10/05  
Terry Sutherland – 10/06  
Lori Evans – 10/06  
Francie Rahe – 10/12  
Ron Tomkins – 10/13  
Bonnie O'Guinn – 10/21  
Barb May – 10/27

### Anniversaries

- Clint & Lori Evans – 10/07  
Ron & Brenda Tompkins – 10/25

### *Chuckwagon*

#### *Family Restaurant*

*2704 Janette – Rt 51 & I-70*

*Vandalia, Il 62471*

*BREAKFAST ALL DAY – Lunch – Dinner*

*618-283-2220*

### *NIEHAUS CYCLE SALES*

*1-800-373-6565*

*Litchfield, IL*

### **Ponderosa Steakhouse**

Route 40 West & Exit 61 on I-70  
Vandalia, Il 62471

**All Major Credit Cards accepted.**

**All you can eat Buffet  
included with all Entries**

**Carry out Available  
RV & Truck Parking  
618-283-4559**

David Behrends, Owner



Monday thru Saturday 6 am - 8 pm • Sunday Buffet Only 11 am - 2 pm

### **DOHACK'S**

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**201 School St.**

**Hillsboro, IL 62049**

**Hrs – 6:00 AM-9:00 PM – Mon – Sun**

**217-532-3772**

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# GWRRRA Chapter “U” Invites you to our 23<sup>rd</sup> annual **Chili Dump**

To be held Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Ron & Brenda  
Tompkins home on Zent Drive in Vandalia, IL.  
Please bring some homemade chili to be “dumped” into the  
big kettle or a dessert for all to enjoy.

Hot dogs and drinks will also be served.

Any questions please call 618/283-2994 or 618/267-2685.

Hours are 2pm to ????. Chapter meeting to be held at 4pm.

