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WING of the ROAD

Happy Easter Happy Passover



Published By The American Gold Wing Association

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Hello:

I hope everyone has been keeping warm during the extreme winter temperatures. If you are a snowmobile, skier, snowshoer or an ice fisherman, you are probably in your glory.

The problem is the temperatures have been so extremely cold that none of the sports are fun or maybe I am just getting old and that is the reason for my mindset. I must admit when we drive past the ski resorts, there are people using the facilities. As I am writing this message, the temperatures were at negative seventeen degrees when I first looked at the thermometer this morning. I know most of the northern third of the United States has been under similar temperatures and that says nothing about the amount of snow many of our members have experienced in the eastern portions of the country.



Over the next eight weeks the weather will start to move away from the winds of winter and give us some stronger warmer rays of sun. I hope you are thinking of the sensational places you would like to ride to. Gail and I have a few locations we would like to ride to. Branson is one of our special places to go and since we were not able to spend some time there, it would be nice to try again the season. Due to a construction project we got engaged in, our time simply expired and were not able to get to Branson. Another location we would like to visit is the Indian Museum in Springfield, Mass. Last year Kent and Susan Lundstorm wrote a short article about the museum and certainly sparked my interest.

In about four months the AGWA national Gold Classic rally will be in Lexington, Kentucky. David Densmore and his Illinois delegation will be the rally hosts. David has spent many hours looking and checking out attractions in the Lexington area. David has some very nice rides planned for our enjoyment. On Sunday June 14th, David is planning on leading a ride to the loading location of the The Bluegrass Express. Dave has a short article of what to expect as well as ticket prices in this issue. Hope to see y'all at Gold Classic XXXII June 14th thru June 18th at the Clarion Hotel in Lexington Kentucky.

Have a great day

Owen

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New Hampshire Snow

Written By Gayle Gurney
New Hampshire

As you probably have noticed from the news reports, New England is having an epic year for snow. Not the usual wet, heavy, slippery stuff, but the light, powdery type. New Hampshire is no exception, of course, as we have about 4 feet accumulated so far. In southern New Hampshire, it's even deeper. This poses a particular problem for Ric and I, since we each have had several doctor appointments, some in Boston, that we've had to show up for.

The evening of December 27th, after Ric had driven us back here from spending Christmas in New York, he had a fainting spell while sitting in his recliner. He refused to let me take him to the ER, because he had already scheduled a doctor appointment for the following Monday. When we got to the Dr., we discussed the incident, making sure he understood that this was not the first episode like this, but that it had been happening sporadically for 15-20 years. He set Ric up with an "event monitor", which he had to wear for two weeks. Not too long after he had the monitor, we got a phone call from the Doctor's office informing Ric that he was having "pauses" in his heart rate, and that he was not allowed to drive. (Well, that went over like a lead balloon!). Next he had to see a cardiologist, who said immediately, "You need a pacemaker." OK, Now the fun begins.

My next scheduled heart biopsy was for Wednesday, January 28th. Yes, that was the date of the now infamous blizzard. So, Tufts rescheduled me for Monday

February 2. So far, so good. But wait! Ric can't drive! And, after each biopsy, I can't drive either because they use anesthesia for the procedure. Plan B, we called our friends Joe and Judy, who live in Portsmouth, NH, and before we even asked, Joe volunteered to drive us to Boston. Next, Ric's pacemaker surgery was scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 4th, so Joe & Judy again offered their home and driving services.

On Sunday, February 1st, a beautiful blue sky day, I drove us to Portsmouth. Joe and Judy live in the Historic District of Portsmouth, near the Strawberry Banke Museum. The streets are very narrow. Even narrower than usual, because of all the snow. Fortunately, Joe & Judy's house has a driveway with enough room for 3 vehicles to park. During dinner, we heard on the TV weather that Monday's forecast was - you've got it- more snow!. Joe said we should take the bus to Boston, which turned out to be a good idea. At 6am Joe drove the three of us to the bus station. It was already snowing hard. The buses were running, however, so we bought our tickets and got on the bus. I'm really glad it wasn't me having to drive in this weather. We were at South Station in Boston by about 9:15am, then caught a cab to Tufts. I reported to the cath lab, and sat down to wait my turn. My cell phone rang, and it was my transplant nurse, asking where I was. I said "I'm here" (smartass answer). She said where, at Tufts?" I said "yes", and she was amazed, but came right over from the clinic. None of them thought I would make it there in a snowstorm. While I was in recovery, the head nurse there told Ric & Joe which city buses went to South Station, so that's how we got back to the station. Very few buses were running in and out of Boston, but

ours was. We caught the 4pm, and arrived back in Portsmouth around 6pm. I don't know how the bus driver did it. It was still snowing hard, and dark, with very poor visibility. Joe & Ric had to dig our car out before we could get into it. Needless to say, it was a somewhat harrowing experience.

On Tuesday, we rested. Joe & Ric tried to shovel and snow-blow a path in front of the house, and dig the other vehicles out. They also went over to the Kittery Trading Post in Maine, to "window shop" for guns. Fortunately, they didn't buy any on this trip.

Wednesday arrived, snowing again. Joe and Ric left at around 5am to get Ric to Catholic Medical Center by 6:30am for his pacemaker surgery. Judy & I followed later, still snowing, but tapering off. Ric was out of the OR when we arrived around 11:30. He said he was only in there a little over an hour. We visited for a while, then took turns going to the cafeteria for lunch. I took a thank you card and gift of Lindt chocolates to the nurses and aides on the floor where I had spent so much time last summer prior to my heart transplant. It was nice to see the familiar faces, and they were all happy to see how well I looked. I stopped in to see my cardiologist, and wound up having an appointment scheduled to see him in early March. He wants to keep "in the loop" with my recovery. Joe, Judy and I all left around 3pm in order to get back to Portsmouth before dark and the rush hour traffic. It had stopped snowing by then.

