



ILLINOIS CHAPTER H-2 NEWS GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION REGION E



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Visit us on the Web: www.ilh2.org

IL H-2 monitors
Channel 5 on the CB

Chapter Director
David Pedersen
1847 Knox Rd. 100 E.
Galesburg, IL 61401
309-342-0073
pedersen1951@gmail.com

Assistant Chapter Directors
Larry & Nita Gasaway
563-288-2510
Game Coordinator—Nita
webkolrf1@machlink.com

H-2 Webmaster/Newsletter Editor
Ruby Naslund
309-629-8646
tchr210@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Larry & Monica Heil
309-484-2117
tr8106@hotmail.com

**Membership Enhancement Coordinators
& Chapter Ambassadors**
Lee & Judy Bagley
309-426-2137
ljbagley@frontiernet.net

**Phone & Email Coordinator
Chapter Historian**
Linda Pedersen
309-342-0073
ldpedersen2@comcast.net

MAD & Activity Coordinator
Bob Streicher
309-269-7436
gwrider@mchsi.com

Chapter Educator
Lanny Anderson
309-521-8007
lanny1177@yahoo.com

Ride Activity Coordinators
Herb & Rosy Stinemat
309-768-2518
rhstine@hughes.net

**Awards Coordinator &
Technical Coordinator**
Ron Naslund
309-629-8646
wingerron41@yahoo.com

Cards—Birthday & Anniversaries
Cheryl Swanson
309-342-7806
swans@grics.net

Couple of the Year
Ron & Ruby Naslund

Individual of the Year
Bob Streicher

GWRRA Websites
GWRRA www.gwra.org
Region E www.gwra-region-e.org
IL District www.gwrra-ildistrict.org
IL-H2 www.ilh2.org

February 2011

Monthly Meeting: First Tuesday of the month at Broadview Restaurant (Knox Room), America's Best Value Inn, 29 Public Square, Galesburg, IL (Eat at 6:30 p.m.; Meeting at 7:30 p.m.)
Coffee: Third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.—check calendar for location

February Director's Message



This is another wonderful winter. If you are a snowbird and have missed this winter with its crisp days and large and exciting snowfalls, you have our sympathy. This is what keeps us young, right? The one to two feet of snow meant that our February meeting got cancelled. We hope to see you at the coffee Tuesday, February 16th at Dairy Queen in Monmouth.

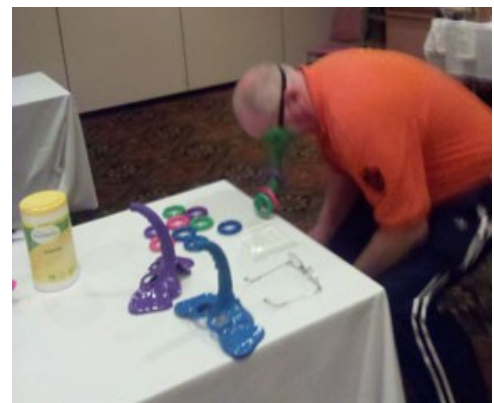
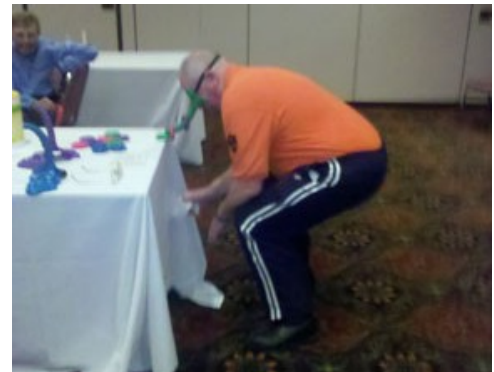
This was my first Winter Warm-Up, and I was impressed. The games were fun to play. Larry and Nita Gasaway and Lanny and Carolyn Anderson showed the new guy (me) the ropes. Playing the games was fun. The Star Wars displays—some edible, some not—showed great creativity. The Decatur Convention Center is a really nice place to host the event, and the rooms and weekend were surprisingly affordable. There was lots of

good free homemade food, too! It was a nice break in the winter weather.

