# Blue Grass Wings

## Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge









#### **Your Chapter Team**

#### **Chapter Directors**

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#### Membership Enhancement

Randy & Denise Coy 859-753-7330 randy.coy@kyumh.org

#### **Chapter Educator**

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#### **Ride Coordinator**

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#### **Couple of the Year**

Michael & Dedre VanHoose

#### July 2013

#### Wing It with Mike and Dedre

Would you believe it rained 5+ inches in Greenville, South Carolina during the first part of July? Well, let me tell you about giving our rain gear a workout. At least Roger and I did. We topped the hill just north of Middlesboro and decided to suit up. The clouds were beginning to darken and they just had that look about them. So Roger and I topped the hill into Middlesboro and the buckets poured out. Not only in Kentucky, but all the way to Greenville. I think the word of the day was DRENCHED.

Wing Ding 35 was in full swing on you mushy arrival and we had a really good turnout. Pre-registration was reported to be 9400+, and considering the weather, was good. We had a great time, caught up with many good friends and made some new ones. Dedre and I both taught LTP classes while Rick and Liz Broadway spent a lot of time at registration.

Vendors were there from every corner and Ray and Kathy Conrad were working them hard for commitments to our convention and for next years Blast. You should be able to see Dedre and I pull up everywhere we go now; the trip cost us two new high visibility helmets (which we badly needed), and matching jackets. Visibility is what safety is all about on the roads in Kentucky.

The area is beautiful, and getting a chance to ride proved to be a chore, but Roger and I did pull a few miles in the nearby hills. The ride down took about 7 hours on the back roads and in the rain. Personally, I would go back tomorrow just for the ride down!

Start thinking about next year. Wing Ding 36 will be in Madison, WI! We look forward to seeing you on the highways and back roads. Be safe, ride aware, and have FUN!!

Michael and Dedre VanHoose

#### Roger has a few words!

We had a great ride to Opal's Restaurant in McKee. The food was delicious and you cannot beat the price and the very friendly service. Hopefully we'll take the ride again in the fall to enjoy the fall scenery and the food.

Unfortunately on the return trip, Randy and Denise had a flat tire but Randy did a great job recognizing that something was not right and safely got off the road. We circled back and found them and stayed around until we knew they would be able to get back home.

The list of upcoming rides is below. I hope you can join us for many of the rides.

July 27 – Jane's Saddlebag – Union, Kentucky August 24 – Elk Creek Winery

September 7 – Marengo Caves

September 21 – Mystery Ride (Bring your Ideas)

October 5 – Corvette Museum

We continue to enjoy the food and fun at the dinners. Please come out and join in the fun. Here are the upcoming dinners:

July 30 – Ride to Hall's on the River (Meet at Kroger's in Brannon Crossing at 6:00)

August 15 – Ride to Windy Corner Market (Meet behind the Marathon Station on Paris Pike at 6:00)

August 29 – Dinner at Firehouse Subs on Leestown Road (Eat at 6:00 and ride afterwards for dessert)

September 12 - Ride to Gibby's Deli in Frankfort (Meet at the Thornton's on Versailles Road at 6:00)

September 23 – Ride to Casa Café in Richmond (Meet at Kroger's in Brannon Crossing at 6:00)

For more information about the rides and future dates please see our events calendar at <a href="http://">http://</a> www.kybluegrasswings.org/events/. The calendar also includes the various Chapter Meetings and the Region Events. If you have any questions or corrections, please let me know.

If you want to see some of the photos from our past events, check out the following page: <a href="http://">http://</a> www.kybluegrasswings.org/photos/

I hope to see you at the rides and the dinner gatherings. I'll send more details and reminders as the dates get closer. Please mark the dates on your calendar so hopefully you can join in the fun.

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Teresa Hight

8 / 14 Danny Samples 8 / 19 Mike Toon

#### **Anniversaries**

8 / 25 Wayne Smorstad

8 / 25 Mike and Donna Toon



#### Your Couple of the Year 2013

What a fun time at Wing Ding this year! Aside from a lot of rain, we were able to really enjoy catching up with old friends and as usual, found a few new ones. We spent some time talking with Steve and Tami, the International COY Coordinators. They had many good things to say about our being appointed to represent Chapter C for another year. They are looking forward to seeing us compete at the district level again. Dedre and I are also looking forward to this event at the Blast and ask our chapter participants to come out and support us.