Thursday I was supposed to pick Ric up and take him home. Nope! Snowing again! Joe again volunteered to drive me back to Manchester. What a great friend!

The snow tapered off by noontime, and the three of us got back to Portsmouth by around 3:30. As a thank you, we took Joe & Judy out to dinner to a seafood place. Ate too much. It was delicious.

Friday dawned as a beautiful sunny day. We finally got out of Joe and Judy's hair and returned home.

I have been attending "cardiac rehab" classes Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and am getting into much better shape. At least two classes I've missed because of snow. As you may have noticed, I don't like to drive in the snow. After it's stopped, fine, But not during an event. This stems from an accident I had about 6 years ago, when I hit a granite post head on after doing a 180 on a snow coated road during a snowstorm. It did \$7000 damage to my car, and the worst part was the airbags never deployed.

This past week, Ric had two appointments. I drove him to Wolfeboro (10 miles) to the cardiologist. And, then to Manchester (IN A SNOW EVENT) to have a surgeon look at his leg veins. I'm proud of myself for making it to Manchester and back and I never skidded or anything. Whew!

Looking forward to March, which is traditionally a big snow month up here!

AGWA's 3 F's Family, Fun, Fellowship

STATE DIRECTOR LISTING

The following listing shows the current State Directors for each state that currently has organized A.G.W.A. activity.

Connecticut	Frank Tierney	203-924-1330
Illinois	David Densmore	815-880-0254
Iowa	Chuck Mincks	319-373-4175
Massachusetts	Thomas Serino	978-741-5208
Michigan	Brenda Zuelch	586-771-2538
New Jersey	Diana Press	609-893-0840
New York	Ric Gurney	631-749-0533
North Carolina	Joe Lopez	704-951-8118
Pennsylvania	Lou Brunetta	610-262-1080
Rhode Island	George Quinlan	401-667-0568
South Carolina	Dee Marett	843-875-0526
Tennessee	Don Oller	731-444-1564

POT LUCK GET-TOGETHER

Written By George Ramsey
Pennsylvania Chapter B

The membership of Chapter B was invited to a pot luck meal at the home of Sandy and Kenny Miller



on February 7th. Unfortunately, quite a few members didn't take advantage of the opportunity to see old friends and

talk about old times and the future. Not to mention partaking of really good food. We do have some talented cooks and bakers in our midst.

Including our hosts, Kenny and Sandy, there were 15 people in attendance. And we had a great time.



The food was excellent, the stories of past rides were interesting and the prospect of good rides this year was promising.



The chow hounds were, Don and Lucille Freeman, Terry and Nancy Gresh, Clayt and Pat Brown, John Albright and Diane Suba, Denny and Paula Bolonski, Dave Seidel who brought our dear friend Geena Bolonski along (his honey Pattie had to work), and yours truly.

Dave gave us some info on his upcoming Labor Day ride, which he's been leading for some years now. Sadly, I don't remember exactly how many but I know he always has outstanding destinations and things to do.



Unfortunately, my Ruthie was in the hospital rehab at the time so she missed this one. As I write this, she is home and coming along pretty well.

I wish more of our AGWA friends would have come, but maybe next time.

IN GOD WE TRUST

**A.G.W.A.
FLAGS**



**Display Your A.G.W.A.
Colors With Pride**

Official American Gold Wing Association Flags and American Flags are available for \$12.50 each from our National Treasurer, Wanda Densmore. Both Antennae and Flag Pole Mounts are available.

32 Things to think about for Gold Classic 32 the Lexington version

Written By David Densmore
Illinois State Director

1. The Bluegrass Country around Lexington is home to some of the world's finest racehorses.

2. Many of Lexington's streets and highways were named after Horses, Horse Parks and Horse Farms.

3. One of Lexington's best-known attractions is Kentucky Horse Park.

4. Lexington is known as the Horse Capital Of The World and also as the Thoroughbred City. This is because it is home to three major race courses- Keeneland, Kentucky Horse Park and The Red Mile.

5. The city of Lexington was actually founded in 1775 and later established in 1782 although Kentucky did not become a state until 1792.

6. Mary Todd who later became the wife of Abraham Lincoln was born and raised in Lexington.

7. Mary Todd Lincoln House, built in 1802, can still be visited and is one of the top rated attractions in Lexington.

8. The largest basketball arena in the United States, the Rupp Arena, is located in Lexington.

9. The Festival of the Bluegrass is held in Lexington every year.

10. The Lexington Pride Festival has been going strong since its introduction in 2007.

11. In Lexington, 4th of July festivities last for several days instead of just one day as they do in much of the country.

12. The famous Arboretum in Lexington is a preserve that has more than 50 native grasses and herbs present and over 1500 different species of roses.

13. Keeneland is considered one of America's most beautiful tracks.

14. The Kentucky Theater located in downtown Lexington is in a romanesque style building built in 1922 and restored to it's original grandeur in 1992.

15. Lexington Cemetery is one of the most beautifully landscaped in the United States.

16. Senator Henry Clay and his wife are buried in Lexington Cemetery and have the tallest monument there.

17. The Henry Clay's Ashland Estate is a top 10 tourist attraction in Lexington.

18. The Aviation Museum of Kentucky is located in Lexington and not far from the hotel.

19. The Waveland State historic site is a 19th century plantation where you can see what daily life was like in the Old South.

20. The Red Mile is Lexington's oldest existing racetrack dating to 1875 and one of the nation's most respected harness tracks.

21. The Hunt Morgan House is the former home of General John Hunt Morgan which also has a civil war museum on the second floor.

