

July 2009

RIVERBEND RIDERS



Director's Article

We sold 499 bike raffle tickets (1 packet was short a ticket). Here are the #'s: Steve Duff-10, Mary Ann Gain & Bob Cust-20, Beth Landolt-30, Ken Haas & Bill Brem-40, Sue Schempp & Hollywood-50, Phil Schaefer & Chapter Meetings (April-June)-60, Barb Johnson-80 & Allen Ernst-120. Thanks to all for your efforts. Our biggest seller was Allen Ernst with 120. This helps keep GWTA costs lower.

We discussed participation in Chapter Pride at Goldrush. We are to wear orange shirts with blue jeans. Some volunteered to help Di Hennings with Battle of the Regions on Thursday at Goldrush. Di's husband, Al, had a kidney transplant & was not cleared to travel. Dale & Beth said they had enough volunteers for the Bike Show. Regional Director, Rick Hinrichs, was recruiting 3 volunteers also. Please bring extra wrapped dirty bingo gifts, if you have some. If you have a 50/50 gift that you really don't need, you can wrap that up for dirty bingo. Phil & Dale announced their departure place & time for Goldrush, if anyone wants to join them. Beth gave out the "prisoner shirts" to those who ordered for Goldrush. The cost is \$3.50 a shirt. You can give money to Barb Johnson. Thanks to Dale, Beth, & Barb for getting the "prisoner shirts" purchased & ready for us. We appreciate it. The shirts are to be worn at the opening ceremony & Battle of the Regions. Judy gave out the orange shirts that were ordered. Thanks to Town Hall Archery for bringing Melissa in on a Saturday to get the shirts ready for us. Thanks to Judy for taking care of those shirts. Wednesday is "Safety Day" so wear your orange shirts. Do we want to sing "State of Illinois" song for Talent Show next year? Beth has the words. We will try to get the music & discuss at Goldrush. Any questions about the Goldrush schedule? Phil asked what "crab racing" was. I did not know.

Barb was not present because they had to be at Goldrush early to help set up. She asked me to find out if anyone was interested in going to Osage Beach over Labor Day weekend. They have cabins. There is a 3 night minimum stay for the holiday weekend. The rate is \$29-31 per night. We need to get reservations ASAP since it's a holiday weekend. Caveman Restaurant is open again. We will discuss at next meeting.

I read the thank you letter from HIS KIDS for the \$1,900 donation. It was used to send more kids to camp.

A sign up sheet for Cissna Park was passed around. Marvin & Dorothy Young will provide the hot dogs, sweet corn, & drinks. We are to bring a salad OR dessert. They will have a 50/50 drawing. This is scheduled for Saturday, August 15, at noon. We will leave from the Troy truck stop at 8:00 am. If you did NOT sign up, please let me know ASAP. I need to call Marvin & Dorothy & give them the final numbers. I have 15 signed up.

I sent an email to Gary Sorgea telling him we were sorry to hear about the death of his brother. I also emailed Sonny & Joanne Theobald to see how Sonny's ear surgery went. I haven't

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Riverbend Riders newsletter is a monthly publication of the local chapter of GWTA. The newsletter was established to inform members (past, present, & future) about upcoming local, state, regional, & national events & to promote responsible motorcycling & creates a positive image of the motorcyclist.

Meetings:

TA Truck Stop,
I-55/70 at Hwy 162 in Troy, IL.,
Second Saturday of each month at
7PM. (Come early for dinner &
socializing.)

Newsletter Articles:

Submit articles &/or pictures to the editor within 3 days of each monthly meeting. Articles may be sent via e-mail, or U.S. Mail.

Advertising:

Any individual or business wishing to advertise in this publication may contact the editor or any member. Advertising are \$30/yr.

Riverbend Riders' newsletter is available free to all local members, national, regional, & state officers, past & potential members, friends, & advertisers.

The newsletter is made available by the sponsors listed within.

The newsletter is available via the U.S. Mail or e-mail.

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Director's article continued

yet.

