



**N H E**  
**GWRRA WING WORDS November 2007**  
**NORTHEAST REGION**  
**GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION**

**“WHERE GOOD FRIENDS MEET”**

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**New Webpage** <http://www.gwrranhe.com/>

**NHE PHOTOS** now on our new website

**GET-TOGETHER IS :** THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH  
**GET-TOGETHER PLACE :** CYPRUS GROVE RESTAURANT ROUTE #119  
RINDGE BREAKFAST TIME 8:00 AM  
with participants discussion of current and up coming issues and events to follow



## NH-E Director's Message

Fall is definitely here and it appears that riding season is officially over. The weather feels more like winter than fall, and I fear that we may soon be seeing a few snowflakes!

We held our first dine out on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at Nicks in Keene, and we had 15 members attend. The food was great, and we all enjoyed each other's company. We shared lots of laughs and chatter. Speaking of sharing did you know that Loretta does not share well. Loretta told Paul that she would share her dessert with him, but when dessert arrived and he attempted to take a bite Loretta pulled her ice cream away and would not even give him a spoonful. Oh, did we mention that Paul's spoon was an industrial size utensil. Hmmm, how did Paul get such a spoon, just ask Deputy Frog for more information.

Chapter A put a float in the Concord Holiday Parade on Saturday and won the Mayor's award, Congratulations to them, they all worked very hard and certainly deserved this recognition. We will bring some pictures of the float to our breakfast on Sunday. Speaking of holidays the season is quickly approaching, and turkey day will be here this week, with black Friday to follow, bet Bruce is sure glad he will not be at the store that day. For all of you that will be out on Friday shopping and grabbing all the bargains, don't forget to come relax with us on Sunday for our breakfast meeting. Margo will need to eat a lot to sustain herself for the upcoming busy season at the liquor store.

Our holiday party will be held at 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at Cypress Grove. I apologize to all of you because apparently the date change was not posted until last month's calendar was distributed. I asked to have the date changed last spring because we knew that we would be aware at Disney World with our Son's family. I promise that that this will not happen in the future and whatever day we choose at our party this year will be the date we will hold our get together next year. Rick has sent out menus so please make your selection and let Rick know. Unfortunately this year our Chapter is unable to assist with the cost of the meals due to the fact that our Hobo Stew did not raise as much money as it has done in previous years. Please remember your Yankee Swap gift, cost should be approximately \$10.00 and make every effort to attend the party, it is always a great time, and a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays with our Chapter Family.

As you all know we are always trying to get our membership to grow and to get more publicity out there so more people will know what a fun time we all have together. Ted, Karen, Dick and I were very impressed with Chapter's A's Holiday float and we were curious if there was any interest in the chapter doing a float for a July 4<sup>th</sup> or some type of summer parade. Everyone in Chapter A had a great time decorating the float and joining in on all the festivities, and a summer parade would allow us to show off all those beautiful bikes we are so proud of and enjoy so much. This is just an idea, of something we could think of for next year. We can discuss this in the future.

At the meeting on Sunday we decided to eliminate the district rides each month next summer our only district event will be the winding down picnic/memorial observance in September. For those of you attending Wing Ding, the district will be proving district shirts to wear at Wing Ding. More information will follow regarding the shirts.

Our thoughts are with Donna and Rick lately as they have so many things going on with their family, please keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and remember Donna and Rick we are here if you need us. Also please remember Tony Dichard as he spends this holiday season in the hospital.

Some of you are on vacation this week, or have a short work week, enjoy yourselves, have a Happy Thanksgiving, enjoy the football, food and your family. Dick and I will be giving thanks that we have such wonderful friends in our Chapter E.

See you all Sunday!

Pat and Dick Thibaudeau

### **Assistant Director's Notes**

Wow, hard to admit but Fall is here. In typical New England fashion, one day it is 60 degrees and the next is 34. We need to take advantage of each good day. Maybe we can get in just one more riding day.

Our dine-out on November 11<sup>th</sup> was a great success. We had 15 people attending and we finally got to try Nick's. The food was great and the wait staff was very accommodating, just ask Paul about his spoon.

District Meeting was held on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Most chapters were represented. There was a lot of new information given out. Pat will fill you in on it during our upcoming meeting. Details should be posted on the district website soon.

Congratulations are in order to NH-A. They worked real hard and made an awesome float for the Concord Holiday Parade. They even received the Mayor's Award. Great Job !!!