22. McConnell Springs is known as the birth place of Lexington, Ky. William McConnell named the settlement upon

hearing the first battle of the Revolutionary War had just been fought in Lexington, Massachusetts.

23. Lexington Public Library has a 4 story ceiling clock and a Foucault Pendulum which is tracked by sensors in the mosiac on the floor and light up as the plumb bob swings over it.

24. The WoodSongs Old Time Radio Hour is located at the Lyric Theatre and Cultural Arts Center in downtown Lexington. This is a live audience broadcast taping that is heard on over 500 radio stations, the Armed Forces Radio Network in 173 countries and millions of homes.

25. Transylvania University in Lexington is the oldest university west of the Allegheny Mountains.

26. Mary Todd Lincoln, George Clooney and Jim Varney were born in Lexington.

27. Lexington is the 2nd largest city in Kentucky and 61st largest in the U.S.

28. Lexington is home to the Kentucky Wildcats which has won 8 NCAA championships and is the winningest program in college basketball history.

29. Home of Lexington Motorsports, your local Honda Dealer. Unrelated but if you go south on I-75 to the next town of Richmond there you will find Kentucky Motor Sports and Outdoors. First place I have seen where you can buy a Gold Wing and a 9mm Smith & Wesson. Welcome to the South.

30. Lexington's population is 308,428

31. Average temperature in the middle of June is 83 degrees.

32. Gold Classic XXXII will be held here at Clarion Hotel.

All Aboard!!! The Bluegrass Express

Written By David Densmore
Illinois State Director



Among the many things to do at this years rally, the Bluegrass Railroad will be first. Not because it is necessarily the best but because it will be the first ride of the rally. For those who will be in early Sunday you might want to look into the Bluegrass Railroad and Museum. The unique thing about this place is you can take a ride in a railway coach from the 20' and 30's. The train takes you on an 11 mile ride thru the horse farms of central Kentucky that lasts about an hour and a half. The bonus is the weekend leading into the rally they are having a murder mystery comedy on the train. So not only do you get to see the beautiful horse farms in the area, you also will be entertained by the Bluegrass Mystery Theater.

An island girl, a pirate, and a Scottish lad make up a group of traveling musicians ready to entertain you aboard the Bluegrass Express. Get ready for

music, songs and death because before the ride ends someone will mysteriously die in this hysterical musical mystery from Adam Sovkoplas. Guess the killer and you could win the prize!!

I will lead a ride to the museum for all who want to go. The ride will leave our hotel Sunday June 14th at 1:00 pm so we can arrive in time for the 1:30 boarding of the 2:00 train. The cost is \$15.50 for adults and \$14.50 for seniors. Food and soda products are not allowed on the train but water is permissible.

You can buy your tickets on line at...

<http://rezweb.com/bluegrassweb/default.aspx?stdate=06/14/2015>

For more information about the railway and museum and can go to...

<http://www.bluegrassrailroad.com/>

WELCOME New AGWA Members

Jeremy Blankenship &
wife Rachel
29 Hazelwood Cove
Jackson TN, 38305-8738
Phone. 731-614-5490
raven010181@yahoo.com

Christmas Party with Chapter R

Written By George Ramsey
Pennsylvania Chapter B

Chapter B was graciously invited to celebrate a Christmas party with our good friends from Chapter R on December 13, 2015.

We had 9 couples attending the affair at Hoss's in Leesport, PA. Chapter B sometimes has our meetings there when our regular meeting day falls on a holiday, so we know the food is good.

I believe that Chapter R had about the same number of people there, so we had a good group.

Lu and Crystal Brunetta know how to throw a party and they didn't disappoint.

They played a game where everyone gets 3 or 4 cards (senior moment) can't remember for sure, and when Lu called the card, you picked a gift from the gift table. (what else?)

The catch here is, if someone wanted the gift you picked, they were entitled to take it. (ouch) So, you can see where this could get interesting, right. I thought I saw some, if looks could kill looks, but I could be wrong. At any rate, this turned out to be great fun. Kudos to Lu and Crystal for thinking it up.

As I said earlier, the food was delicious and plentiful and the company was first rate. Some of the girls made tasty treats and favors for everyone. Very nice.

We need to get together more often with all of our friends because life is too short.

Thanks Chapter R and take real good care and be safe,
IN GOD WE TRUST

E Mail changes

Rico Santopadre and Mechele Scott (Rhode Island) email is rseven923@gmail.com

Brian Scott (Rhode Island) email is bdscott125@yahoo.com

Aly and Jeff Brock (Rhode Island) email is itsalyagain@gmail.com

ALAN PAUL (Rhode Island)
bigalpaul69ss@yahoo.com

Wheels For A Cure-The start of a fundraiser ride

Jeff Matticks,

Illinois Chapter H

As a number of members from several AWGA Illinois Chapters are aware, we have organized the "Wheels For A Cure" fundraiser ride, to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation or JDRF. As we've had a few people comment and inquired about what exactly goes into

organizing a fundraiser like this, here is how we got started.

Our son Kyle has been riding with me on the back of my Gold Wing since he was 7 years old. A number of these rides included different poker runs and other charitable fundraisers, so he was accustomed to people riding motorcycles to raise money for different causes. On December 31st, 2008 when he was 9 years old, our lives changed forever when Kyle was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes, sometimes referred to as “Juvenile Diabetes”. While we learned the ins and outs of how this diagnosis would change our lives, we had told Kyle we would look to see if we could find any motorcycle rides that benefited any type of diabetes research. At the time, we could not find one, so Kyle asked if we could have one.

While we had ridden in a number of rides, we had never thought about what went into organizing one. What kind of fundraiser? Where do we have it? How do we plan an interesting route? How do we get people to come? With some words of encouragement from friends and family, we decided to give it try.