I thanked Hollywood & Steve for keeping the meeting "lively" last month. I understand it was a lengthy meeting. Bill & I had like a "second honeymoon" in Florida. We really enjoyed ourselves. I will spare you all the details. The resort was awesome!! Way out of our league though. We did NOT give in to the timeshare at \$28,000 to go to 47 different locations. We will continue to enjoy our GWTA travels with family & friends.

Deb Brem

"This is the correct article for the Mystery Ride on May 23rd"

MYSTERY RIDE

May 23, 2009

As we left home on Saturday for our mystery ride, the weather was looking as though we might be making a mistake. When we arrived at the Shell station in Columbia the sky was overcast and looking a lot like rain. By the time Phil and Judy pulled in there were only Sue, Bob and I waiting to go on the ride. We decided to go for it and see what happened. The weather gods were with us because a short time on the road found us riding in blue sky and sunshine. Phil and Judy took us on a great ride to Hannibal Mo. where we found a street fair being held downtown. We parked our bikes and found a bar and grill to have lunch. The food was good and it gave us time to rest before heading back. After lunch we headed for home taking a different route than the way we came in on. Lucky for us we had no problem finding a Dairy Queen for a (low calorie) dessert to top of our lunch. Sue and I want to thank Phil and Judy for taking over the ride when Tom and Barb were not able to go. It was nice to have a chance to travel on a long trip with Bob. The ride, the weather, and the company were all great. This is the second long ride on our trike conversion and we are enjoying the ease of travel and it can't fall over! Again thanks Phil and Judy for a great day.

Submitted by:
Ralph Schempp

HIS KIDS Camp

Sunday, July 26

By:Deb Brem

We had 8 bikes at the camp along with 2 drag cars, a Trans Am, & 3 junior dragsters. They set us up at a different location. We were across from the first pavilion in an open field. We set everything up on the basketball court. We used the hay bales that were piled up as seats. It was VERY HOT! The kids were just arriving at camp this evening from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. So, we had a bit of a wait. It was after 6:00 pm before the kids started coming in. Next year, we will leave around 4:30 pm from the Shell station. I think they want us there before the parents start bringing the kids in. They brought the kids to the pavilion where they enjoyed games, face painting, music, balloon animals, popcorn, sno-cones, & cotton candy. Several of us enjoyed the sno cones. It was refreshing! Then, when the entire group had arrived at camp, they sent them to us. When we left, there was a family just bringing in 2

July 2009

HIS KIDS camp continued

or 3 boys. Porky & Jackie joined us for dinner at Denny's in Waterloo. We had 18 for dinner. After dinner, Tom Johnson was surprised with a birthday cake for his 44th birthday. His birthday is July 27. Stephanie & Barb had made the arrangements for the cake. Thanks to Barb for letting Stephanie ride to & from camp on the back of her bike. Our 2 youngest granddaughters, Emily & Kayla, joined us for the first time this year. They had a good time. I know they will sleep well tonight at Uncle Nick & Aunt Stephanie's house. Stephanie volunteered to watch the girls because Amy is having a female procedure done in the morning. I am taking her to Sparta hospital for that. Kimberly will be leaving by Amtrak with her biological Dad in the morning headed for Chicago.

Sorry to all that the wait was long. Next year we will leave an hour later, so we arrive at 5:00 pm. Then, the wait will not be so long. I think why it takes so long to get the kids to us is because of the time the parents drop them off. We may consider being closer to the pavilion next year. We will probably also pick Applebee's for the eating place next year. Some of us have been to Denny's for the last 3 years.

I believe all the kids had a great time!!! That is what we want out of this event. Some of the kids were there for the first time. Barb had the kids putting helmets on & talking to each other over the cb. She even called a Mom & let the girl talk through the intercom system. Wonder if the Mom was wondering what kind of camp she sent her daughter too. All this gives the kids a better understanding of what the "biker world" is all about. Next year we may have a dune buggy join us. We are also giving them an understanding of the "drag racing world". Both are very similar in that they are each families in themselves. Bikers help bikers & drag racers help drag racers. Our family is blessed to be able to experience both worlds. We have great friends in both.

