

# Delaware Chapter - A Newsletter

December 2008  
Volume 8, Issue 12

## *A Message from the Chapter Directors*

With the year winding down there are a few rides left most of them for charity as we come upon the holiday season. We started off November having fun with our annual Covered Bridge ride and Bonfire. Judy and I were floored when we pulled up to Park West Diner and the parking lot was filled with bikes! Twenty Bikes in all from Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania. What a great turnout.

We started the day with a fantastic ride that spanned 10 covered bridges through Lancaster County and a nice lunch at the Willow Street Restaurant. Thanks to Sheila and Richard Carey and the entire Moore Family for such a great evening with a hayride, hotdogs and

bonfire. This ride has been a great way to end the riding season and to get together with good friends. (The GPS files are available for this ride on the download page on our website [www.gwrradea.org](http://www.gwrradea.org))

We also had a good time at the Toys for Tots ride. Again the bikers of the world come through and with 350 to 400 bikes made a great holiday for some that are less fortunate. Thanks to everyone that joined in for a fun and worthwhile day and thanks to Mike Vari and the Delaware 1 Blue Knights for all the hard work they do every year for this event.

Again a big thank you to those who took time out on Thanksgiving Day and joined

us for the meals on wheels delivery. Dan and Terri Chappell, Bruce and Ellyn, Tom and Sue, Dave and Betty, Bob and Tonya, Mike and Judy. It was a bit cold so most of us brought our cars to deliver.

Bruce and Ellyn Raskin however braved the cold and represented our two wheeled side by making us all look like wimps. But regardless, it was the fact that we put a bright spot on the Thanksgiving Day of others that mattered and Judy and I thank you all for your help.

So now we come to our big end of year Holiday Bash!! We will be holding it again this year at Harry's Savoy Grill on Naamans Road in North Wilmington on December 6th. Invitations have been sent out

and if you have not received yours than please, please contact Judy and I. There should be no problem with slipping in a few at the end and we would love to see as many of our GW friends as possible there.

Also that same morning on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> is our gathering. We'll try to keep it short and sweet because we know it will be a long day. Sorry, no ride afterwards so we can get ready to party!!

Judy and I would like to wish Happy Holidays to everyone in the chapter. We've had a great year and can't wait to get everything lined up and going for next year.

Mike & Judy

## *From the Asst. Chapter Directors:*

Happy Holidays to All,  
Here it is, that time of year again that none of us look forward to. That's right, winter is coming and it is nearly time to clean our motorcycles and put them up in our sheds or garages and only to take them out if the weather turns nice for a day or so. Of course, a couple of dummies like Dan and I take a ride, no

matter how cold, on Christmas Day and New Years Day, just to say that we rode on those days.

Dan and I weren't able to go on the covered bridge ride, but we heard that there were twenty bikes that did go and that the ride was fantastic. We did make the hay (straw) ride, which was a ton of fun and the bonfire and food were excellent. Thanks to

all who attended and special thanks to Rich and Sheila, Tom and Ellen, and the rest of their family for putting it together for all of us. You did a fantastic job. THANKS!!!

We had a good time on the ride for Toys for Tot's. It was so nice to see the number of people who went on the ride and brought gifts for the children. There were a

### **Newsletter Deadline:**

the 10th of every month

### **Newsletter Procedures to submit:**

- Newsletter Articles •Want Ads
- Favorite Recipes •Jokes / Stories
- Photo's (membership, rides, guess who's, etc.)

Please send electronically if able to:  
[Mike.judy@comcast.net](mailto:Mike.judy@comcast.net).

total of eight bikes from our chapter that joined in on the ride. There were lots of nice gifts taken to the Salvation Army and we hope that the children will have a nice holiday. We'd like to thank all those who came to make the holiday special for these children. Afterwards, Mike and Judy took us on a nice, short ride around the area and to the Hollywood Grill where we had lunch.