Rather than a poker run, we decided we wanted to have a group ride, with lunch and raffle items at the end. Now we needed a place to have our fundraiser. After some searching, we found that there were several Illinois State Parks with shelters that would make a suitable destination, as well as provide us with a place at which we could serve lunch and have room for our fundraiser. Once we

secured a venue, we had to start planning a route.

We spent weekends going through maps, then riding with Sherry on the back taking notes as far as road conditions, stop lights with sensors that a motorcycle would not activate, and timing the route as we were trying to keep it around 2 hours. After numerous weekends, spent researching routes, we finally had a route to get there.

We also needed raffle and door prizes, as well as silent auction items. Weekends not spent riding different routes were spent visiting local businesses to try to get raffle and door prize items donated. Numerous donation request letters were sent to businesses of every sort. This initially proved challenging, at times, as some businesses were somewhat skeptical being our first year. In time, gift cards and other donated items both from some of the businesses we had contacted as well as from friends and family, started to come in.

We also needed to start promoting the ride. I would search for various motorcycle clubs to go to their meetings and hand out flyers, go to different businesses and stores to both ask for donations of raffle items as well as post flyers. I was also known to approach riders in parking lots, gas stations, or anywhere else I could.

Especially being a group ride, we were also concerned with getting the group safely through some of the busier intersections of the towns we would be

passing through on our route. After identifying the towns and intersections of concern, I went to the Police Departments of each of the towns we were concerned with to explain what we were doing and ask for Police assistance getting through certain intersections. This is also where our notes, regarding what times we would be passing certain intersections came in handy, as I was able to let the Police Departments know what time to expect us.

We also needed help, as there was no way we could pull this off ourselves. We recruited family and friends to help with registration, cooking and serving lunch, and with the raffles and silent auctions.

On Sunday, August 16th, 2009 the planning and preparation came together with the first Annual “Wheels For A Cure”, when we had a total of 17 motorcycles as well as several cars show up at registration to support our ride. Everything went without a hitch, with the exception of the rain, as it rained off and on throughout the day. Upon arrival at the State Park, everyone enjoyed lunch and participated in the various raffle drawings and silent auction. Even with the rain, with the help we received and the generosity of everyone who attended, as well as through donations from some who could not, we raised \$5400 for the JDRF. Our first fundraiser was a success!

Much has changed since that first year. This year, we will be organizing the 7th Annual Wheels For A Cure fundraiser. We have made a number of new friends

through our fundraiser. We joined AGWA Chapter H. With each year we receive more offers of help from people who have attended in the past, more assistance from the various Police Departments along our route, and our fundraiser keeps growing. Last year we approached 75 vehicles and raised \$10,000 for the JDRF. We also had a friend in Florida organize the 1st Annual Wheels For A Cure-Florida last year.

This years’ “Wheels For A Cure” will be held on August 16th, 2015. Information can be found at

WWW.WHEELSFORACURE.COM.

So what does it take to organize a fundraiser? A reason or cause that means something to you, a lot of help from family and friends, and the passion to make it all happen.



7th Annual Wheels For A Cure

To Benefit:

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Ride or drive to help raise money to find a cure for diabetes.



Ride or drive to help raise money to find a cure for diabetes.



Bring your motorcycle, convertible, station wagon, or mini-van.....all vehicles are welcome!!!! Come out, have fun, and help support a worthy cause!!!!

Scenic ride/drive from West Chicago to Illini State Park in Marseilles, followed by lunch, raffle and door prizes, and a silent auction. /

(Cash or check only for Silent Auction) lili

Donation: \$20 adult/\$35 Couple/\$5 Children (12 and under) //

(Please make checks payable to JDRF) ll

When: Sunday, August 16th, 2015

Where: Northeast corner of Route 64 (North Ave) and Route 59 in West

Chicago (Parking lot behind McDonald's). '

Time: Registration from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Arrive at Buffalo Rock State Park at approximately noon. i

Questions or to RSVP?

Please contact Jeff at 630-414-6525 or Info@WheelsForACure.com

WWW.WHEELSFORACURE

A.G.W.A. Services Benefits Directory

Contact the following people for information about any of our service benefits and take full advantage of your membership in A.G.W.A.

AMA	Wanda Densmore	815-497-2497
By-Laws	Vacant	
Insurance Program	Bill Young	865-681-0113
Key Replacement	Bob Dombrowski	978-532-0634
Publications	Owen Toomey	231-930-4703
Public Relations	Gail Toomey	231-930-4703
Rally Registration	Wanda Densmore	815-497-2497
Safety Program	Chuck Mincks	319-373-4175
Sidecar/Trike Division	Ron Mentzer	717-203-4412
Special Projects	David Densmore	815-880-0254
Technical	Stephen Bergman	217-357-6697
VIP Program	Wayne Aten	815-923-2112

WONDERINGS FROM THE MIND OF AN 80 YEAR-OLD BIKER

Written By George Ramsey
Pennsylvania Chapter B

Something that happened recently got me to thinking about when my Gold Wing riding days would be ending. And trust me, it's not a pleasant thought.

Actually, this started some years ago when Ruthie experienced back problems. She was diagnosed with both Rheumatoid and Osteo Arthritis and Stenosis of the spine. She had a lot of pain.

Now everyone knows that old "Arthur" can't really be cured, but Stenosis can be fixed. After an operation by her Orthopedic surgeon, Ruthie was great for a couple of years.

Then in August 2010, Ruthie and I left to visit her uncle in Montana and her aunt in Arizona, a ride which I wrote

about in the November/December 2010 Wing Of The Road.

