Greetings from our Chapter Directors

Judy & Shane Patishnock

This has been a month (or should I say summer) of crazy weather! Seems like we schedule events only to have to either cancel/reschedule or change to 4-wheels due to the potential for severe weather. Let’s hope the rest of this year turns out with better weather so we can get in more FUN riding events!!

I have to say that I’ve pondered how I want to write my article this month. At July’s staff meeting and again at our Chapter Gathering, there were a couple of announcements made: (1) Shane and I will be stepping down as Chapter Directors (CDs), (2) Fran also indicated that she is stepping down as Chapter Treasurer, and (3) Kevin will also be stepping down as Assistant Chapter Director (ACD). These events will all occur at the end of December 2017.

So what do these changes to our chapter staff mean to you as a member? It means that our Chapter is waiting for someone to step up to the challenge of CD, ACD, and Treasurer. Our chapter has been going strong for 25 years. If you want to see it continue going strong, you need to consider becoming a chapter officer and stepping up to the plate (so to speak) – your current officers have all learned the respective staff positions and grew with the chapter.

So please give this your serious consideration – we have several Life Members in our chapter and it would indeed be a shame for our chapter to fold after all this time. So think about it…think about the rides, and
how about the **socials**, and all the **fun events** that you’ve enjoyed and participated in with our chapter. How about the camaraderie of being with like-minded individuals who enjoy motorcycling! These are all part and parcel of being a member of our chapter that you’ve been able to enjoy over the last 25 years. Now **imagine what YOU could offer our chapter!** MD-H is waiting for you to take it over!

GWRRA is going through some changes and working on ways to make GWRRA better. There apparently will also be some changes in the Officer structure. I definitely do not have answers about all the upcoming changes at this point, but take a few minutes to review the information and videos that GWRRA sent out and it might answer some of your questions.

There is a separate article about our Chapter’s “*Christmas in July*” event in our newsletter.

Last but not least, remember to mark your calendar with our ‘Upcoming August Activities’! Chapter H needs **YOUR SUPPORT** to make our all our events (riding, training, charity) **successful** and **FUN**! Also mark your calendar for the ‘Save the Dates’ events. Looking forward to seeing y’all at our upcoming events! 😊

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**MD-H “Christmas in July” Event**

As indicated previously, this certainly has been crazy weather lately and our *Christmas in July* event was also partially affected by that weather. BUT can you say **FUN, HAPPINESS, and SUCCESS**?

Here’s a little background. Last year, our chapter staff members came up with the idea to do a *Christmas in July* for our Perry Point Veterans. It really went over very well for both the Perry Point Veterans and for our chapter members. So this year we decided to do the same thing again. So I got in touch with Joyce Kuwae, at the Voluntary Services Office, Perry Point Veterans Administration (VA), to let her know this and to see if there were different needs etc. Joyce came through and provided the information and instructions needed as to what items were needed for our Veterans in residence there.

Now typically in the past our chapter members collected money throughout the year and in November and December we used those monies to provide much needed items to an organization that helped people who are less fortunate. This year we used the money that had been collected to purchase the much-needed items for our Veterans at Perry Point VA.

In addition, Rick and Cathy Brown, two of our chapter members who work at the Abingdon Target Store, informed me that Jen, their Human Resource (HR), was leaving soon for a new job at Amazon and to quickly get our donation request letter to her for consideration. So long story short, the letter went in and our chapter was provided with a $400 gift card to be used in their store to purchase the much-needed items for our Perry Point Veterans! Can you say **Wow** and **Thank You**! This was a bonus that we sincerely appreciated and we added it to the monies that we had already collected from our chapter members.

On Monday, 26 June, several of us went shopping, Rick and Cathy, Mike and Fran, Chris and Marge, and Shane and I, at the Abingdon Target Store to purchase the various items for our Veterans. We had a lot of **fun** doing this and Cathy and the Abingdon staff helped expedite the checking out process to make our shopping adventure go more smoothly and quickly. And of course, after an evening spent shopping, we were all hungry and went to the Boston’s Gourmet Pizza Restaurant in Abingdon for our dinner where we enjoyed some good food.

