

Gold Wing Road Riders Association Chapter AB-A (Calgary) Newsletter

December, 2011-January, 2012

Wing Wag

LAKE LOUISE

www.goldwingcalgary.com

From our Chapter Director

Happy New Year to one and all,

Here we are in a new year filled with new resolutions, dreams, and promises for a prosperous New Year. When it comes to making resolutions we must be careful not to confuse resolutions with wishes and promises. Some would say wishes and promises don't last, and heaven knows that we all have probably at one time or another wished or promised to start exercising, lose a few of those holiday pounds, watch less TV, and the list goes on and on. Often, after a month or two, those wishes and promises seem to fade away.

Resolutions are somewhat different, according to the Canadian Oxford Dictionary definition "resolution:a thing resolved on....." One of my resolutions for this year is to go on more rides with my GL1800 than I did in 2011. My plan to resolve this resolution is to attend as many Sunday breakfasts as I can and join in the scheduled or un-scheduled ride for that day. Also, to participate in other scheduled GWRRA rides. So whatever your personal New Year's resolution(s) is you need to be committed to put an action plan in place to resolve it.

A wise person once told me that we are never too old to dream. Children, as they mature, are always dreaming about something like getting their drivers license, their first new car, getting married, buying a house, and again the list goes on and on. Well I encourage each and every one of you to dream without limitations or boundaries. They say if you are committed to your dream, it

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Coming Events	
Jan 6-8	Motorcycle Show
Jan 9	Monthly Meeting
Feb 13	Monthly Meeting



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will come true. So go ahead and let your imagination run wild (well nothing that would put you in jail, tee hee hee) and dream.

Tire Guide

We recently received from GWRRA's International Directors of Rider Education, Tony & Michelle Van Schaick, an article titled *Tire Guide* published by the Motorcycle Industry Council at Irvine, California. It is full of great information on motorcycle tires and is certainly a worthwhile read. For your convenience the link is http://mic.org/downloads/MIC_Tire_Guide_2011.pdf.

Chapter Educator Position

I am extremely pleased to announce that Kim Coubrough has accepted the position of Rider Educator. Kim will serve as interim Rider Educator under the watchful eye of Alex Middleton until such time as Kim has successfully completed the ARC course which is planned for the Spring of this year.

Annual Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party was once again enjoyed by all who attend. Everyone enjoyed a beautiful buffet, dancing, and several door prizes donated by Rocky Mountain Honda Powerhouse. It was a very pleasant evening.

Membership Directory

We recently canvassed the membership at a Monthly Meeting with respect to putting together a Calgary Chapter Membership Directory. The idea is to provide a photo of yourself, your better half, and your GWRRA membership number as a minimum. You are also encouraged to provide your contact information to the extent you feel comfortable, such as, email address, civil address with postal code, phone number(s), and a small personal quote or phrase.

I am very pleased to announce that Harley and Sharon Sanders have volunteered to take this exciting new task on. We encourage all members to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. It's a way of putting a face to the name, keeping in contact with one another, and provides something extra special to our membership. You may contact Harley and Sharon at sharons@shaw.ca

Sincerely, Ron

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3-Flags 2011 Part 2

Text and Photos by Kim Coubrough

Pic #5



From Coeur d'Alene we carried on along US-95 south to Clarkston, WA (Pic #5) and stopped on the ridge that overlooks the town. By now it was close to 6:30 at night, and 38 degrees. We ended up at a Best Western hotel, and I can tell you, if you are ever in that neck of the woods, this place looks and they had 3 rooms available. As we were checking in we were each given a bottle of ice cold water and offered fresh choc chip cookies. That was very refreshing, to say the least. After 11 hours on the road, a cool shower felt wonderful. The next morning, after breakfast (a great continental spread), Ron needed to wash his

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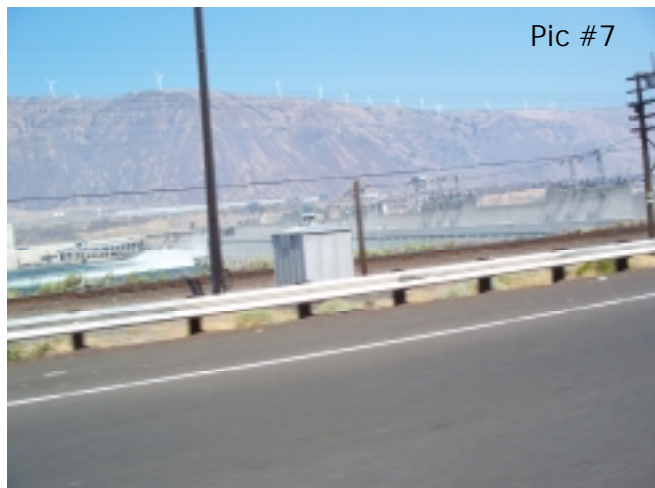
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Pic #6