We decided to go even though Ruthie was experiencing pain in her left leg again. I chronicled in the article how bad her pain was and how often she took pain pills, so I won't go into that again.

Three days after returning from out west, Ruthie had 2 shots from an arthritis doctor which didn't last very long.

In September, she visited her orthopedic surgeon who took numerous x-rays to determine the problem. Being a busy doctor, the earliest appointment she could get was in December 2010. At that time, the doctor had her take medication to reduce inflammation and ease the pain. It worked well for her.

Then on May 27, 2011, the pain returned to her left leg with a vengeance. On June 1st, she had such excruciating pain that I took her to the emergency room. We started wondering what would happen to the Gold Classic in State College. But 2 days later she received 2 shots from a pain management doctor and then 12 days later another shot and she was good for the rally. She drove her car with all the goodies and I rode Yellowhawk. Those of you who attended Gold Classic XXXVIII will remember that we forgot the macadamia cookies Ruthie made, so I turned right around after unloading at the Ramada and went home for the cookies. A lot of you said it was a good thing I went back.

December of 2011, the pain returned and a ruptured disc was the culprit this time. Two pain management shots and Ruthie was like new again.

Ruthie's physical problems were pretty well in check until July 19th, 2012 when during a checkup visit with our primary care physician, she was told that

her heart rate was extremely high and she needed to go to the emergency room. The doctor called for an ambulance and she was taken away on a gurney. It was determined that she had atria-fibrillation or a-fib. After a week in the hospital, she was put on Coumadin to prevent blood clots and sent home. A cardiology group was recommended and would monitor her condition. On October 18th, they performed a cardioversion, a procedure where an electrical current is used to reset the hearts normal rhythm. Then on November 20th, a catheterization was done.

The year 2013 brought more challenges for Ruthie. On March 12th, she was scheduled for an Ablation. A tiny wire or wires with an electrode on the tip, is inserted to burn away trouble spots that cause the irregular heartbeat. As the doctors started to put Ruthie under an anesthetic, her blood pressure dropped to 40. The operation was immediately scrubbed and she was returned to her room. After consulting with Ruthie, her daughter and myself, he suggested a pacemaker and we all agreed. Two days later, the pacemaker was inserted. And as many of you know from the last 2 Gold Classics, she is doing well with it.

On October 10th, 2013, it was my turn to develop an ailment. We had to start with a new primary care physician since our long time one retired. And lo and behold after so many visits to a doctor, this one finds a significant problem with me. He said I have a heart murmur and stenosis of the Aortic valve. I told him, come on doc, I had a heart murmur when I was 17 years old and enlisted in the navy. I thought I outgrew that. Well, you've got it back, he said and we have to keep tabs on it. He also said the stenosis is caused by calcium

buildup on the Aortic Valve. So, on the 20th, I had a cardiac ultrasound. The strange thing is, I don't get out of breath. Even when I run up the stairs from the basement or up to the second floor, which I do regularly. Maybe this will sneak up and grab me when I least expect it.

The year 2014 started out smoothly but hit a snag a week after the Gold Classic in Johnson City. Ruthie's back started flaring up and she needed more shots. July 9th, she received three shots in the back that carried her through our Alaska cruise on the 13th to the 25th.

The rest of 2014 was fairly uneventful but in early January 2015, Ruthie cut her leg on the bottom of my car door. Refusing to let me take her to the E.R., we dressed the wound and hoped for the best. Well, next day, the leg didn't look good so I took her to a satellite emergency care facility and they said an infection was starting.

The doctors put her on an antibiotic to heal the infection but it evidently wasn't strong enough. So they prescribed another one.

Ruthie had an appointment on January 22nd for more pain management shots but since she developed cellulitis in her leg, they had to cancel it. To add insult to injury (no pun intended), she started to have digestive problems. Because of terrible diarrhea, she became dehydrated which prompted her doctor to order her to the E.R. on the 26th. She was then admitted to the hospital where eventually they determined that the antibiotic was causing her diarrhea and subsequent dehydration. All of this while her pain from her back shifted from the left side to the right and she could barely walk.

So, while treating her digestive problems, they had to deal with her

inability to walk due to the terrible pain in her right leg and back.

All of the pain medication finally did its job and she was able to walk with the help of a walker. The seventh day in the hospital, she was released to the rehab hospital. While there, they gave her therapy that made her strong enough to come home. On February 9th, she was released and I brought her home.

Two days later, on the 11th, Ruthie had to have a colonoscopy and an upper GI endoscopy. They got her from both ends. This turned out to be fine.

The next day, the 12th, she got her pain management shots, three in all and we kept our fingers crossed. Unfortunately, this time, she didn't get immediate relief as in the past so she has been taking pain pills on a regular basis. I know the pain is bad when it causes her to cry often. Then to compound her sadness, we haven't been able to baby-sit our 10 month old great-grand daughter for five weeks and this caused her to cry that Peyton won't even know us anymore.

Just last week, Peyton's daddy and mommy brought her to see us, and by golly she smiled and came right to her nana and pop pop without hesitation. That was the best medicine Ruthie could have received, she was so happy.

Tuesday, the 24th, I had an echocardiogram and must wait to see a cardiologist about the results.

Wednesday, we had the baby and what a good day it was. She is a joy, a most pleasant little girl and Ruthie couldn't have been happier. We will watch her every Wednesday if we can and this Saturday, we'll have her overnight. I used to say that I'd rather ride my motorcycle than do anything else, but this little girl comes first.

Now as I finish this article, my point about coming to the end of riding my Gold Wing is this. When you have almost a half million miles riding a bike and most of them were with your wife, the frailties of life become more and more evident, especially with the health problems.

But, being the ever optimistic guy that I am, Ruthie and I will continue our love affair with riding and AGWA for a long time yet, GOD willing.

