



GWRRA MA Chapter "F"

- NEW BEDFORD - FALL RIVER - TAUNTON AREA -

All chapter "F's" get-togethers are NON-SMOKING Thank You!

Get-togethers are held on the [2nd Wednesday](#) of each month at American Legion Hall on RT 79 - Berkley, MA at 7:00 PM

The Meeting:

Since this month's meeting was canceled because of a snowstorm, an impromptu meeting was held following the Sunday breakfast at the Country Buffet. There was only one topic discussed which was the mandatory training imposed upon the Director and Assistant Director. This training must be completed by August 31st of this year. Also 51% of all monies must be directed towards education. Questions arose pertaining to all of this, such as why has most of this information come down as hearsay, word of mouth, etc. and not directly from the national? The training classes would be held on certain dates both in Vernon Ct. and in northern NH. This mandate seems to be rubbing people the wrong way and is causing some chapters to consider dissolving. Further information pertaining to this subject will be forthcoming.

Director's Comments

Fro From the "Director's Chair"...

As many of you know by now, there are changes afoot with GWRRA. There has been much speculation as to what those "changes" include, and I can only pass on what I've been told. As Dave mentioned, GWRRA is now "**mandating**" that present and future Chapter Directors, Assistants, and as of 2011 Ride Educators attend required training labeled "**Officer Certification Program**" (OCP) as a "**condition**" (a *sugar-coated term* that more aptly stated means a "**requirement**") to remain in office and to keep our chapters "open and viable." This "**training**," at present, is at our own personal expense and the closest locations to attend this training is Vernon, CT and Gorham, NH (right around the corner from us, of course). There have apparently been some "**issues**" involving individual chapters of GWRRA that have not been compliant with the Internal Revenue Service code relating to the way they have conducted business in relation to how GWRRA originally applied for it's "Not-for-Profit" status during the organization's inception in 1977 and as a result have created this situation.

I'm still unclear as to many of the details as there has been no "**official**" explanation that has come down from either the National or Regional level, and unfortunately as a result our District Directors have only received limited information themselves (G & G have been very forthright in informing us as best they can and I thank them for that). I suspect that their opinion (National and Region) at present is that all we as Directors and chapter members of GWRRA only need to know that this training is coming and it is "**mandatory**" if one wishes to continue on as a Director, Assistant or Educator or to become one in the future. I'm sure their "**tag line**" is "**All your questions will be answered during the training class**," but in "**my humble, personal opinion**" that is simply not enough! (And did I mention anyone that attends, participates and receives a "**passing grade**" will have to be re-certified annually to remain in office?)

I am extremely unhappy and disappointed that I as Chapter Director have still not received specific information from the National or Regional level as to what's going on or what prompted this "**required, mandatory**" training. Once

again “*in my humble opinion*” one of the most important aspects for success of any organization is **COMMUNICATION** which is clearly not the case at this time. It is disturbing to me that our upper echelon does not feel compelled to pass on vital information to the membership. “*In my humble opinion*” some of the reasoning behind the lack of sharing information is due to personal conflicts with the upper management personnel and those of us in lesser roles. Having been a manager, supervisor, or lead officer in other organizations, I am well-aware that when one is in a position of authority, one must leave their personal feelings “at the door” (which may be very difficult for *some* but necessary for *all*) when dealing with individuals. After the business at hand has transpired, one can certainly continue on with their personal issues or disdain with someone outside of the confines of business. Although I do not have substantive proof that this is the case with certain members of our upper management “team,” I can most certainly suspect or speculate this is so (given the ongoing unresolved situation higher up the food chain that many of you are most likely aware; a situation that should have reached resolution long ago). As a result of this lack of communication, I cannot make informed decisions without precise information (in this case “*from the powers that be,*” *National and Region*) as to why this “training” is being implemented and what my best course of action not only for myself, my wife, my family and all of you the members (but more importantly my *friends*) should be. It is unfair of National and Regional leadership to affect such change and mandate “*volunteers*” to undergo training without a reasonable, informed explanation as to why. One cannot simply make the statement essentially “*it is what it is,*” so to speak, and leave it at that.....