Happy Thanksgiving,

Ted & Karen



### Birthdays in November/December

Steve Roy	11/4
Ron Jones	11/9
Michelle Shepard	11/12
Dave Caron	11/14
Hazel Young	12/4
Barbara Stone	12/5
Fred LeBlanc	12/14
Roxanne Provencher	12/19
Pat Brems	12/24
Pat Thibaudeau	12/24
Loretta Zamitis	12/28

### Anniversaries in November/December

Dick & Pat Thibaudeau 11/25  
105<sup>th</sup> anniversary per  
Deputy Frog

### Upcoming Events

November 25 <sup>th</sup>	Breakfast Meeting Cypress Grove 8:00 A.M.,
December 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas party Cypress Grove 3:00 p.m.
December 30 <sup>th</sup>	No Breakfast meeting Officer appreciation dinner @ Thibaudeaus 12:00 noon

### Chapter Educator

Submitted by Pat Thibaudeau

Since bike riding season is over, I thought I would take the liberty of doing an article on holiday safety. These are some safety reminders I down loaded from the internet courtesy of the University of Oklahoma Police Department.

### Traveling

Travel and conduct your business during daylight hours if possible. Lock doors and windows when getting into your car and keep them locked while driving.

If traveling out-of-state, most state law enforcement agencies provide road-and-highway information; check to see what conditions they report before leaving. Inform a family member where you will be and when to expect you back; give them your route if they don't know it.

If you have access to a cellular telephone, carry or take it. If possible, know the emergency cell codes for the area you're in.

Maintain at least half a tank of fuel, and keep vehicle in good repair. "It doesn't cost any more to keep the top quarter of your tank filled than it does to keep the bottom quarter filled." Even if you're pressed for time, take time to fill up the tank. Making a habit of checking your fuel gauge whenever you start driving, and routinely "topping off" your tank, can prevent unexpected, untimely and dangerous roadside emergency situations.

If you experience a breakdown, pull as far onto the shoulder as possible and turn your emergency flashers on. If you have a cellular phone, summon assistance from a reputable source or call for law enforcement response GWRRA rescue plus is a great organization for roadside assistance.

Otherwise, raise your hood or tie a streamer to your antenna, and await assistance inside your locked vehicle.

If a stranger stops, speak to them through a partially rolled-down window, and ask them to go to a phone and call police or a tow service; do not exit your vehicle until a law enforcement officer or tow operator are on scene. On longer trips, be sure you have water, food, and blankets in the vehicle.

If signaled to stop by any vehicle other than a clearly marked law enforcement unit, acknowledge the signal, and wave the driver to follow you to a safe location (where there are other people and light). Drive within the speed limit and take the shortest possible route to the nearest safe place. If you have a cellular phone, dial 9-1-1, tell the call-taker you are being followed by an unmarked vehicle attempting to stop you, and ask them to send a marked law enforcement vehicle to your location.

When parking, roll up the windows, lock the vehicle, take the keys, and conceal valuables, preferably in the trunk. During hours of darkness, park and walk in lighted areas to the extent possible.

When returning to your vehicle, carry your keys in your hand and be ready to unlock the door and enter as quickly as possible. As you approach your vehicle, scan the area, glance underneath the vehicle, and take a quick look inside before entering.

## Shopping

While out and about, present an alert appearance. Be aware of your surroundings; scan the area from time to time. Avoid concentrating so hard on shopping that you fail to keep track of your surroundings, others near you, or your personal property. Return to your vehicle periodically to check on it and reduce the amount you are carrying and must keep track of. Store packages in the trunk or, if your vehicle doesn't have one, out of plain view (on the floorboard, under a blanket or clothes, etc). When possible, have purchases delivered instead of taking them with you; many businesses offer free delivery during the holiday shopping season. Ask for an escort to your car if you feel nervous.

Using debit or credit cards is much safer than carrying cash. If the vendors you will visit don't take cards, consider obtaining traveler's checks which, unlike cash, can be replaced if lost or stolen. Visit ATM's only at well-lighted populated locations; and during daylight hours.

Using the drive-up is usually safer than walking up or into a facility. Remember to scan around you as you make your withdrawal. Many ATMs now have "fisheye" mirrors mounted above the keyboard to enable you to view the entire surrounding area while conducting business; try to patronize ATMs so-

equipped, and use the mirror! Return to your vehicle periodically to check on it and reduce the amount you are carrying and must keep track of. Store packages in the trunk or, if your vehicle doesn't have one, out of plain view (on the floorboard, under a blanket or clothes, etc). When possible, have purchases delivered instead of taking them with you; many businesses offer free delivery during the holiday shopping season. Ask for an escort to your car if you feel nervous.