To all of our friends, take real good care and be safe.
IN GOD WE TRUST

A.G.W.A. Key Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Make of Bike _____

Year _____ Model _____

Key No. _____

Please fill in all spaces. Copy and mail an Additional form for other vehicles that you want to Register, as well as your home.

Send to
Bob Dombrowski,
5 Felton Street, Peabody, MA 01960-8065

If you lose a key that is registered, call Bob Dombrowski at 978-532-0634. Keep this number in

No Such Thing as 100% Safe.....

Written By Chuck Mincks

Iowa State Director

AGWA Safety director

As a young man growing up in eastern Iowa, I recall a story back in the late 1960's regarding a Viet Nam veteran who returned "safely" from that conflict only to be shot and killed by accident while hunting with others. We all likely have some similar story that has touched us in a way that makes no sense. Some days it would be easy to say the "heck" with all this safety stuff and just go out and ride, letting what may happen. In past decades there are statistics to show that if you do, you are much more likely to get seriously injured or even killed. Sometimes it really is being in the wrong place at the wrong time, but proper prior planning has been shown in the last 20 years to save a lot of lives. Let's see how....

In a previous article I started a series about the efforts of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to reduce traffic related serious injuries, deaths and property damage. This project eventually was adjusted to address an abnormally high number of motorcycle related injuries and deaths. Some of the number I presented in my earlier article are eye-opening. But, when you think about it they sort of make sense. One of the first things that the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Basic Rider Course handbook addresses is how much "risk" are you willing to take while riding a motorcycle. On most bikes you have no containment structure around you to protect you on impact or keep you from being ejected away from your ride. Most do not have seat belts or airbags to prevent you from moving forward violently during a frontal impact. Most are small enough in size that something often fails to "click" in the other driver's mind when they look at you so as to make it difficult to recognize you as a

cycle. With all those things going against you, NHTSA and MSF have attempted to make your ride safer with some mandated traffic laws and safety behavior recommendations. In cases where someone was injured or killed, there is almost always an oversight on the part of at least one driver—if not some poor judgment and/or even reckless driving behavior. So first, and foremost: No matter what, if you do not apply yourself to the traffic laws and safety recommendations you are more likely to get in a collision. Do the right thing and drive SAFE!!

One of the first things NHSTA recommended in past decades was widening roadways—especially the busiest ones. The wider the lanes the less likely you are to strike someone coming from the opposite direction on two lane roads. Many were turned into multiple lanes that moved you further away from oncoming traffic. Statistics showed that serious injuries and deaths were highly predictable in frontal collision crashes at highway speed. There is so much energy being transformed at those speeds for a human body to not absorb dangerous amounts of it. Also, problem intersections were looked at for angular collisions. If no traffic controls were present there would often be stop signs, warning lights or some combination for at least one direction to avoid having confused drivers entering from different directions at the same time. Roadway engineering is an ongoing process that will never be completely finished. We tend to address our local problems by whatever way we can obtain the finances and follow national models most of the time. Some controversial methods recently used by some include Red Light and Speeding Cameras along with Rotary Intersections.

The first is intended to convince drivers to slow down and/or not run red lights to avoid collisions. The second to prevent serious frontal and angular collisions by allowing all directions to keep moving as soon as they can safely do so. And yet, we still occasionally see crashes in locales like these and wonder why?

No matter how safe we drive and how easy we make ourselves visible to others, sooner or later the odds are in favor of a distracted or careless driver coming along and not doing what we expect. That is why recommendations for protective clothing and equipment for cyclists have been made, along with mandatory helmet laws in some states, to protect us as much as possible during those unpredictable collisions. We've also visited in the past about conspicuity, or the ability to make ourselves more visible to others around us. For some that is "loud exhaust pipes." For those more inclined to quieter riding, there are hi-visibility colored clothing, modulating headlights, deceleration warning flashers for tail lights, and the list goes on. Avoiding roadways with dangerous traffic patterns, making yourself more visible and obeying the laws yourself—with some common sense sprinkled in—can go a long way toward getting to your intended destination safely. Please consider beginning this new year out considering the above, if you have not thought about it for a while, and start planning for a safe 2015 for us all.

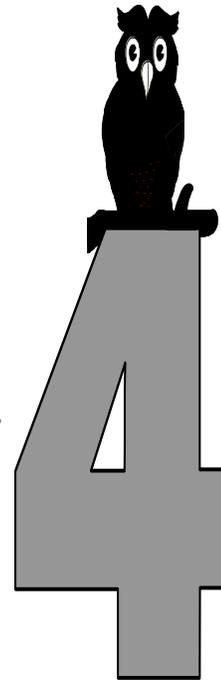
If you are like us in Iowa, you are looking outside your window right now at single digit temperatures, salt and sand everywhere on the streets, and not a hope of going riding for a few more weeks. I know our AGWA brothers and sisters in the upper Atlantic Seaboard have taken a real pounding this year compared to the

usual. There is plenty of time right now to "dust off" bikes and start those T-CLOCK inspections. I have covered those in detail not long ago. Please refer to the MSF library online if you want to review that and other safe driving recommendations from the MSF. Remember—proper prior planning now can greatly reduce the likelihood of dangerous collisions later. Doing nothing only increases the chance of them happening. Drive safely, my brothers and sisters. Looking forward to seeing you out there soon!!

A.G.W.A.