Saturday, November 8th we had twelve people attend the November dinner (late lunch) at the Legend's Restaurant at Delaware Park. We enjoyed good conversation, good food, and good company. It's always enjoyable when friends spend time together.

Dan and I are looking forward to delivering meals for the Meals on Wheels again this year. We did it last

year and had a good time. The weather was fairly nice and we took our motorcycle, so hopefully the weather will be nice again this Thanksgiving Day. We hope that some of you will join us in this endeavor. If so, please contact Mike and Judy or Dan and I to let us know or contact us if you just want some information about the Meals on Wheels. It is such a good feeling to do something for someone else.

The chapter Holiday Party is coming up on December 6th. We are looking forward to seeing as many people as possible there. Invitations have gone out so please send in your response as soon as possible. Let me give a big shout out and thank you to Sandy Sims who has done an excellent job reserving the room, get-

ting the menu together, and music planning.

As the riding season is coming to an end, we are getting ready to plan for next years rides. If you have any ideas for rides, or have taken a ride that you truly enjoyed and would like to share with others, please submit it to the chapter. I believe that there will be a meeting in a few months to plan the ride schedule. All ideas are wholeheartedly welcomed.

Remember that the November and December gathering will be on December 6th at the Park West Diner on Route 40 and later that night we will be having the chapter Holiday party. We hope to see everyone there.

Ride Safe and Have Fun,  
Dan and Terrie  
bearlyours1@verizon.net  
(302) 836-0633 (home)

## ***Rider Education***

There are many of us that ride as passenger on a motorcycle and may think we are helpless if something happens to the driver. We all depend upon the person up front to get us there and back safely but there can come a time when this doesn't happen due to some unforeseen incident. We are not helpless just because we sit on the back seat.

An accident occurred some years ago where a deer at-

tempted to jump over a motorcycle from the side of the road and hit the rider, knocking him completely off the bike. His wife was a passenger at the time and she managed to take control of the bike and get it off to the side of the road and slowed it down so it simply fell over into the grass. You may figure that since there was no driver in the front she could reach the controls easily. But what would we do if the driver were still on the bike?

This is where we as back seat riders need to be well informed. Two controls the passenger cannot reach are the gear shift lever and the rear brake, but you can reach the clutch lever, the throttle, the front brake as well as the engine cut off switch.

Even with a rider backrest a passenger can stand on their pegs and lean over the rider to gain control of the bike.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## **DE-A Staff**

### Chapter Director:

**Mike & Judy DeGeiso**  
(302) 547-2102  
mike.judy@comcast.net

### Assist. Chapter Director:

**Dan & Terrie Chappell**  
(302) 836-0633  
bearlyours1@verizon.net

### Chapter Educator:

**Charles & June Hales**  
(302) 453-8833  
n3uqv@msn.com

### Treasurer:

**Ellen Tomlinson**  
(410) 658-2783

### MED Coordinators:

**Dave Temple**  
**Betty Fox**  
(302) 454-1682

### Ride Coordinator:

### Couple of the Year:

**Dave Temple**  
**Betty Fox**  
(302) 454-1682

### Sunshine Coordinator:

**Terrie Dickerson**  
(443) 553-8174

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This is something that should be practiced to make yourself aware of the fact that you can control the bike from the back if something should happen to the driver. You can put your bike on the center stand and both of you get on and after being shown where the clutch, throttle etc are have the driver lean over and have the passenger go through a practice run of what to do.

While moving it will take a few seconds to get the bike under complete control and balanced but as you are slowing down the likelihood of going down at a high speed are lessened with each second of slowing.

The first thing to do is to slow the bike down, then to try to steer it to as safe a place as possible before it falls over, which it will do. The slower the bike is before it falls the better off you will be. A slow fall is much less dangerous than a fast one. Before it

falls over the engine cutoff switch should be turned off.

By taking time to practice this and learn where the different controls are might be just the thing that keeps you from having a major accident versus a minor incident.