bike. (Pic #6) I told him that it would probably get dirty again, but he still needed to polish it up. When he asked at the desk for rags, they gave him a bucket, rags, soap, and a cleaner for the windshield. This hotel catered to bikers. So as on-lookers commented on all the lights on Ron's bike, Brian and I would inform them that Ron really likes Christmas, so he decorated up his bike like a Christmas tree to remind him of that. Well, then the jokes really started coming out, and Ron with his bike of many lights was the brunt of most of them.

Once Ron finished polishing up his baby, we loaded up and were off again. Traveling west we headed for



Pic #7

Walla Walla, WA following the Columbia River (Pic #7) and then turned south and headed for Bend, OR. Before we got to Bend Brian took us west again to a town called Sisters. From there we got on highway 242, this is the old Mackenzie highway. At first it didn't seem too intense, as we entered into tall pines, however, after about 20 minutes or so the highway became riddled with hair pin turns. As we traveled on, grinding the pegs and holding our breath, we could see large mounds of what we thought was dirt. As we carried on the mounds turned into hill of this

stuff. Soon the hills became mountains. It turns out that this was not dirt at all but volcanic rock, mountains of it. We continued snaking our way through this until we crested the mountain. At this point there was a pull out so we stopped to take some pictures and see what this was all about. What they had done was to turn this volcanic rock into a castle (Pic #8) so up the stairs we climbed. I felt kind of like the hobbit



Pic #8

Frodo from the *Lord of the Rings*, because if you have ever seen that movie, this is what that area looked like. It was very cool to look out over what was once a lava flow (Pic #9). After some picture taking we car-



Pic #9

ried on our way over to I-5 and then south to Grants Pass. The day was a little cooler for the most part; the highest temperature was only 32. As we were traveling on the interstate, somewhere south of Eureka, the three of us were chatting it up on the CB. As we came around a corner I could see two Gold Wings in the distance. Since we were going a little faster than the posted speed, it didn't take long to catch up with them. As we drew closer, I could see that they both had Alberta plates. As we got side by side, I could hear one of them saying on the CB, "That looks like our director's bike." Sure enough, it was

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Pic #10

Bob and Art heading to the 3-Flags classic. We chatted them up for a bit, informed them we were headed for Grants Pass for the night and we would see them later. Off we went to Grants Pass where we found a Best Western again and after 11 hours in the saddle it was time for a swim. (Pic #10)

The next morning, after breakfast at a restaurant next door, we loaded up and headed into California. After leaving Grants Pass we took highway 199. What a way to start the morning. Brian had no idea of the twisties this road had in store for us; we were just trying to get to the Coast highway. For the next 45 minutes, we had hair pin curves, a cliff on one side, and the river on the other. The metal flew on that portion of the road, and you could smell the tires heating up. I will take a road like that over a cup of coffee any day. If you weren't awake by the time you came out the other side at Crescent City, you probably weren't coming out. Anyway, it was a great start to the day as we joined up to highway 101 and headed south. As we moved through the

city I was catching glimpses of the ocean, (Pic #11) and there sitting at a park picnic table, enjoying a cup of coffee were Bob and Art. We waved to each other and kept on trucking. The next time we would see them would be in San Ysidro.

Traveling south we entered the coastal redwoods. Wow is the best way to describe the scenery. This was similar to portions of Vancouver Island. The road twisted and turned and the giant trees stood there, blocking out the sun. We could tell by the scars on some of the trees that vehicles had gotten a little too close for comfort to these big fellows. I suspect the trailers and cars faired a lot worse than the trees. As