**UNIVERSAL
CB
CHANNEL**

**Wise Owl Says ...
Hear More On
Four!**



Recipes

Lazy Cookie Cake:

- 1 box yellow or white cake mix
- 2 eggs beaten
- 5 TBS melted butter
- 2 C mini chocolate chips
- Mix together
- Put in a greased 9×13 pan and bake at 350 for 20 min

Grilled Barbecued Bacon-Chicken Skewers

Ingredients

- 15 bamboo skewers (6 inch)
- 3 boneless skinless chicken breasts (about 1 lb)
- 4 large green onions
- 1 package (2.1 oz) refrigerated fully cooked bacon (15 pieces)
- 1/2 cup barbecue sauce

Directions

1 Soak skewers in water at least 30 minutes to prevent burning. Meanwhile, cut each chicken breast in half lengthwise, then cut crosswise to make 10 (about 1-inch) pieces. Cut onions into 2-inch pieces (30 pieces total). Cut bacon slices in half crosswise.

2 Heat gas or charcoal grill. Push 1 skewer through end of 1 bacon piece, then through middle of 1 chicken piece and back through other end of bacon piece; add 2 onion pieces, then repeat with another bacon piece and chicken piece. Place on large plate or tray. Repeat to make remaining kabobs.

3 Place kabobs on grill over medium heat. Cover grill; cook 5 minutes. Turn kabobs; brush with half of the barbecue sauce. Cover; cook 5 minutes. Turn kabobs; brush with remaining sauce. Cover; cook about 1 minute longer or until chicken is no longer pink in center. If desired, serve with additional barbecue sauce for dipping.

Slow-Cooker Beef Bourguignon

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon vegetable or canola oil
- 2 1/2 lb beef chuck roast, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 lb large carrots, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium yellow onion, cut into large pieces

- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 bottle (750 ml) good-quality dry red wine
- 2 cups Progresso™ beef flavored broth
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
- 6 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
- Fresh thyme leaves, if desired

Directions:

1 In 7-quart Dutch oven or stockpot, heat oil over high heat. Pat beef dry with paper towels, and season with salt and pepper. Place beef in Dutch oven, working in batches if necessary as to not overcrowd Dutch oven, and cook 4 to 6 minutes, searing all sides of beef. Transfer to plate.

2 Add carrots and onion to Dutch oven, and cook 3 to 5 minutes or until onions and carrots are lightly browned and slightly tender, scraping brown bits up from bottom as they cook. Add garlic, and cook 1 minute longer, stirring frequently. Add wine, beef broth and thyme to Dutch oven, and stir until well combined.

3 Place broth mixture in 5- to 6-quart slow cooker; add beef and bacon to slow cooker. Cover and cook on Low heat setting about 8 hours or High heat setting 4 to 5 hours or until beef is very tender. Spoon into bowls to serve. Garnish with fresh thyme sprigs, if desired.

4 Freezer Directions: Make as directed through step 2. Place beef and bacon in gallon-size plastic freezer bag. Squeeze out any excess air, and seal. Place broth mixture in gallon-size plastic freezer bag. Squeeze out any excess air, and seal. Place bags flat to freeze. When ready to cook, thaw bags overnight in refrigerator. Place in 5- to 6-quart slow cooker; cover and cook on Low heat setting about 8 hours or High heat setting 4 to 5 hours or until beef is very tender. Garnish with fresh thyme.

Praline Pumpkin Date Bread

Ingredients

Praline Topping

- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans
- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine, softened

Date Bread

- 1 2/3 cups granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin (not pumpkin mix)
- 3 cups Gold Medal™ all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 cup chopped dates

Directions

- 1 Move oven rack to low position so that tops of pans will be in center of oven. Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottoms only of 2 loaf pans, 8 1/2x4 1/2x2 1/2 inches, or 1 loaf pan, 9x5x3 inches, with shortening.
- 2 Mix all Praline Topping ingredients until crumbly; set aside.
- 3 In large bowl, mix granulated sugar, oil, vanilla, eggs and pumpkin. Stir in remaining Date Bread ingredients except dates until well blended. Stir in dates. Pour batter into pans. Sprinkle with topping.
- 4 Bake 8-inch loaves 50 to 60 minutes, 9-inch loaf 1 hour 10 minutes to 1 hour 20 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes. Loosen sides of loaves from pans; remove from pans to wire rack. Cool completely, about 1 hour, before slicing.

Maple Pecan Bread

- 2 1/4 cups Gold Medal™ all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup half-and-half
- 1 teaspoon maple flavor
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil

- 3 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans, if desired

Maple Glaze

- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- to 3 teaspoons half-and-half or milk
- 1 teaspoon maple flavor
- 2 tablespoons chopped pecans, if desired

Directions

- 1 Heat oven to 350°F. Grease bottom only of 8- or 9-inch loaf pan.
- 2 In large bowl, mix all Maple Pecan Bread ingredients except pecans with spoon; beat 30 seconds. Stir in 1/2 cup pecans. Pour into pan.
- 3 Bake 55 to 65 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes. Loosen sides of loaf from pan; remove from pan to wire rack. Cool completely, about 2 hours.
- 4 In small bowl, mix all Maple Glaze ingredients except pecans until smooth and thin enough to drizzle.
- 5 Drizzle cooled bread with Maple Glaze. Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons pecans. Wrap tightly and store at room temperature up to 4 days, or refrigerate up to 10 days.

***Look Twice
and Save a
Life***



Come ride the Ohio River

Did you know that Louisville has the oldest working steam powered paddle boat in the World? She is named the Belle of Louisville. She also has a little sister named Spirit of Jefferson. She has the look and feel of an old-time steamboat, with the modern conveniences of heat, air conditioning, and more. I would like to invite you to come on an afternoon ride on the Spirit of Jefferson for a scenic tour of the Ohio River along with a lunch buffet. The ride is two hours long and the buffet consists of 2 types of meat, a potato (ie. Mashed, roasted, or au gratin) 2 types of vegetables, 2-3 types of salads and 2 types of dessert. Rolls and butter are always on the buffet. Coffee, tea and water are included with the buffet. Soft drinks can be purchased. The price for the boat ride and buffet is \$34.00 a person. For those of you wondering why we don't go on the Belle of Louisville, she only runs on weekends.