Birthday's July 15th—August 7th

July 15th—Jackie Dotson

July 16th—Dave Melton

July 20th—Dwayne Adkerson

July 23rd—Kristina Martinsen

August 7th—Sarah Phillips

No Anniversaries



July 2009

**GWTA IL
River Bend Riders
Chapter B**

July 12, 2009

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
DATE: July 11, 2009
LOCATION: TA Travel Center, Troy, IL

1. The meeting was called to order by Director Deb Brem at 7pm.
2. Members Present
Deb and Bill Brem

Jim Ulrich (Asst Director)
Steve Duff (Secretary)
Phil and Judy Schaefer
Dale and Beth Landolt
Eugene Martinusen
Kristina Martinusen
Joe and Mary Ann Gain
Harold and Marilyn Meskil
Bob Cust
Ken Haas
Wayne Phillips
David Melton
Lonnie and Mary Hoffman
Oscar Sandee Gain
Kevin Harvey
Kris Kirchner

3. Guests: Wm Howard

4. Reports:

Deb Brem -Director

(Update) HIS KIDS - The camp will be **Sunday, July 26**, leaving the Red Roof Shell Station in Columbia at **3:30 pm** to be at Camp Wartburg in Waterloo at **4:30 pm**. The carnival is from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for the kids. The theme is "farm days". You can dress up also, if you choose to.

Please try to help Beth fill the newsletter by writing a short article & sending pictures. If you don't have pictures, someone probably does. You can send pictures to Wayne for the website also.

499 Gold rush tickets sold. We have 80 unsold tickets (Barb Johnson). **Collect sold stubs/money, & give to Deb.** 1st place-\$100, 2nd place-\$75, 3rd place-\$50 for chapter with most ticket sales. Who sold how many tickets: Steve Duff-10 tickets, Mary Ann Gain & Bob Cust-20, Beth Landolt-30, Ken Haas & Bill Brem-40, Sue Schempp & Hollywood-50, Phil Schaefer & Chapter Meetings (April-June)-60, Barb Johnson-80 (haven't rec'd yet), Allen Ernst-120 (**Biggest seller**). Thanks to all for your efforts. This helps

DESTINATION FRIENDSHIP

<http://www.gwtailb.org>

July 2009

Minutes continued

keep GWTA cost lower.

(Update) Gold Rush -- Chapter pride, best dressed couple, & battle of the regions were done. Chapter Pride - Orange Shirts and Blue Jeans.

Best Dressed Couple Competition - Monday 1-2pm

Our chapter will be helping Di Hennings (Helping Hands), with the "Battle of the Regions" will not be able to attend Gold Rush, he is still recuperating from his surgery.

"Battle of the Regions" is on the schedule for Thursday some time before the closing ceremony.

Phil and Judy will be departing from the O'Fallon Park and Ride on Sunday 12 July at 10:00 am. Phil will be riding in that group. If you're not attending Gold Rush this year meet at the Park and Ride to send the group off. If we can't be there in person we can be there in spirit.

Deb read a 'thank you letter' from HIS KIDS for the \$1900 donation (helmet collection). Passed around a sign up sheet for the corn boil at Cissna Park on Sat, Aug 15. You are asked to bring a salad OR dessert. They will have a 50/50 drawing. They will provide hot dogs, corn, & drinks.

Thanks to Jim for "keeping order" during the June meeting. Bill & I had a wonderful "seeymoon" in Orlando, FL. Bill won the trip 2 years ago. We had extended it as long as we could. The resort accommodations were very nice. We stayed for 5 nights, FREE!!!! There were 3 flat screen TV's, 3 beds (2 bedrooms). We had 2 bathrooms, screened in porch, kitchen, living room, shower big enough for 8 people, & a Jacuzzi. There were 10 buildings. At \$28,000 we could enjoy it all at 47 different locations. We took the freebies & ran out of time!!

Jim Ulrich - Assistant Director

Contacts have been made to encourage membership renewal.

Marilyn Meskil - Treasurer

Treasurer's report was given.

Steve Duff - Secretary

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

July birthdays: 3-Deb Brem, 4-Gary Sorgea, 7-Ken Haas & Jeanne Sorgea, 10-Jake Johnson, Jackie Dotson, 16-Dave Melton, 20-Dwayne Adkerson, 23-Kristina Martinusen, & 27-Tom Johnson

July Anniversaries: 6-Gary & Jeanne Sorgea, & 17-Oscar & Sandee Gain.