Have fun and ride safe

Charles and June

## *Chapter Happenings*

### What's Happening and Ride Schedule

**De-A events are in black, you will notice that there may be several events on the same days.**

**Non-De-A events are in Red (these events are your own ride). We have provided these events so you can plan on which events you may wish to attend.**

**Notice!!!! We provided a ride schedule earlier in the year. Remember to up date your information. Make sure to check the Delaware-A website for more information on rides.**

<http://www.gwrradea.org>

*(We suggest that you be fed and all fueled up before our departures on the rides.)*

*Remember that some of the events have a registration deadline. Check the flyers*

**December 6** November/December Delaware Chapter A gathering. Breakfast starts at 8:00am and gathering starts at 9:00am. We will not be having a ride after the gathering. This way we all can go home and get ready for our Holiday Party that is in the evening. Park West Diner

**December 6** Winter Blast Holiday Party at Harry's in the evening at <http://www.harrys-savoy.com/> Dinner will be starting at 7pm and ending at 12pm We will be sending out invitations in the mail very soon. If you know you will be coming please start letting us know.. Call or email Mike and Judy .at [mike.judy@comcast.net](mailto:mike.judy@comcast.net) A Flyer will be sent out also be sent out.

**December 7** De-B gathering at Golden Coral in Seaford, De. Leave the Lowe's Parking Lot on Rte 40 in Bear at 6:15 am we will then make a quick stop at Happy Harry's on Rte 13 and Bayview Drive at 6:40 am then head down to Seaford

**December 14:** We will be joining **Elsmere Fire Company in their Holiday Parade** again. We will be meeting at Boston Market; it is at Prices Corner on Kirkwood Highway. You need to be there at 12:00 sharp. The parade doesn't start until 2pm.. From there we will travel to Elsmere. Remember if you would like to decorate your bike and trailer, please

*(Continued on page 4)*

bring all the materials you will need with you when you leave your house. (Tape, ribbons, suction cups with hooks, string etc) We will have over an hour or so to decorate our bikes while we are waiting in line. Also, remember it may be very cold, so be sure you dress for the weather (if need be bring extra clothing), and to bring hot drinks and munchies along. Please call (302)-547-2102 or email.

## Beginning January!!!

DELAWARE CHAPTER B  
**WE'RE MOVING**  
January 4<sup>th</sup> 2009

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**\*Your help is needed. Please step up and help.....**We will need Road Captains to lead and or be a gunner for some rides. Please call or email us if you would like to choose a ride or event that you would like to lead or gun.

If we have no lead we may have to cancel the ride and we would not like to do that. We are planning on having or getting someone to have or conduct a road captain's course if we get enough interested parties.

We have a few road captains that have not lead a ride. Do you need a refresher course?

Remember the schedule may change, look for emails or calls to keep you informed of the changes. Also check our website) <http://www.gwrradea.org>

## ***District Directors** by: Brian & Missy Gillard*

Let us start off where most end by wishing everyone all the best of the upcoming holiday season. We hope your heart is comforted and full of love, your home is warm and permeating with aromas traditional to the festivities, and that your time has you surrounded by as many family and friends as there possibly can be. You've heard it said that your fun and enjoyment in life grows in proportion with the friends you make. Let's make it a goal in 2009 to expand our circle of friends by getting to understand GW and what being a part of this association is all about. You will soon find support and friendship from people in all walks of life, from new members in your chapter and old members who you haven't really gotten to know, and from members in other chapters you have yet to meet. Your love for motorcycling brought you to GW but it's the friends you will make that will keep you there. Give thanks to those friends this holiday season and when you greet them at the holiday parties with a handshake, hug or that wonderful friendly kiss, let them know you mean it and appreciate their friendship. We are looking forward to attending both chapter holiday parties as we wind down the year – and yes, we're looking forward to lots of hugs.

We held our District staff meeting and it was very energizing at the plans proposed for the chapters and district next year. Thanks to all the Delaware officers for attending and having such a great brainstorming session. Watch for good things to be coming up.