I’ve been told there are “*options.*” These “*options*” include attending the training to keep our chapter open, not attending the training and the chapter “closes” (placed in limbo), become “*Members-at-Large*” and belong to GWRRA but no specific home chapter, or if all else is unacceptable, request a refund for dissatisfaction and resign from GWRRA. I have no idea what the best “*option*” or course of action is for any of you or your families, but I can only suggest that you need to decide what you think is the most appropriate decision for you in determining your best destiny, individually and collectively.

I am unsure whether I want to subject myself to the OCP training for a variety of reasons (some very personal and un-publishable), none the least is *my family*. My favorite role in life at present is being “*Papa*” (Grandpa) to my beautiful grandchildren. There is nothing more important to me than family and my family has to be my first and foremost consideration. All of you are my “*extended family*” and Robin and I have enjoyed many great experiences with you during the last three years. No matter how this plays out and ends up, I expect that we will all still remain “*family.*”

Another consideration (although secondary) is the time and expense involved. The training is a day and a half long, and as I mentioned is not a hop, skip, and a jump away. Although the members present at our “*informational gathering*” stated the chapter could pick up the expenses for those of us that attend, I believe that due to the “*mandate*” from National that we must attend to continue as officers and remain an individual chapter, National should be responsible to compensate us for our expenses. Regardless, there is no compensation available to those that attend the training for their time (and I don’t mean monetarily). How do you compensate someone for sacrificing their personal time in a “volunteer” organization? We all have the opportunity to pick and choose those rides, events, seminars and trainings we want to attend in general but such is not the case in this instance. Since day one I have questioned what exactly I get for my membership dues other than a membership card, a sticker and decal, Wing World and the Gold Book, and the privilege of being able to say I am a member of one of the largest motorcycle organizations globally. Although I am proud to be associated with GWRRA, I think it’s important that National steps up to the plate and provides our training at no out-of-pocket expense to the members attending the training or the chapter. Trust me, after seeing the IRS returns for GWRRA for 2008, I’m sure they can afford to provide this required training free of charge. There should be no burden on our chapter to foot the bill, considering our reserves pale in comparison to the overall coffers of the National organization.

I have enjoyed my tenure as your Chapter Director since joining GWRRA and more specifically MA Chapter F, but that enjoyment has primarily been due, in large part, to the selfless efforts of many of you! You are the true “backbone” of Chapter F. No matter which direction we head off into, I will always appreciate your dedication and support of Chapter F and GWRRA. I obviously have a lot to think about in a short period of time (August 31st seems far enough away, but trust me, it will be a “blink of an eye” in the grand scheme of things). I hope whatever decision I reach as well as our collective decisions as a group is in the best interests of the masses. I’m sure there’ll be plenty more discussion on the matter at our next meeting.

In the meantime, if anyone in the chapter is willing to step into the role of Chapter Director, Assistant, or any other role that will help our chapter continue to remain "open," please let me know. I may be willing to continue on as your Director, but anyone else that's sure they'd like the opportunity to step up, please contact me. For now, let's see what happens.....

Doc..... ☺

P.S. - I apologize for my extended "rant," but I felt it was important to get this "off my chest" and give you an opportunity to digest this whole sordid affair....

Chapter F- Rider Educator: Allan Nunes

Allan's tip again for this month is to be very careful when riding at this time of year due to the fact that nearly all roads have an abundance of sand on them and may possibly also have black ice. Be extra vigilant while riding.

Chapter Store:

Our MA Chapter F patches and decals are available for purchase. The cost of the patches is \$2.00 and the decals are \$1.00. The Chapter appreciates your continued support by purchasing these items. The large black and gold GWRRA logo patch is \$12.00, and the smaller version is \$6.00. The large Chapter and State rockers are \$6.00 each, and the smaller State and Chapter rocker versions are \$4.00 each. GWRRA patches and rockers as well as the MA Chapter F patches and rockers can be sewn on at most Tailor/Cleaner shops in the phone book.

NOTE: The older red or black "helmet" type patches are no longer available for purchase. The new "star" style patch is what is available and is the GWRRA patch of choice. The memorial patches are still available, and can be purchased for \$3.75 each. The Chapter F-MA pins are also available and cost \$4.50 each. Year bars are \$2.50 See our Chapter sales rep Mike Bartnowski for all of your GWRRA and Chapter F needs! "Abra Cadabra Embroidery & Screen Printing" is doing the shirts and such and Bruce Wargat is handling the orders.