Some of the items purchased included t-shirts, shorts, light-weight pants, shirts, undergarments, socks, various hygiene and toiletry items, and a suitcase on rollers. Clothing and undergarments were purchased in various sizes to ensure a reasonable selection for our Veterans.

In addition to what was purchased with the collected money and gift card, several of our members donated their own time and money and purchased additional clothing, toiletry and sundry items to contribute to our endeavor. Our chapter donated merchandise in the amount of $1,100 (this included the $400 gift card that the Abingdon Target Store contributed) to the Perry Point Voluntary Services Office for our Perry Point Veterans! Yea!!

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On Friday, 21 July, several of our members, Rick, Paul and Carol, Suzie and Bill, Chris and Marge met at our house. Suzie and Bill arrived on their trike; unfortunately, due to the hot, humid weather the rest of us were on 4-wheels. We then went to the Perry Point where we completed our drop off of our items to Joyce in the Perry Point Voluntary Services office. What an awesome feeling this gave all of us to feel like we contributed and in our way gave back to our Veterans! Once we had completed our donation drop-off mission at the VA, we went for an early lunch at Loafers Restaurant in Aberdeen.

While this completed our mission for our donated items, we weren’t quite finished with our Christmas in July endeavor. Several of our chapter members got together three different times during the month of July to make 125 home-made Thank You For Your Service cards to be given personally to our Veterans as a means of expressing our Thanks and gratitude to them for their service to us and our Country.

Arrangements had been made for us to go to the Perry Point VA to present our cards to the Veterans after our July Chapter Gathering. Unfortunately, due to the potential for severe rain storm that Sunday, we ended up cancelling this endeavor. We did not want to put our chapter members or the two Perry Point volunteers, Lois and Willene, at risk if the severe weather occurred as it was supposed to happen. So the cards were dropped off on the 28th to Joyce to be distributed to the Veterans.

While we as a chapter weren’t able to personally hand out our Thank You for Your Service cards to the Veterans, our Christmas in July endeavor was still a great success!! Shane and I sincerely appreciate all the assistance and support we received during this event. A great big THANK YOU to all involved – this endeavor wouldn’t have been successful without your support, to include Rick and Cathy, Jen at the Abingdon Target Store, and Joyce from Voluntary Services! Our heartfelt Thanks to All of You!!

Judy & Shane Patishnock, CDs, MD-H
Ride Safe and Keep the Shiny Side Up!
Greetings to all.

I wanted to share some thoughts regarding changes that GWRRA is wanting to implement going forward, specifically, the elimination of the chapter level Rider Educator position. After our recent Chapter gathering and discussion with Al General about the new changes, I have given these new changes some additional thought. My initial reaction, of course, was one of excitement simply because it seemed to indicate an end to the formality and administrative requirements related to submitting articles such as this one and the expectation that the chapter educator offers advisements and information during the gatherings.

After further consideration, as I pondered this matter later following the gathering, I am even more certain that the changes being implemented will be best for the chapters and GWRRA. The Rider Educator being eliminated at the Chapter level is a good move. Having the Ride Coordinator or designated briefer cover safety concerns prior to rides, offers the best opportunity to actually review, learn, and/or simply be reminded of the importance of wearing appropriate gear, checking one’s bike, personal equipment, and one’s personal preparedness. It seems to me that this is what truly means the most to those who are actually riding these days.

Ultimately, even though I am currently a non-rider (without bike for the moment) it would seem the “Fun” is the most important aspect of being associated with the chapter and GWRRA. Having any unnecessary administrative burdens eliminated is a good thing as it allows for more focus on riding and the enjoyment of being with other likeminded members.