We have talked about a number of topics at your recent meetings. But since meeting attendance has been low the last few months (where have ya been?) here is the news in brief form. Call us with any questions or comments.

Anyone interested in becoming a GW Advanced Rider Instructor, please contact us. The Region is asking to increase the number of instructors to loosen the load.

GW is implementing a new policy. As an officer, any time we hold a GW function and there is an accident with injury or extreme confrontation, we have to fill out an Incident Report within 3 days – just so you're aware.

If you know of a large motorcycle show in your area in 2009 and you are interested in setting up a GW information booth to promote and recruit new members, we heartedly endorse. Support for ideas and procedures can be had from our Region Director, Lorraine Knight (Lknight33@cox.net) and Peggy Lee (plee@gwrra.org).

Our membership count for DE fell off a bit in 2008 but new folks coming in kept the numbers about even. Hoorah for our new folks but we miss the old folks so if you've left, please come back.

DE-A is going to shoot for Chapter of the Year again for 2008. DE-B is unfortunately not eligible due to lack of required officer/staff positions.

New GW theme for 2009 “**Every Member Matters**”. As the year progresses, you will see the meaning of this theme in writing and attitude. Here's some new stuff:

- o Couple of the Year Program – the new program will show that Associate members can now participate in the program but only at the chapter level. Couples can serve two consecutive years at the chapter level and may participate in the District level each year.
- o Starting Jan 1 09, every member that renews their membership for 3 years will be put into a quarterly drawing for prizes as a way to say thanks. It applies to individual and families, both full and associates. Three prizes are given away each quarter and those 12 prizes will be kept secret until that quarter. There is one grand prize of a free room at Wing Ding 2010. Winners will be on the GW homepage, in Wing World and get a personal call from Melissa.
- o An incentive for you to recruit new members (not renewals) will be incorporated into the existing Find-a-Friend and Recruiter of the Year Program. For every 2 members recruited, you will get a \$5 gift certificate for goodies, toward membership renewal, or for Wing Ding registrations. No limits on how many certificates you can earn but they will have a 2 year expiration date and are not transferable to others.

- o A new Rescue Plus benefit will increase the free towing miles from 50 to 100 miles. (more info coming)
- o GW members will get discount rates on car rentals, T-Mobile and Foremost Insurance (more info coming)

Ok that's good nuf for now. If you have access to a computer and can pull up on a monthly basis the Region B newsletter from [www.gwrra-northeastregion.org](http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org), or can check the national GW website at [www.gwrra.org](http://www.gwrra.org), it would be a good idea. Don't be left riding in the rain in 2009 because "Every Member Matters"!

And don't forget to send in those ride ideas to your Chapter Directors as the 09 ride schedules are beginning to form. You know it's ALL about the riding and the ice cream and the fun and the ice cream (oh I said that already). Let us hear from you.

To You, Those Your Love, and Those You Will,  
All the Best of the Holiday Season

Brian and Missy Gillard  
GWRRA DE District Directors

## *Sunshine Coordinator* by: Terrie Dickerson

Hello Everyone,

Well, here it is only a short time before Christmas and as usual I am not even started thinking about gifts and food and everything else that makes the holiday cheerful and bright. Our Christmas party is only a few weeks away and am trying to enjoy that first.

I just wanted to say what a wonderful time Dan and I had on the Covered Bridge Ride and then at the Bonfire. Thanks to everyone who spent there time making it such an enjoyable time. The weather was warm and it was fun to watch and talk to people who came up to talk about the bikes and ask what we were doing. If you did not get to go this year, please consider trying to get there

next year. I promise you will not regret it. I would like to wish a Happy Birthday and a Happy Anniversary to the following people:

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shirley Prince	12/08
Tobie Johnson	12/10
Madilin Teel	12/14
Sandy Sims	12/16
Alyssa Chappell	12/17
Tina Banks	12/20
Dan Dickerson	12/20
Terrie Dickerson	12/20

I would also like to wish a Happy Anniversary to the following people:

### HAPPY GWRRA ANNIVERSARY

Franklin Rementer III

12/06/02	Bob Richardson
12/18/02	John Cluney
12/20/04	

I apologize if I have missed anyone's special day. If you have not provided me with the following information, please send it to me as soon possible. I really hate to miss

out on someone's special day.