K-321 by Port Authority, 6.3 Ounce Mock Turtleneck in maroon.

S-XL \$23.95 2XL \$24.95

G 2400 100% Ultra Cotton Turtleneck in maroon.

S-XL \$17.50 2XL \$19.50

G 9000 Crewneck Sweatshirt in maroon.

S-XL \$23.95 2XL \$26.95

G 2800 Ultra Cotton Jersey Polo in maroon.

S-XL \$18.95 2XL \$21.95

G 2000 100% Cotton Tee in maroon.

S-XL \$14.95 2XL \$16.95

Birthdays - Member Birthdays this month: **March** Bruce Wargat, Steven Alvarez, George Cottrell, Denise Thomas, Claire Chenard, Maria Pacheco, Mary Tripp, Mark Abdelnour, Mike Alvarez and Dorothy Bungert.

Best Wishes and Many More!

Note from Editor: Please let me know if I miss you on your birthday month so you can be recognized.

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Ride List - Chapter F- MA for 2009

Rides Start @Dunkin Donuts 128 Myricks St. in Berkley, Exit 10 E. from Rt. 140

Full Tank of Gas, Empty Bladder. Bring us a smile for a Happy Day!

There will be some changes here. Unless noted all rides start at 9:00 AM (Bold) confirmed Read Newsletter
If people want to ride on an Open Date. They can arrange amongst themselves. Some of us can ride on holidays.

Dinner Rides – Thursday Eves. At 6:30 Sharp - Allan Nunes Leads

Dinner rides are over for the year.

Ice Cream or Coffee Rides 2009 - Wednesday Eves at 6:30 PM Sharp

Wednesday night Ice Cream rides are over for the year. Lets look forward to warmer weather.

Sunday Breakfast will begin on November 15th at the Country Buffet in Dartmouth at 9 AM!

Saturday Nites - Plymouth, MA- Park in front of Isaac's Restaurant along the harbor.

All Bikes Lights Nite – Every Weekend Thru the Summer – Gather and Swap Lies 6PM -9:30PM??

Waterside @ Isaacs Restaurant. Come at will. Usually weather permitting. May thru October. Coffee Ride 9:30PM

Notes:

1: Wednesday will be our designated evening ride night for Coffee/Ice Cream. Temperature determines which we go for. 2nd Thursday Chapter meets. Ride after?

2: The THIRD Thursday evening rides for a dinner will be once a month. Destination names have not been determined for all places. Al Nunes – Safety Educator will select these. He does these rides. Rain Date the following week.

3: Wednesday night Rides will start at 6:30 PM.

4: October rides that are non-reciprocal start at 10AM. Unless predetermined times. November Sunday rides locally start at 11AM dependent on temps for the season.

More Updates to follow at a later date. Please direct all inquiries to me first (Ride Coordinator) for any revisions. The list is not final. Read the Newsletter or Chapter Website monthly for updates and links to where we are going on the calendar.

5: The Ride Coordinator reserves all rights to move rides in this list should the need be called upon.

Hello Members:

All you're Newsletters at this time are sent out in a MS Document format. If you are having any trouble opening this information in the MS Word format you may visit the Chapter F-Ma website to read it at:

www.gwrramachapterf.org If you think you would like to participate in the Newsletter, come on and feed us articles for the coming letters. If you are not getting or you are having trouble with a newsletter, tell us. We really don't know. Check the pictures from the past years while you are there.

Please update any changes to your email. Send the new one to the News Editor or the Chapter Director.

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Directions to the next Get-Together:

Our Smoke Free Gatherings will start at 7:00PM on the Second non-holiday Thursday of the month. If there is a holiday, we move it up to the next week.

The next meeting is Wednesday, March 10th @ 7 PM @ The American Legion Hall - RT 79 in Berkley, MA.

From Rt. 195 East or West. Take RT 24 North in Fall River to Padelford St. Berkely Off ramp 7miles. Take right turn East on Padelford St. to Rt. 79. Go about 2 miles. At the Rt.79 stop sign, take a right turn near the White church. American Legion Hall is on the right side a short distance from the corner.

Coming in from Rt 24 N. or S: Take Rt 140 E. Run past the Silver City Galleria toward New Bedford and get off at Rt 79 South and go about ½ mile past the blinking Yellow light and then the White church. American Legion Hall is on the right side of the street a short distance from Rt. 140.