Ride Prepared, Be Safe, and Have Fun

Rodney
Rider Educator
1 Aug (Tue) – Target Night Out: Abingdon Target Store, 5-8pm, at 403 Constant Friendship Blvd, Abingdon, MD. Bring your 2-, 3-, or 4-wheels and come join in the FUN with us as we present our Motorcycle Awareness and Membership Recruitment! Rick has suggested that if possible, bring a folding chair to use. Signed up are Chris & Marge Kevin, Pete & Alice, Ruth & Rodney, Mike & Fran, Barbie, Paul & Carol, Suzie & Bill, Neal, Harry, Rick and Judy & Shane.

3 Aug (Thu) – Herr’s Annual Bike Night, 5pm to dusk, 271 Old Baltimore Pike, Nottingham, PA. This will not be a led ride. Signed up are Chris & Marge, Paul & Carol, Suzie & Bill, Barb, Mike & Fran, Neal, & Judy & Shane.

5 & 6 Aug (Sat-Sun) – ARC: South Hagerstown High School. Class is full.

5 Aug (Sat) – Motorcycle Skills Test & Competition: presented by GWRRA PA District & Battlefield HOG Chapter at the Battlefield Harley-Davidson (H-D), Gettysburg, PA. Practice Sessions 9-11am; Competition noon-4pm. Two classes: 2-Wheels & Trikes/Side Cars – all makes welcome! This is a FUN/FREE event & FAIR weather only! See flyer on our website for additional details.

9 Aug (Wed) – MD-H Ice Cream Social: 7pm, Boxcar Avenue, 317 Broad Street, Perryville, MD. Signed up are Pete & Alice, Chris & Marge, Steve, Don & Sandy, Kevin & 2 more, Suzie, Bill, Barb, Mike & Fran, Ruth & Rodney, & Shane & Judy.

**12 Aug (Sat) – MD-H CPR/1st Aid Class: 10am-2pm (approximately), at Patishnock’s house. This class is full (limited to 12 people only). Signed up/paid are Mike & Fran, Marge, Cathy, Paul, Barbie, Kevin, Ruth & Rodney, Suzie, and Judy & Shane.

19 Aug (Sat): MD-H Picnic and Pool Party: 1pm – 5pm. There will be lots of FUN, food, games, and pool time (and there is a swimsuit changing area)! This event is open to MD-H Members and their family members. Meat, drinks, and paper products will be provided. Members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to the picnic. Contact Wendy Mack, 443-854-9990 (leave message if no answer) to let her know you plan to attend, what you will be bringing, and how many family members will be attending with you. Address is 1604 Providence Road, Baltimore, MD. Reservations must be made by 5 August as we need a headcount to purchase food. So what are you waiting for? Join us for FUN times at our picnic and pool party! Signed up are Chris & Marge, Linda, Steve, Sue, Kevin?, Mike & Fran, Ruth & Rodney?, Suzie & Bill?, Barb?, Wendy, & Judy & Shane w/Chrissy. For those with a question mark by your name, Wendy & I will need to know positively by 5 Aug if you are attending!! It’s important as we must know how much food to purchase.

19-20 Aug (Sat-Sun): TRC: Hosted by Jeff and Jeanie Kauffman at their home, 11012 Pin Oak Terrace, Hagerstown. This class is full. No date has been set for a second TRC; contact Al General or Jeff & Jeannie Kauffman, MD-F, if interested. Signed up for this is Paul.

23 Aug (Wed) – MD-H Staff Meeting: 7pm, Patishnock’s home.

27 Aug (Sun) – MD-H Gathering: Aberdeen Golden Corral, eat at 8am; meet at 9am; 706 S. Philadelphia Blvd., Aberdeen, MD.

29 Aug – 2 Sep (Tue-Sat) – Wing Ding 39: Grapevine, TX. See flyer on our website.
Don’t forget – somewhere in this newsletter, you will find hidden someone’s GWRRA member number. If it is yours, tell Fran at the next gathering and you will **win a $10 Golden Corral Gift Card!**

*Winner must attend the meeting to collect their gift card.*

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You must attend the monthly meeting to receive your birthday gift of a $10 Golden Corral Gift Card!