Hoping to see ya'all soon. I am thanking God for all of you and know that you are a blessing to many and good to know.

David Pedersen

David at Winter Warm-Up



Region E Directors
Clayton & Lynda Alcorn

IL District Directors
Dan & Martha Ribbing

Rider Education

By Lanny Anderson

H-2 Chapter Director



THINKING SAFETY FOR FEBRUARY

Can you believe it is February already? In just 2 months we should be into the start of riding season! With that said, how many of you have taken steps to improve your riding safety? An excellent way to do that is by taking a riding course, whether it is a beginner's course, an experienced course, or a trike course. Such a course will give us an edge for avoiding a crash or accident by honing our skills in recognizing a potential hazard and avoiding it before it happens. There will be a number of such courses available to us this spring and summer, and we will do our best to make you aware of when and where they will be offered.

We are including an article by a former Michigan rider educator that more fully explains the reasons for taking a rider course. Carolyn and I and several others in our chapter have taken the courses offered (trike or bike) several times. We all agree it is a good refresher course and feel that we learn something new each time. Please consider taking a riding course this riding season. We need to ride as safely as we can. A riding course is one tool to help us be more prepared.

***Why Should I Take a Rider Course?**

This question is one that many of us find easy to answer. What we may not understand is why anyone would need to ask it. There are some riders in each of our chapters that choose not to participate in an instructed Rider Course. Let's examine this and try to understand why, and look at what a Rider Course can do for you.

Some may say, "I've been riding for years. I don't need to take a class." Others will boast about the miles they have accumulated on two wheels and ask "what can they teach me?" Have you ever tried to persuade someone with that attitude that a Rider Course might help them be an even better rider? Their position can be so negative and so strongly put that you don't want to talk to them about the benefits of rider training. Sometimes, people hide their self doubt behind a curtain of confidence and bluster. Is it possible to have all the knowledge and skill necessary to avoid any accident? Well, if one chooses not to ride very far or very often, then perhaps it is possible. But I wouldn't want to bet *my* life on it!

Do you remember a single season in your riding career without at least one close call or near miss due to another motorist's driving behavior? How about a single *month*? If you ride around the state or across the country, you expose yourself to many different situations that require anticipation of all the possible actions of other drivers. You have to be prepared to counter with the proper response – *whatever their action* – and do it in a split second! A motorcycle Rider Course helps prepare you mentally and physically to execute the kinds of maneuvers called for by a driver's unexpected actions. We look upon these classes as an opportunity to learn and improve our riding skills in a safe environment.

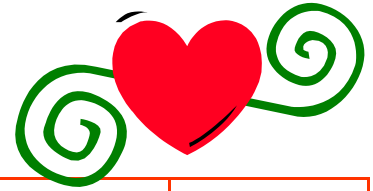
The instructors are trained to spot the little techniques during range exercises that riders tend to forget to employ on the road. They provide reminders to all students in a positive manner. Their trained eyes and constructive comments are geared to put each of us on the path to being the safest riders we can be. This can help with your attitude and performance on the road. Being reminded of the best techniques to execute different skills does not hurt at all. It is painless. The practice and coaching helps to improve our skills, whether we never knew the technique to use, or just need the occasional reminder. Hey, who doesn't appreciate a reminder from time to time? Especially when it is about something you want to do correctly and safely, but may have just forgotten the best method.

In athletic training we are taught that practice makes perfect. And when you practice something you enjoy doing, it's just a lot of fun! Practicing motorcycle riding maneuvers in a closed parking lot with someone else (the instructors) monitoring the range to protect the riders from outside hazards helps you focus your attention on the task at hand – becoming a better rider!

On another level, taking a Rider Course will help you qualify for advancement in the Rider Education Levels Program, to Level II or above, or keep you current in your present level. And there is one more thing to remember about *all* GWRRA Rider Course offerings. Nobody fails! Everyone who completes the course receives a course completion card. There are no minimum performance requirements. You are asked to push yourself to improve your abilities. You won't get better at it if you don't try. Sign up for a Rider Course today. You will thank yourself later!