Bike pictures will be taken as time permits. I will have the camera at the meetings or you can submit your own photo.

Beth Landolt - Newsletter/Public Relations

Send articles and pictures please

Vacated- Historian

Volunteer at each meeting to share something with the group.

Phil Schaefer - Ride Coordinator

Upcoming Rides:

July 12-16 - Gold Rush in Lexington, KY,

July 25 - Lincoln's New Salem (Steve Duff) Lunch & all day ride meeting at TA at 8:00 am

July 26 - Sunday; HIS KIDS Camp, leaving from Red Roof Shell in Columbia, IL, at 3:30 pm. Camp Wartburg in Waterloo at 4:30 pm. Carnival from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at pavilion.

dress in "farm day" clothes.

August 8 - Chapter meeting.

DESTINATION FRIENDSHIP

<http://www.gwtailb.org>

at noon. We

August 22 - Mystery Ride by Tom Johnson.

August 29 - Breakfast at Powhatan Restaurant in Pocahontas at 9:00 am.

Discussed past events:

July 4 ride to Manning's Tavern was cancelled because of rain. Safety first.

July 2009

Minutes continued

August 15 – Corn boil at Cissna Park meeting at TA at 8:00 am. Lunch is at noon. We each need to bring a salad or dessert. There will be a 50/50 drawing.

August 22 – Mystery Ride by Tom Johnson.

August 29 – Breakfast at Powhatan Restaurant in Pocahontas at 9:00 am.

Discussed past events:

July 4 ride to Merrimac Caverns was cancelled because of rain. Safety first.

Wayne Phillips - Web Master

New email address: phillips5783@att.net. Remember to send pictures to Wayne for our web site to keep it up-to-date.

Bill Brem - Safety Director

Bill is off the road and back as Safety Director. We are lucky to have him. 8 August. There will be a 'crash course' given on what to do at an accident scene. Villa Hills Baptist Church, 321 Eiler Rd, starting a 1pm.

Joe and Mary Gain - Ways & Mean

Need Chapter patches?

Bring 50/50 prizes for each meeting

5. **National/Regional Matters** - Barb and Tom Johnson
No Report

6. **State Matters**
No Report

7. **Unfinished Business**

• **Followed up with Belleville Honda about an Open House. We are looking at the last weekend in September (26). This will be a chapter fundraiser.**

Chapter shirts arrived and were passed out.

8. **New Business**

Checking into the 911 'First Responders' Ride which has been occurring at the begin-

Meeting Adjourned – Steve made a motion for the meeting to adjourn and it was 2nd by Mary Ann. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

//SIGNED//
STEVEN DUFF
SECRETARY

//SIGNED//
Deb Brem
DIRECTOR

July 2009

**Goldrush
Lexington, KY
July 13-16
By: Deb Brem**

Opening ceremonies started Monday morning with Illinois dressed in our "prisoner shirts" & joined by a chain we held on to. We paraded around in the lobby of the convention center before the ceremony started. We enjoyed parading around Triangle Park in our derby hats while the Bike Show was going on. Some of our chapter helped with the Bike Show. After the Bike Show, we enjoyed watching the Michigan Men's Drill Team & the Bow Wow Girls Drill Team perform. There was a light parade that ended at an ice cream shop, of course. Mom & I enjoyed the festivities at the Kentucky Horse Park. We saw a horse show, walked around, rode on a hay wagon, & enjoyed a wonderful meal. Several of us went to Shaker Village on Tuesday. Some enjoyed a boat ride after the visit to the village. Some of us enjoyed the games of dirty bingo. A few participated in the scavenger hunt at the shops inside the convention center. My Mom enjoyed a couple of the hermit crab races. Those were interesting to watch. We participated in "Chapter Pride". Some helped Di Hennings with "Battle of the Regions". On Monday evening, we rode out to the Harley shop for the tailgate party. The food was wonderful! Some went to different meetings such as Region C, Chapter Directors, & a question & answer meeting. Thanks to those who gave me feedback from the meeting I did not attend. The 2 I attended were informative. The Region C one was more informative because Bruce Keenon stopped in & answered some questions. Hollywood's brother, Mike, lives in Lexington & drives a Harley, so he spent time with us. On our way home, we passed 3 bikes from Nebraska. On 2 of the trikes were the new "Family of the Year". They both have a trike. Hannah Rose, their adopted daughter, was on Mom's trike. Dad had the trailer.