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**WINNERS, BIRTHDAYS, & ANNIVERSARIES**

**July Gathering Winners!**

*Progressive* - Rodney

*Shirt/Vest* – Oscar

*Newsletter number* - Wendy

*50/50 #1* – Terry Gardner MD-J

*50/50 #2* – Terry Gardner MD-J

*50/50 #3* – Harry

*First Aid Kit* – Oscar

**August Birthdays**

Judy Patishnock  
Jason Reynolds

Steve Kelley

Donnie Morris

**August Anniversaries**

none
Members:

Some of you may have already seen or heard that there is change coming to GWRRA. This is to share with you the changes that will be happening and we want you to hear it from us.

Below are the links to the videos to introduce the changes. The one that says Members is for all to watch and a great place to start. If you want more details, the second video is for Officers but anyone can watch.

Here is a brief overview.

The change to our Chapters is to shift them from feeling like they had to have a meeting each month to do the “business” of GWRRA, to more of a get together to share stories, adventures, safety tips and any new information from GWRRA and then to go for a ride. Specifically, you’ll see that we have taken the Rider Educator away from the Chapter. We have added a Chapter Ride Coordinator who will be an Officer of Rider Ed. This move is to facilitate a softer approach to our Rider Education Program, often called the Levels Program, and move the program promotion and administration to the District. We want the Ride Coordinator to share safety tips on riding, clothing, preparing for a ride and more in an effort to guide our Members to adopt our safe riding philosophy. Our approach will be different with our Members but our message will still talk about rider safety. Our primary goal with this change is to help our Chapters to create adventures, memories, friendships, social time and great motorcycle rides for the enjoyment of the Members of GWRRA.

Our Districts will gain some responsibilities but we want them to focus on building great memories, have adventures and great rides and enjoying the Members, while they bring a great message from the Program they represent to all of our Members, whether they affiliate with a Chapter or not. The District will open their arms wide to make certain you are included in the fun.

To be more responsive to our Members TEAM GWRRA will be engaging more with our Members and be guiding our District level of Volunteers. With this major change we have, starting January 1, 2018, removed our Regions from our current structure and opened up all Districts to interact with other Districts regardless of lines on a map. Our focus is to our Members wherever they live.

Throughout the next 6 months you’ll see how some of the Programs will change and add new recognitions. Feel free to ask questions at any time to your Director, TEAM GWRRA or to me.

I ask that you follow my favorite saying from Gary Keller, “stay into curiosity and out of judgement” and open your mind to the positive that these changes can bring to our Association. I know that change can be a challenge, but together we will bring about a bright new future to GWRRA.

Thanks for your Membership in GWRRA, we appreciate you very much!

Anita
President of GWRRA

Video Links:

GWRRA Officers Restructure 2017-06-30
GWRRA Members Restructure 2017-06-30

- Link to Region Website:  [http://gwrra-northeastregion.org/](http://gwrra-northeastregion.org/)
Shopping for the Vets at Target

Making Thank You cards for the vets at Fran’s workshop.

Dropping off the items for Christmas in July at Perry Point Veteran’s Center

Lunch at Loafers after drop-off

Watch for Motorcycles sign at Golden Corral, courtesy of Mike Haslup.
Ice Cream Night at Maplehofe