From New Bedford: Take Rt 140 North to Rt. 79 South and same as above.

Bring a friend.

>>>> ALL MAKE BIKES WELCOME HERE <<<<

MA - F needs U! Talk to us!

We could also use the services of: Road Captains, Activities Coordinator, Welcome and Recording Secretary.

For Sale: Motorcycle Related

None at this time.

Let the News Editor know when you have sold your property. We do not want to advertise SOLD items. This is a member free perk. An after Sale minimal donation would always be welcome though. (Ed).

Humor or the Month

Settling a cow case

A big-city lawyer was representing the railroad in a lawsuit filed by an old rancher. The rancher's prize bull was missing from the section through which the railroad passed. The rancher only wanted to be paid the fair value of the bull.

The case was scheduled to be tried before the justice of the peace in the back room of the general store.

The attorney for the railroad immediately cornered the rancher and tried to get him to settle out of court. The lawyer did his best selling job, and finally the rancher agreed to take half of what he was asking.

After the rancher had signed the release and took the check, the young lawyer couldn't resist gloating a little over his success, telling the rancher, "You know, I hate to tell you this, old man, but I put one over on you in there. I couldn't have won the case. The engineer was asleep and the fireman was in the caboose when the train went through your ranch that morning. I didn't have one witness to put on the stand. I bluffed you!"

The old rancher replied, "Well, I'll tell you, young feller, I was a little worried about winning that case myself, because that durned bull came home this morning."

Happy Trails!!



GWRRA MA Chapter "F"

• NEW BEDFORD • FALL RIVER • TAUNTON AREA •

Ride & Event List - Chapter F- MA for 2010 (Tentative)

Rides Start @Dunkin Donuts 128 Myricks St., Berkley Ma. Exit 10 E off of Rt. 140

Full Tank of Gas, Empty Bladder, Bring us a smile for a Happy Day!

Rides begin at 9 AM unless otherwise noted

March 27 th	Saturday- Annual Chapter D-MA Dance. Springfield, MA
April 18 th	MA "F" Breakfast – Last one - Old Country Buffet Dartmouth, MA
April 25 th	RI "B"-Annual Kickoff Breakfast
May 2 nd	Gillette Castle-Ct.
May 8 th	Saturday - Venco Wings Open House - Loudon NH
May 9 th	Mother's Day – Open Date
May 16 th	Mass "B" Mystery Ride
May 23 rd	Left turn only ride-Destination to be determined later
May 30 th	Memorial Day Weekend-Open Date
June 6 th	Bud Brewrey/Clysdale tour – Merrimack NH
June 7-12	Americade – Lake George NY
June 13 th	Frisbee Golf – Barre, Ma
June 20 th	Father's Day - All Chapters Picnic-Pulaski Park
June 27 th	Short Ride & PM Bike Blessing
June 30-July 3 rd	Wing Ding – Des Moines, Iowa
July 4 th	July fourth weekend – Open Date
July 11 th	Heritage Museum/Mount Greylock – No. Adams, Ma.
July 18 th	High Flying BBQ – Newport, RI
July 22-24 th	New England District Rally – Gorham NH
July 25 th	Castle in the Clouds – Moultonborough, NH
August 1st	Mass Chapter "F" Memorial Poker Run
August 8 th	Open
August 15 th	Ride For Kids – Fiskdale, Ma. - Very Early Leave Reg-8:00-9:45
August 22 nd	Kittery/Kennebunk, Me.
August 29 th	Mass Chapter "A" Poker Run - Beverly
September 5 th	Labor Day weekend - Open Date
September 12 th	NH "E" Hobo Stew – Keene NH
September 19 th	Ringe/Manodnock NH
September 23-25	Wings over the Smokies – N. Carolina
September 26 th	Mass Chapter "W" BBQ
October 3 rd	Corn Maze – NH, MA or CT – Destination to be announced
October 10 th	Columbus Weekend – Open Date
October 17 th	Mystic Pizza II – Stonington CT followed by Clyde's Apple Steam Press
October 24 th	Sub Base – Groton, CT.
October 31 st	Life Saving Museum – Hull, MA.
November 28 th	Putnam Ct. Christmas Parade

Ver. 2 1-10-10