February 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
13 Mike Buzick Ron & Ruby Naslund	14 Alicia Waugh John & Cheryl Swanson	15 IL-H2 Cof-fee, Dairy Queen, Mon-mouth, 6:30 p.m. Lee Bagley	16 Teri Waugh	17	18	19 IA-E Sweetheart Weekend, Murder Mystery, Comfort Suites, Burlington, IA
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					


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March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Don't forget to bring your food pantry donations to the March meeting!		1 <u>IL-H2 Meeting and Swap Meet, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.</u>	2	3	4	5
6 Duane Anderson	7	8	9	10	11 Ann Anderson	12
13	14	15 <u>IL-H2 Coffee, Perkins, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.</u> Fred Wilson	16	17 Herb & Rosy Stinemates	18 Lanny Anderson	19 Johnnie Mohr
20	21	22	23 Carolyn Anderson	24 Julliettes' Lunch, 12 noon, Packinghouse, Galesburg Chet Stephens	25	26 Quincy Chapter N Auction, Paloma Community Center, eat at 3 p.m., auction at 4 p.m.
27	28	29	30 Jim Anderson	31 Jack Shultz		

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IL-H2's Calendar of Events – 2011

(Scheduled events are always subject to change.)

April

- 5 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 IL-H2 Coffee, Homestead Restaurant, Woodhull, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Julliettes' Lunch, 1 p.m., Good's Bistro & Bakery, Kewanee
- TBA Sport City Honda Open House, Blessing of the Bikes, Jacksonville
- 28-30 Missouri District Rally, Branson, MO

May

- 1 IA-E Jelly Bean Run
- 3 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- TBA Ride for the Cure, Shoppes of Grand Prairie, Peoria
- 13-15 Niehaus Customer Appreciation Days, Litchfield
- 18 IL-H2 Coffee, Italian Village, Monmouth 6:30 p.m. (note Wed. instead of Tues.)
- 19 Julliettes' Lunch, 1 p.m., Q's Café, Galesburg
- 21 MAD Windshield Wash, Woodhull Rest Area, noon-2 p.m.

June

- 7 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 IA-O ROGER Ride, Scott County Park, 9 a.m.
- 18 H-2 Dinner Ride, Ernie's, Pekin, eat at noon
- 21 IL-H2 Coffee, Spoonie's, London Mills, 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Johnnie's Hobo Stew Ride, Milan Hy-Vee, Depart at 10 a.m.

July

- 6-9 Wing Ding 33, Knoxville, TN
- 15 H-2 TEAM meeting, 6:30 at Pedersens'
- 17 IL-H2 Steve Bock Wing Fling, Lake Storey Pavilion, Galesburg
- 19 IL-H2 Coffee, Steak 'N' Shake/Whitey's, Moline, 6:30 p.m.

**August**

- 2 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 5 Monmouth Car and Bike Show, Monmouth
- 5-7 IL District Rally
- 16 IL-H2 Coffee, Spoonie's, London Mills, 6:30 p.m.
- 27 Anderson Potluck, Lanny & Carolyn's house
- 28 IL-R Surprise Run, LaSalle

September

- 3-5 Region E Rally, Milan
- 6 IL-H-2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 9-11 Davis Rally, New Hampton, IA
- 17-18 H-2 Overnight Ride (tentative)
- 20 IL-H2 Coffee, Homestead, Woodhull, 6:30 p.m.

October

- 4 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 IA-E Pumpkin Run (tentative date)
- 19 IL-H2 Coffee, Italian Village, Monmouth, 6:30 p.m. (note Wednesday instead of Tuesday)
- 22 IL-H2 Oktoberfest, Lake Storey Pavilion, Galesburg, IL

November

- 1 IL-H2 Meeting, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 IL-H2 Coffee, Perkins, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.

December

- 6 IL-H2 Christmas Party, Broadview Restaurant, Galesburg, 6:30 p.m.
- No coffee this month—have a Merry Christmas!**

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