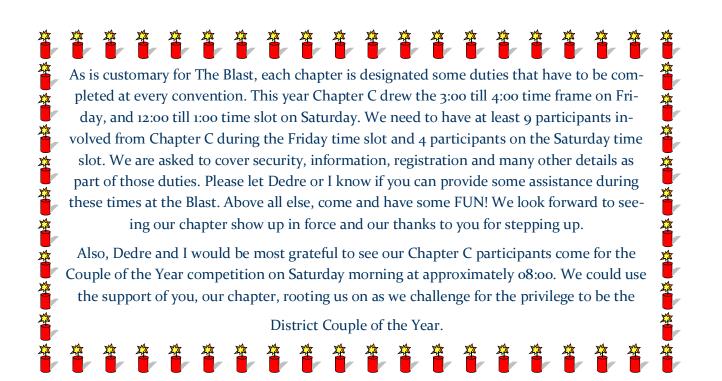
We continue to believe we are a part of the best chapter in our district. We have wonderful participants and even better friends, and this helps us enjoy the many opportunities we get to spend with our Goldwing family. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you.

During the remainder of the year, let's continue to work together and enjoy visiting other chapters and being a part of this FUN association.

Michael and Dedre VanHoose

Chapter C 2012 & 2013 Couple of the Year





#### GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

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The Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) is the world's largest single-marque social organization for owners and riders of Honda Gold Wing/Valkyrie motorcycles -- and some would say, the world's largest family. Dedicated to our motto, Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge, GWRRA members enjoy the freedom of belonging to a not-for-profit, non-religious and non-political organization.

Founded in 1977, GWRRA has grown to more than 72,000 U.S., Canadian and international Members in 53 foreign countries in just 35 years. Over 800 active Chapters are managed by 4,000 volun-

#### Randy and Denise Have a Few Words from Membership Enhancement

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I spoke about this at our last chapter gathering, but I wanted to take another opportunity to speak about it to our wider e-mail audience to encourage both those mentioned in this article and those who have not ridden with us lately.

On Saturday, June 22, a group of seven bikes, with a total of nine riders, travelled to sunny downtown McKee, Kentucky. We rode from Lexington to Irvine and then took Hwy. 89 from Irvine to McKee. It is a twisty, almost mountainous road that is surely made for motorcycles. We arrived in McKee and dined at the ever-popular Opal's Restaurant, famous for their \$1.65 homemade pie. The food was wonderful and the fellowship was just as good.

We came back from McKee and were passing through Richmond on our way home when the last two bikes in the group got caught behind a tractor and some other slow moving traffic. (I had been riding Drag for the entire trip.) I radioed the Lead and informed him of our situation and advised him not stop the group, we'd just catch up in short order. (You get my drift?)

We caught the group within a few minutes and came through a stop sign "all together." It was shortly after that I became aware of a *weird* sensation with my Wing. It didn't want to turn and seemed to lose its maneuverability. I keyed my radio to speak to my brother who was riding just in front of me to let him know I had a problem and then I turned into a subdivision to get out of traffic and assess my problem.

I got off the bike to see what I'd suspected the problem to be. The rear tire was about half flat. (I learned later that I'd picked up a screw somewhere on the ride). To make a long story shorter, my fellow Wingers came to my rescue in short order. Tom Del Bello immediately rode back to a gas station and bought cold water for the whole group. I called Rescue Plus and got help on the way. The group refused to leave until I assured them that everything was under control and help was on the way. Even then, my brother still refused to leave. He had his wife come and pick him up and give Denise and me his Wing to ride home.

The tow company picked my bike up and took it of Honda of Richmond. The dealership was closed and so the tow company stored my bike in their business over the weekend and then delivered it to Honda on Monday morning, all free of charge.