Gold Rush
Region C Meeting

Some of us attended the Region C meeting which was very informative. Bruce Keenon was in attendance to answer some questions.

Region C Rally in 2010 will be in Spearfish, South Dakota . Goldrush in 2010 will be in Billings , Montana . The theme is "Medieval". I have some information on Billings .

One of the questions was how is the location of Goldrush decided? The bottom line is money & weather. Money is the #1 reason. Looking at Goldrush 2009 in Lexington the cost for the convention center was \$20,000. GWTA cannot afford a price like that, but what happened is the city of Lexington put up \$17,000 of the \$20,000, leaving GWTA with a \$3,000 balance to pay. Goldrush cost GWTA \$40,000 to \$60,000 for 1,000 in attendance. Some cities do NOT have a good image of bikers so they do NOT want us in their city. Bruce says GWTA is too small for some areas & too big for others, so that presents a problem. They do consider the weather in that area. If you have a suggestion of a city OR state you would like to see Goldrush held in, let me know. I will get that information to the right person. They will look into it. No promises though because of the above factors. The Region C Rally cost our region \$5,000 to \$6,000 this year. For the Living Logo, they use a helicopter to take the picture. Bruce got a call at 7:15 am saying the helicopter had problems. Bruce & his wife, Linda, put their heads together quickly because living logo was scheduled for 8:00 am that morning. They

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Gold Rush RC Meeting continued

They got a hold of the fire department with an extension ladder. The fire department did NOT charge us for that service. At closing ceremonies, an airplane was also mentioned. Not sure if both were used or not. I did not attend living logo.

An area they are wanting us to work on is recruitment. GWRRA is an organization that is in turmoil presently. In Ohio GWRRA lost 3,000 members. We have picked up 1,000 of those members. At the meeting, there was an Alabama couple that were former GWRRA members. Phil asked what the problem is in GWRRA. In their chapter, they were meeting at a restaurant. If I understand correctly, another chapter was also meeting at that same restaurant but a different night. Their chapter was told if they continued to meet at that restaurant, their chapter would be kicked out of GWRRA. Another main reason was at the national level, GWRRA was running low on money. They would take money from chapters WITHOUT their consent. The \$5000 had been collected for a charity. This happened to another RA chapter and they had already written a \$3000 check to a charity and it bounced. The members came up with the money themselves to replace what had been taken. To me it sounds like a control issue. GWRRA is NOT run by its members. In the Alabama group, 20-30 of them have joined GWTA. Five of them were GWRRA Chapter Directors. We do NOT want to talk negatively about GWRRA, but we want to recruit those members that are upset with that organization. This gives us an understanding of what is going on in GWRRA. A suggestion made by Judy was to run a FREE ad in the newspaper advertising GWTA. We would have that it is open to ALL motorcycle brands, our meeting night & location, our chapter web site, & national web site. I need a volunteer to write an article. Do we want to put in more than one local newspaper? We need to get our “you’ve been tagged” program going. In other words, if you are out shopping, getting gas, at the Honda shop & you see a motorcycle parked, put a tag on it. You don’t have to wait for the person to come out. You tag it & leave. It has all the necessary information on it for them to check us out.

How do we get more participation in our chapter? This was another question. Any organization I have been involved with has NEVER had 100% participation. I brought up the fact that we have to consider that some folks “life situations” change over the years. Whether it be due to age, poor health, raising grandchildren, financial problems, OR just not enough time to “do it all”. Bill & I have experienced almost all of these. It does NOT mean the folks are upset with the chapter. I told what we did a few months back (Barb’s suggestion) to send a card to members we had not seen in a while. I believe we need to continue with that. That lets people know you care.