Paul & Carol belatedly get their front COY rockers for last year
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<th>POCs</th>
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<td>MD-B</td>
<td>3rd Sat 8am/9am</td>
<td>Golden Corral 1001 Shoppers Way Largo, MD</td>
<td>Charley &amp; Shirley Dorsey</td>
<td>301-843-7721</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shydee@comcast.net">shydee@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td>MD-C</td>
<td>2nd Sun 8am/9am</td>
<td>Golden Corral 6701 Chesapeake Center Dr. Glen Burnie, MD</td>
<td>Tom Prentice</td>
<td>410-969-0372</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tom913@verizon.net">tom913@verizon.net</a></td>
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<td>MD-F</td>
<td>2nd Sat 8am/9am</td>
<td>Golden Corral 17635 Valley Mall Road Hagerstown, MD</td>
<td>Jeff &amp; Jeannie Kaufmann</td>
<td>410-667-5617</td>
<td><a href="mailto:J_kauffman@myactv.net">J_kauffman@myactv.net</a></td>
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<td>MD-H</td>
<td>4th Sun 8am/9am</td>
<td>Golden Corral 706 S. Philadelphia Blvd. Aberdeen, MD</td>
<td>Judy &amp; Shane Patishnock</td>
<td>410-939-4780</td>
<td>(J) <a href="mailto:Winglady08@hotmail.com">Winglady08@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>(S) <a href="mailto:Feelfree14@hotmail.com">Feelfree14@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD-I</td>
<td>1st Sun 9am</td>
<td>The Riverview Restaurant at Wicomico Shores Golf Course, 35794 Aviation Yacht Club Rd Mechanicsville, MD</td>
<td>Roger &amp; Rose Tenbrink</td>
<td>240-508-0079</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rtwanderer1@yahoo.com">rtwanderer1@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>MD-J</td>
<td>3rd Sun 8am/8:30am</td>
<td>Bob Evans 3408 NW Crain Hwy, Bowie, MD</td>
<td>Terry Gardner</td>
<td>410-255-3672</td>
<td><a href="mailto:A90098@verizon.net">A90098@verizon.net</a></td>
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<td>MD-L</td>
<td>2nd Sun 8:30am</td>
<td>Denny’s Restaurant 8493 Ocean Gateway Easton, MD</td>
<td>Jeff McCarter</td>
<td>410-251-6882</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mccarter@4-shore.net">mccarter@4-shore.net</a></td>
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<td>PA-A</td>
<td>3rd Sun 8am/9am</td>
<td>Lions Share Diner 812 N Pottstown Pike(rt100) Exton, PA 19341</td>
<td>Ben &amp; Pat Robinson</td>
<td>610-970-0991</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robinsonb@comcast.net">robinsonb@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PA-B</td>
<td>4th Sat 9am/10am</td>
<td>Apple Tree Family Restaurant 100 South Centerville Road Lancaster, PA</td>
<td>Wayne &amp; Kim Ferland</td>
<td>603-359-4341</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wftigger@gmail.com">wftigger@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>PA-C</td>
<td>3rd Sat 1:30pm/2:30pm</td>
<td>Bonanza Restaurant 850 Chambersburg Mall Chambersburg, PA</td>
<td>Dan Campbell</td>
<td>717-387-0684</td>
<td><a href="mailto:joeevoc@hotmail.com">joeevoc@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>PA-F</td>
<td>2nd Wed 6pm/7pm</td>
<td>Sunset West Restaurant 521 E. College Ave. Pleasant Gap, PA</td>
<td>Daniel Walker</td>
<td>814-231-0660</td>
<td><a href="mailto:drwalkergwrra@comcast.net">drwalkergwrra@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td>PA-V</td>
<td>2nd Sun 8am/9:30am</td>
<td>Cross Keys Motor Inn &amp; Convention Center 6110 York Road, New Oxford, PA (Corner of Rte 30/94)</td>
<td>“Woody” &amp; Jo Woodfill</td>
<td>717-632-4648</td>
<td><a href="mailto:luvdogz@embarqmail.com">luvdogz@embarqmail.com</a></td>
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<td>PA-W</td>
<td>4th Sat 9am</td>
<td>Kelly’s Scenic View Restaurant 504 E. Main St. Everett, PA.</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Christie Hull</td>
<td>814-766-2286</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chrishull@embarqmail.com">chrishull@embarqmail.com</a></td>
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<td>DE-A</td>
<td>4th Sat 8:30am</td>
<td>Route 40 Diner 1705 Pulaski Hwy, White Clay Shopping Center Bear, DE</td>
<td>Winston Griffith</td>
<td>302-836-4936</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gwrradea@gmail.com">gwrradea@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Pizza King 300 W. Stein Hwy Seaford, DE</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Lois Ingram</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Ken.lois@mchsi.com">Ken.lois@mchsi.com</a></td>
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