If anyone is loitering, or you don't like their looks, go to another ATM. Stand such that those behind you cannot see your PIN as you enter it; your PIN should NEVER be written down on or carried with your ATM card. Be observant. Avoid dark areas, short-cuts, cul-de-sacs, and suspicious persons. Stay near light and people.

### Lighting tips:

- Make certain you take time to unroll/untangle and inspect each set of lights —new or old— for worn insulation, bare/frayed wires, broken or cracked sockets, and loose connections. If you find broken strings, do not try to repair the string. Throw it away. Replace broken/damaged lamps/bulbs. (and unplug the set prior to changing lamps/bulbs!) replacing broken/burnt-out bulbs is much easier on the ground than on a ladder/roof!
- Be careful not to overload electrical outlets. Always look for the manufacturer's recommendations on the number of light strings that can be strung together and other precautions listed on the packaging for the lights. If no manufacturer's instructions are available, as a general rule, never string more than three sets of lights per single extension cord.
- Protect the electrical wires from damage. Don't run lights/wires behind drapes, under carpet, through doorways, or where they will be walked on. Don't use nails or tacks to hang wires. Plastic non-conductive "hangers" are available for various holiday light-set hanging needs.
- Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.
- If using lights outdoors, Buy/use only lighting sets and extension cords that bear the Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) label and are specifically marked for outdoor use.
- Always look for the manufacturer's recommendations on the number of lights strings that can be strung together and other precautions listed on the packaging for the lights.
- Hold lights in place, string them through hooks or insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them.
- Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with GFI (ground fault circuit interrupter) protection to avoid potential shocks.
- Wherever extension cords and light strings are connected together outdoors, keep the connections dry by wrapping them with friction tape or plastic.

## Tree Safety

When selecting your tree, make sure to shake the tree vigorously, tap it on the ground, and watch for excessive loss of needles. If the tree loses a lot of needles, it's already drying out, and a dry tree significantly increases the risk of the tree catching fire in your home. The trunk butt should be sticky with resin. Fresh trees should be green and the needles should be difficult to pull from the branches. Another good test is to take a single needle and bend it between your fingers. The needle should bend, not break.

- Once you've selected a fresh tree and get it home, secure it in a sturdy stand and provide it with adequate water. At holiday time, many stores carry products designed to help you keep track of when your tree needs water. Keeping your tree well-watered will keep it supple so it retains its needles, making for less cleanup after the holidays and a lesser fire danger. Be sure and keep the stand filled with water because both cut and live trees dry out rapidly in heated rooms
- Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals.
- Artificial Trees —If you're about to buy an artificial tree, the most important thing to look for is the "Fire Resistant" label. This means the tree has been treated with a chemical that makes it resist burning — It does not mean the tree can't, or won't, catch on fire. NEVER use electric lights on metallic trees — use spotlights for illumination. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.
- Greens —Evergreen (no cedar) cuttings may be used in limited quantities, but keep greens away from heat sources (radiators, air vents, large appliances, light receptacles, etc.) and don't smoke near trees or greens. To be as safe as possible, greens/cuttings used for your door adornment or for corridor/stairwell decorations (or really for use anywhere other than as a table centerpiece) should be flameproofed by flocking or other treatment.
- Try to insure your lamps/bulbs don't touch the tree or other decorations. Take time to unroll/untangle and carefully inspect each set of lights before stringing it on the tree. It's easier to find and replace broken and burnt-out bulbs before stringing your lights on the tree! (And if a light strand doesn't work at all, better to know it before it's on the tree, too!)
- Turn off or unplug your indoor holiday lighting whenever the decorated area of the house is unattended —not just when going to bed or leaving the house. Nowadays, relatively cheap wired and wireless "remote control" switches are available to ease this task (and keep you from having to crawl/bend behind a Christmas tree or furniture to unplug a lighting set/scene.) Outdoor lighting timers and remote-control sets are also available and should be considered.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. When using candles for holiday accents, always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they cannot be overturned.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable; keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child

swallowing or inhaling small pieces. Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them.

- Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation while decorating with spun glass "angel hair." Follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation while decorating with artificial snow sprays.
- Remove all wrapping papers, bags, paper, ribbons and bows from tree and fireplace areas after gifts are opened. These items can pose suffocation and choking hazards to a small child, or can cause a fire if near flame.
- Live Tree & Greens/Cuttings Removal — Live trees and greens/cuttings should be removed as soon as practical after the holiday for which they were used.

#### Candle Safety Tips:

- Make sure candles are placed in sturdy, non-combustible holders that will not tip, away from decorations, drapes, and other combustible materials.
- Check your candles frequently to make sure they don't burn down too far or drip hot wax.
- Keep small children away from candles and never leave children unattended in a room with lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high out of the reach of children.
- Do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.
- Keep Yule Logs, Menorahs and Kinaras away from drapes, trees or any other potentially flammable objects.
- Extinguish candles and turn off decorative lights before leaving home or going to sleep.
- For holiday decorating, you should purchase/use only materials labeled as noncombustible, flame-resistant, or flame-retardant. Locate all decorations and decorating materials away from heat sources.
- These materials should never be used for holiday decorations, under any circumstances, because they are inherently combustible or cannot be flameproofed: bamboo, cedar trees/branches, corn stalks/shucks, cotton or confetti (loose, in large quantities), dry moss/leaves, flammable powders/liquids, hay/straw (loose or baled), paper streamers (serpentine), plastic sheeting/pellets, sawdust, tumbleweeds, wood bark/shavings

## **THE EDITORS**

Well needless to say the dine out was another experience to behold. The fun unending.

I will let you know I shared my Ice Cream with Paul even though our comrades say I hesitated. That serving spoon was larger than the dessert.

Our man with the star initiated the waitress to give Paul a gigantic spoon and she did. Upon leaving she frisked Paul's sleeves to be sure he left the spoon for another time.

Be sure to decide what you want to eat at the coming party Rick will be taking your request at the get together on Sunday or call or email your request soon.

Had a note from Lisa & Fred and they are settling in their new home in Belchertown.

Their address is 143 Mill Valley Road Belchertown Ma 01007 [1-413-323-6360]

emails as follows [lisal1018@verizon.net](mailto:lisal1018@verizon.net) and [redknight44@verizon.net](mailto:redknight44@verizon.net)

Sending them all our best for good friends and happiness.

See you soon Paul & Loretta Zamitis

## **District News**

New England Districts Rally will be held on July 17, 18, 19<sup>th</sup> in Rutland, Vermont. Host Hotel is Holiday Inn, reservations may be made at 1-800 462-4810. It is expected that the host hotel will fill up for the rally, so book your reservations early. Some new events will be added to this years rally, there will be a two hour ride leaving on Friday and Saturday at 6:00 a.m. in the morning for the early birds who wish to get in some early morning riding. The Friday evening event will be held off site in conjunction with the Town of Rutland's summer events. People games will be held at the hotel in the event of inclement weather.

The rally web site will be up and running in the near future for further information.

The district meeting was held in Concord, on November 18<sup>th</sup>, and the district would like to have a Winding down Picnic in September at Surry Dam in Keene, the district will be paying for the use of the facilities. We will also hold our memorial observance at this time. The date will be either 9/14 or 9/28, so that there is no conflict with Hobo Stew or Mass W's Barbecue.

Mary Tarbell has stepped down as District Educator, the position is vacant if anyone can help with this position. Thank you, Mary, for all your hard work and dedication to our District.

## **Memorable Events in Chapter E's Family**

- Barbara and Rod Stone are Great grandparents to a new grandson. Congratulations!
- Steve and Roxanne are proud grandparents of a new grandson, born in October, his name is Ethan! Congratulations

(please let us know of any memorable events so we can include them in this section)

# December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
						1		
2	3	 Hazel Young's Birthday	 Barbara Stone's Birthday	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	 Fred LeBlanc's Birthday	15		
 Christmas Party 3:00 Cyprus Grove	16	17	18	 Roxanne Provencer's Birthday	19	20	21	22
23	 Pat Brems' Birthday Pat Thibaudeau's Birthday	24	 25	26	27	 Loretta Zamitis' Birthday	28	29
No Meeting Officer Appreciation Dinner	30	31						

# January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
		 1	2	 Charlie Clarkson's Birthday	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	 Rick Lund's Birthday	10	11	12	
 Dine Out 4:00 TBD	13	14	15	16	 Bob Young's Birthday	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	 Lee Beliveau's Birthday	25	26	
 NH-E Breakfast 8:00 Cyprus Grove	27	28	 Donna Lund's Birthday	29	30	31		