I want to form a “Goldrush Spirit Committee”. That was my Mom’s suggestion (a Baptist thing). The more participation in events will help us out. Lindy Phillips told me in her opinion to help us obtain the “spirit award” we need to continue like we did at opening ceremonies. We were all dressed as prisoners. We need to either wear the same color shirts each day OR have the same funny hat, neck-lace, etc on for each day of the rally. So when people see us, they know we are from the same chapter/region. The “best dressed couple” I would like to see us participate in. Bill & I are discussing going next year. We may be interested in being our chapter representation. We were VERY DISAPPOINTED with the “Chapter Pride” that we participated in. Besides our chapter, there were 3 Nebraska chapters. Out of the 3 chapters, we felt only one was in competition with us. That is NOT the Nebraska chapter that won. After talking with Lindy, who was in charge of that event, I found out our presentation was more for the talent show. Bob Cust & Dale Landolt got on their laptop computers to get us the music to the Illinois song.

July 2009

Gold Rush RC Meeting continued

We sounded really bad without it. After practicing with the music, we sounded really good. Judy changed the words to "Camptown Races", which we sang. Neither of these could we do with music at the event. Barb brought up the fact that "Chapter Pride" use to be an event that you all dressed alike & introduced yourselves. Basically, that is somewhat of what the winning team did. It was just disappointing that we had gotten together at 2 different times to practice, had the guys get the music for us, & also were there 30 minutes ahead of time, as the rules state. We were also dressed alike. Lindy also told me they want "funny stuff". That is what they are looking for. The other chapter was funnier than us. They told a lie about themselves such as they were someone else, & a different age. Lindy DID say we were signed up for the event. There were 2 other chapters that were not. As part of the rules, you are to be signed up at the information desk prior to the event. I signed us up after opening ceremonies so I wouldn't forget.

Bike raffle tickets were also discussed. Next year I would like to continue to do as we did at the April to June meetings where you had a chance to buy a ticket. The winning ticket got the entire packet of tickets. That gave us 60 tickets that did NOT have to be sold outside our organization. Another suggestion was when you go to a restaurant, to ask your waiter/waitress if they want a ticket. It was also discussed about getting the tickets out sooner for those "big sellers". Some travel to another state for the winter. They want the tickets before they leave. A man was there that sells 1,800 to 2,000 tickets a year. He went to some type race but only had 30 tickets to sell. He could have sold lots more, but it took him 3 weeks to get more tickets. In that case, I feel they should give that man 2,000 to start with. At Goldrush this year, the winning bike ticket they could NOT read the phone # on it. They could read the name. They called the person who sold the ticket in Colorado. He said many of the tickets he sold were at the IBM Corporation. Bruce Keenon called IBM. Because there were only initials PJ, & the last name was Barton, they wouldn't give him information. They have 6 people with the last name Barton. He needed to know the complete name to get information. Bruce made the decision to try & get the information needed for this person. If that is NOT possible, a second ticket was drawn. Bruce gave it to his secretary. He did NOT read the name. He did say it had an address label on it. That person will be the winner ONLY IF they cannot find PJ Barton from Colorado who works at the IBM Corporation. So make sure when you sell a ticket, the name & phone number are legible. Encourage people to use an address label.

When you are voting for something in the organization, & it says to put each ballot in a sealed envelope, you MUST do that. You can send in all the ballots for your chapter in a manila envelope, but each vote MUST be in its individual envelope. If these steps are NOT followed, your vote is thrown out. In order for you to vote, you MUST be a GWTA member. If you are still in the process of deciding whether to become a GWTA member, you CANNOT vote.

As a chapter, you CANNOT charge a "chapter membership dues". If you call it that, your chapter will be in trouble.


If you have folks who just want to "ride along" with you, but do NOT want to join GWTA, they need to sign a waiver. They can attend 1 to 2 events, but then need to make a decision to join OR sign the waiver.

If you have any questions, please either email me, OR we will discuss at the August OR September meeting. Hollywood will be in charge of the August meeting.

Deb Brem

July 2009

*Next Chapter Meeting:
Saturday, August 8th
TA Truck Plaza
Troy, IL
At
7:00 p.m.*

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