I will lead you on a scenic ride to Louisville which will be about 2 1/2 hours long, stopping once before we get there for gas or other needs. The boat starts boarding at 11:30 A.M., leaves at noon and will return at 2:00 P.M.. The parking is an additional cost which is located a block or 2 away. There is also handicap parking by the dock.

Right now the ride is scheduled for Thursday but if I can get 40 or more to sign up and pay by May 1st I can get them to change it to Monday. Ladies if you would like to go but your significant other is not crazy about the idea then have them drop you off and less than a mile from the dock they can visit the Louisville Slugger Museum. For more information on the boat and museum you can go to...

Belleoflouisville.org

Sluggermuseum.com

Riverboat Luncheon Due May 1, 2015

Name _____

\$ 34.00X _____ = _____

Make checks payable to AGWA and send them to

Wanda Densmore
914 Melugins Grove Rd.
Compton, IL 61318

TENTATIVE RALLY SCHEDULE

GOLD CLASSIC XXXII
June 15 thru June 18, 2015
Clarion Hotel
Lexington, Kentucky

Sunday, June 14

9 A.M. - ? Hospitality Room Open/ Registration
1:00 P.M. Train Ride
 Relax and renew friendships
10:00 P.M. 50/50 Drawing (Hospitality Room Closes After Drawing)

Monday, June 15

8:00 A.M. -5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room Open/Registration
9:00 A.M. Guided Ride
6:30 P.M. Annual Business Meeting
7:00 P.M. Bingo
1000 P.M.. 50/50 Drawing (Hospitality Room Closes After Drawing)

Tuesday, June 16

8:00 A.M. -5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room Open
8:00 A.M. Bike Show Classification
8:30 A.M. Bike Show Judging
11:00 A.,M, Guided Ride
8:00 P.M. Ice Cream Social .
10:00 PM 50/50 Drawing (Hospitality Room Closes After Drawing)

Wednesday, June 17

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room Open
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. Field Events
1:00 P.M. Guided Ride
5:30 P.M. Sloppy Joe Supper
9:00 P.M. ??? Light Show
10:00 P.M. 50/50 Drawing (Hospitality Room Closes After Drawing)

Thursday, June 18

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M Hospitality Room Open
9:00 A.M. River Boat ride and lunch
12:00 P.M. Last Chance To Draw Poker Run Hand
5:30 P.M. Awards Banquet

All Times Subject To Change Due To Conditions Or Decisions



AMERICAN GOLD CLASSIC XXXII

Clarion Hotel
1950 Newtown Pike
Lexington, Kentucky 40511
June 15-June 18, 2015
888-390-4918



NAME _____

DRIVER / PASSENGER #1 _____ AGWA # _____ AMA # _____

DRIVER / PASSENGER #2 _____ AGWA # _____ AMA # _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____ TELEPHONE _____

E-mail Address: If you are willing to receive your Rally Registration Confirmation via e-mail, please provide your e-mail address here _____ (print legibly)

Each Rally Registration fee includes: 1 Banquet Dinner and 1 Rally Pin. It also gives you the right to participate in the Bike Show Light Show and Poker Run, plus all tours, various field events and all other activities.

RALLY REGISTRATION FEES

On or before May 30, 2015

After May 31, 2014 until June 15, 2015

AGWA Members _____ @ \$ 40.00 = _____

AGWA Members _____ @ \$ 50.00 = _____

Non-Members _____ @ \$ 50.00 = _____

Non-Members _____ @ \$ 60.00 = _____

Children (under 12) _____ @ \$ 35.00 = _____

Children (under 12) _____ @ \$ 45.00 = _____

Total Amount Submitted = \$ _____

Total Amount Submitted = \$ _____

RALLY SHIRTS

Special Note: Shirts will **NOT** be available at the Rally.

All Shirts **MUST BE** pre-ordered by May 15, 2015.

T-shirts No Pocket (Mark sizes & quantities)

Golf shirts (Polo) No pocket (Mark sizes & quantities)

_____ @ \$ 9.00 = _____ Small

_____ @ \$ 16.00 = _____ Small

_____ @ \$ 9.00 = _____ Medium

_____ @ \$ 16.00 = _____ Medium

_____ @ \$ 9.00 = _____ Large

_____ @ \$ 16.00 = _____ Large

_____ @ \$ 9.00 = _____ XL

_____ @ \$ 16.0 = _____ XL

_____ @ \$ 10.00 = _____ XXL

_____ @ \$ 18.00 = _____ XXL

_____ @ \$ 10.00 = _____ XXXL

_____ @ \$ 18.00= _____ XXXL

_____ @ \$ 10.00 = _____ XXXXL

_____ @ \$ 18.00= _____ XXXXL

Total Amount Submitted = \$ _____

Send Registration Form and Fees to:

Wanda Densmore
914 Melugins Grove Rd.
Compton, Illinois 61318-9727
1-815-497-2497
E mail agwa99@frontier.com

For more information, contact

David Densmore
39 N Jefferson Ave..
Amboy, Illinois 61310-1414
Phone 1-815-880-0254
E mail oldsdelta88@yahoo.com

For Hotel Reservations call:

Clarion Hotel Lexington, Kentucky
888-390-4918
Mention you are with the American Gold Wing Association to get the Room Rate of \$74.00 per night plus Tax or \$ 83.93 Per night (including tax) (room rate held until May 20, 2015)

No rally refunds after June 1, 2015

Enclose Check or Money Order, **Payable to AGWA**