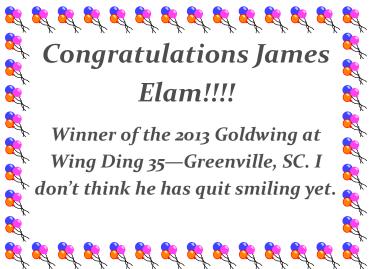
All things said and done, I have a new set of tires, profound gratitude for my Wing family and the services of Rescue Plus. Rescue Plus is the best \$25 I've ever spent and having the support of fellow Wingers on the highway was a true comfort.

Randy and Denise Coy

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Members of Kentucky District participants working registration at Wing Ding 35 in Greenville, South Carolina. Present are Chapter G Directors Renzo and Donita Nardi, Chapter C Directors Michael and Dedre VanHoose, Chapter C Treasurer Karen Early, Chapter C Ride Coordinator Roger Early, and the Kentucky District Couple of the Year Rick and Liz Broadway. Great job gang!!

### THE 2013 CONVENTION SCHEDULE



#### "Spring Fling"

Tennessee District Convention

Camp Jordan Arena, East Ridge, Tennessee

25 - 27 April, 2013



#### **DOWN HOME RALLY 2013**

THE WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT CONVENTION
SUMMERSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA
13 - 15 June 2013







THE GWRRA NATIONAL OFFICE PRESENTS

#### WING DING 35

TD Convention Center, Greenville, South Carolina 3 - 6 July 2013







8 - 10 August , 2013 Frankfort Convention Center Frankfort, Kentucky





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# The North Carolina District Presents WINGS OVER NORTH CAROLINA

26 - 28 September, 2013

CABARRUS ARENA & EVENTS CENTER



#### **RALLY IN THE VALLEY**

THE VIRGINIA DISTRICT CONVENTION 10 - 12 October, 2013 THE SALEM CIVIC CENTER SALEM, VIRGINIA



#### Words of Wisdom from the "GOO"

# "To be seen or not to be seen" THAT IS THE QUESTION

Riding a Goldwing bike or a trike on a back country roads, city streets or the interstate highway system is dangerous. Despite all our skill sets, GWRRA Rider Ed seminars, Master Tour Rider, GWRRA ERC/TRC courses or MSF training we are the prey not the predator. Any altercation with another vehicle on the roadway and we draw the short straw. The driver of the other vehicle walks away, saying "just didn't see you."

Dressing in black or dark colors producing that stealthy looks may make you feel macho but having that cool look has its risk. In the earlier days of GWRRA, the thing was to match your bike color. Except for the "Sterling Silver" most of the Goldwing colors were dark: "Cosmos Blue", "Black", "Chocolate" and "Dark Reds". Front and rear lighting were not the best even with aftermarket additions. The electrical systems of the 1000's – 1100's and 1200's could not supply enough 12 volt electrons to keep all those incandescent bulbs burning (praise the LED).

We do not want to be vulnerable when we out and about riding solo or with members of our GWRRA family. In nature vulnerable creatures blend in with their surrounds and that is something we do not want to do. Smart riders will find ways to hi-light themselves by sight and sounds. With clothing there is an abundance of riding jackets in Hi-Viz colors even pink for the ladies. Next time you need to replace that helmet (every 4-5 years) consider a pure white or again a Hi-Viz or a light color helmet with exotic graphics (light color helmets are also cooler). Putting a reflective sticker on the back of the helmet will help at night. Gloves are now available in hi-Viz and reflective piping to aid with night riding.

Neon gear is the first step, now the second has to do with things we can do to our beloved Goldwing. Add-on lights are a must,; front ditch lights, trunk and saddlebag light bars, trunk lid wing with a modulating tail light, a "Ring of Fire" or other amber lights to aid in identifying the front end. Loud horns are important addition to some older Goldwing models. But the most important additions and my next add-on for my trike is a modulating head-light which is now legal in all 50 states.

In closing the goal is CONSPICUITY "the art of being seen" the opposite of camouflage.

"Remember life has an expiration date"

"Goo"

GWRRA Ky-C Rider Educator "The Blue Grass Wings"