- 1) your name and the name of your significant other.
- 2) Address, Phone number, E-mail address
- 3) Month and day of your Birthday and your Significant other's Birthday
- 4) Anniversary

Please sent this information to me by phone (443) 553-8174. or by e-mail, [Danelk-ton@aol.com](mailto:Danelk-ton@aol.com).

Once again I hope that this Holiday finds you safe, healthy and happy. Happy Holidays!

Shining Brightly,  
Terrie Dickerson



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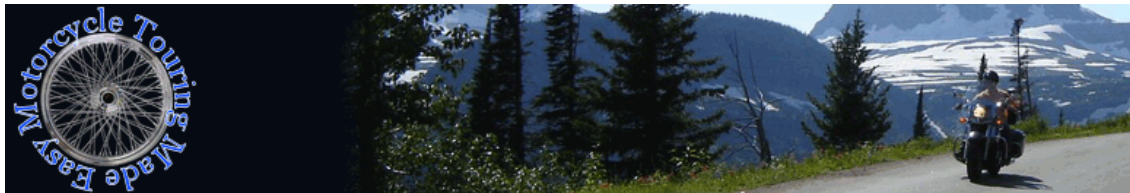
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Judy and I would like to introduce Motorcycle Touring Made Easy. We've enjoyed motorcycle touring and motorcycling since we've been together and now we would like to give back by providing information and resources that we've gathered so that others can have a place to get all the information they need to go motorcycling. We welcome all motorcycle enthusiasts to stop by and use this website as well as contribute their experiences to help make one big collective source of information.

[www.motorcycle-touring-made-easy.com](http://www.motorcycle-touring-made-easy.com)

## From Where I Sit by: Judy DeGeiso

Fall has come and gone and winter is here; our motorcycle riding has come to an end. Unless a warm spell comes our way. I keep in the back of my mind that on December 14<sup>th</sup> Delaware Chapter A has the Elsmere Parade. Weather permitting.

A lot of us have been on a lot of rides this year, while others could not go for one

reason or another. Hopefully next year you will be able to join Delaware Chapter A on some beautiful rides. There is a ride schedule meeting with the entire chapter early next year so the chapter can plan the next year's rides. Please sign up. We can use everyone's input and help planning

rides, monthly dinner rides, ice cream rides etc.

I want to wish everyone in Chapter A, a happy and safe holiday season.

Judy

## SENECA ROCK – A TRIP OF BEAUTY AND FREEZING COLD TEMPS

Six couples from DE-A sure got creative on keeping warm during our October trip to Seneca Rocks, WV. The trip started out with Chris leading the group towards WV while Brian got a late start due to a fork seal problem. Thanks to some speedy and superb service from Frank at Planet Honda, Brian and Missy were only a little late and managed to catch up with the group in Romney. As the sun started to set, the “scenic” ride turned in the “fastest route” ride because the temps started to dip. Of course we didn’t know that the “fastest route” ride kept us at about 4,000 feet above sea level so it was freezing. Layers kept being piled on and that ran as a theme throughout the 4 days. We did manage to get into the Canaan Valley Resort just before dark but there were still deer everywhere. The landscape was beautiful from the back of the resort into the valley. Some hot coffee and a buffet meal (with more than a few desserts for some, not naming names Mike P ☺) had everyone off to bed happy.

Day two, only 26 degrees when we got up but into the 30s by the time we took off to Seneca Rock all bundled up. All 12 brave soles climbed (or in some cases were pushed) up onto horses and took off up the 12-20% grade up the side of Seneca Rock mountain. Sheila, looking dapper in her English riding “helmet”, had a horse who wanted to gallop up the mountain. Missy’s horse wanted to constantly pass the other horses. Lorraine’s wanted to bite. Bruce, Ellyn and Chris had really tall horses. Nita had this tiny one and handled it beautifully. And Tom had to go up front because his horse was just nasty. But the fun one was Shirley’s horse who didn’t even want to budge. Everyone behind Shirley slowly trudged up the mountain. But riding under a blanket of amazing fall colors, catching glimpses of breathtaking vistas, and traveling on rocks with hair raising switch back curves kept most of us pretty happy we were trudging. The top of the Rock was without words on the topography (only 250 feet thick and 900 feet tall). There was a platform which hung out over the rock which, yes, we climbed out on and were greeted with Mother Nature’s splendid Fall patchwork quilt spread over the mountains and into the below valley’s. None of our pictures do the scene justice. After hundreds of pictures, goofy or otherwise, we all climbed back on our mounts to head down the mountain. Of course, all but Shirley’s horse who stood in defiance at the top of the trail, facing the opposite direction and totally ignoring her kicks and shouts to get along. We eventually made it down and were all off our horses and had them restabled only to turn around and see Shirley’s horse finally meandering back into the stable yard. What fun which we all enjoyed.

We also visited the Blackwater Falls which have a unique chocolaty coloring due to the foliage that grows along the banks and falls into the water. The Falls themselves were a bit disappointing from when Brian and Missy visited earlier, with only about 25% of the water capacity. But still beautiful nonetheless. It started getting chilly again so half the group turned back towards the hotel and the other half took an extra 72 mile trek up and down around the other side of the mountain. Surprisingly on the other side it was so warm we had to start peeling off some clothing. We also ran right up and along side of a huge wind farm which spans the top of the mountain range around Elkins, WV. It was an awesome site to be right next to these massive pinwheels. The ride back to the hotel resulted in the correct terminology being determined by the Princes and the Gillards for the lines on the road – not being dotted, or even dashed, but rather broken (ok then...maybe it was the cold)

Day 3, only 21 degrees upon waking up and given we had no set schedule, we delayed our ride leave time in order to let the sun work some magic. There was some creative clothes layering, with some buying extra shirts and stealing clothing from their spouses all in the name of warmth. We rolled out of the mountains and twisted and swooped through curves and hills on our way south to the Cass Scenic Railroad. The train wasn’t there but it was a great ride with only one u-turn (gotta have one!). On the route, Brian even learned the differences between apples and walnuts too. After lunch at historic Cass, we headed a bit north again to the Radio Astronomy Laboratory only to find it closed. So we took some pictures of the enormous satellite dishes and the traditional “back-end” picture of the riding group for the history books. Then it was up and over Rt. 33 with its 9 switchbacks in 14 curves and down into the valley, all without any incidence. As we rode over to Luray, VA for the night, it was a battle with a chicken truck to keep our road clean and unstinky. That evening we walked into town and along the route Shirley found a statue which she decided would make a great ride (see the pic). We found a great pub for dinner. The waitress had Chris nailed from the beginning as

*(Continued from page 8)*

the trouble-maker. And Bruce figured out how to stop Missy from eating his apple pie by putting cheese on it (who knew?).

The last day home, Mike Prince lead us up through the middle of Virginia where Chris then took over and wiggled us across the top of Maryland back home. A front came through the area and while we didn't have any rain, the wind was practically ripping the helmets from our heads (Toto Toto). Some of us even had our lunch blown away from the picnic table at the deli where we stopped to grab a bite. It was a struggle to protect already chapped lips and windblown cheeks.

So yep it was cold, but oh so amazingly beautiful, with way too much to see and not enough time to do it which resulted in more talk about next years trip because of how much fun we had on this one that we want to do it again but a little differently and earlier in the year so we didn't freeze but patting ourselves on the back for thinking of riding safely in the cold sort of trip. Yes sir....



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# The End!