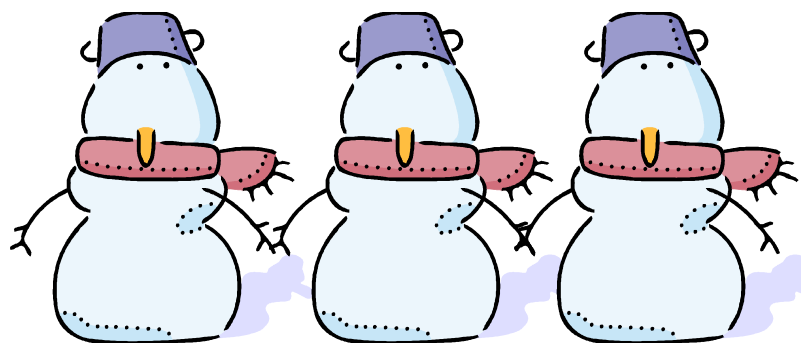
Pic #11



we snaked our way through these redwoods, we came upon a minivan. We're not sure what was going through the driver's mind (a women by the way), but she was not about to let us pass. Instead she put the hammer down and I thought that Gilles Villeneuve had come back to life. Wow could she drive. I pity the poor kids in the back, as I would imagine they were thrown from side to side as she floored it around the sharp corners. Corners so sharp that we were even scraping metal on them. What a ride!

★ *Editors Note: This article will be continued over the next several months.*

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News and Notices

1. **Greeting Cards:** If you know of any member, their spouse, or immediate family who would appreciate receiving a greeting card from our Chapter please contact Judy Istvan, email address [judy.istvan @ nucleus.com](mailto:judy.istvan@nucleus.com), phone number 403-278-1125. Judy will arrange to send the appropriate card on behalf of the Calgary Chapter.
2. **Veterans Food Bank:** Please remember the men and women who committed themselves to ensure the freedoms that all Canadians enjoy every day of our lives. Bring your non-perishable food items or monetary contributions to the Monthly Chapter Meetings and help support the Veteran's Food Bank. Thank you to all who choose to support this worthwhile cause.
3. **Last Call for Annual Mileage Count:** Please forward your mileage for the 2011 riding year to Lisa Miller (wingwag @ telus.net) before midnight on January 31, 2012, if you want to be eligible for the 2011 High Mileage Award. The person with the highest mileage for the year is recognized at one of Monthly Meeting and his or her name gets put on the high mileage plaque.
4. **Calgary Motorcycle Show – January 6 – 8, 2012:** Your Chapter is once again hosting a booth at this year's Motorcycle Show. So be sure to add this to your social calendar and come by for a visit at Booth W37. We would love to see you there.

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MEETING SCHEDULE

DAY/DATE

January 6-8 ----- Motorcycle Show
 January 9 ----- January Monthly Meeting
 February 13----- February Monthly Meeting

**“Friends for Fun, Safety,
 and Knowledge”**

**Come ride with us....
Everyone Welcome!**

**For the latest updates on what we are
 doing and where we're going,
 check out our website:**

www.goldwingcalgary.com

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. This is a time to share information and to meet old and new friends who like to ride together for FUN, Safety and Knowledge. See you at the next meeting at the **Fox Hollow Golf Club**, 9th Street and 32nd Avenue N.E. Dinner @ 6:30; Meeting at **7:00 PM**.



Rain, snow or shine, we meet for breakfast **every** Sunday morning about **9 AM**. This is a great year round way to stay in touch with your GWRRA friends. So, if you have missed the opportunity to join us for breakfast recently, why don't you come on over to the **Fox Hollow Golf Club**, 9th Street and 32nd Avenue N.E.

Classified Ads

The Classified ads are free to all members and associates of the GWRRA. While advertised items do not have to be Gold Wing related, we do insist that all ads pertain to motorcycleing. Ads will appear on a space available basis for one month. Should you wish to continue to run your ad for a second or succeeding month, you must resubmit or renew your ad. **Deadline for submission is the 25th of the month preceding publication.** To post an ad or if the item is sold or the offer withdrawn, please contact Lisa Miller at: editor @ goldwing calgary.com

This Space Available

CALGARY AREA STAFF

Chapter Director	Ron Syroishka	(403) 256-0912 Chapter director @ goldwing calgary.com
Assistant Chapter Directors	Gary & Susan Premech	(403) 238-8478 assistant chapter director @ goldwing calgary.com
Quartermaster	Barry Lammle	(403) 938-2287 quartermaster @ goldwing calgary.com
Newsletter Editor	Lisa Miller	(403) 288-0845 editor @ goldwing calgary.com
Treasurer	Eric Roberts	(403) 256-7683 treasurer @ goldwing calgary.com
Ride Coordinator	Terry Collin	(403) 288-8467 ride coordinator @ goldwing calgary.com
Rider Educator	Kim Coubrough	(403) 912-9116 rider education @ goldwing calgary.com
Rider Course Instructor	Terry Burrell	(403) 333-9914 rci @ goldwing calgary.com
Social Coordinators	???	(403) ???-???? social 1 @ goldwing calgary.com & ???
		(403) ???-???? social 2 @ goldwing calgary.com
Webmaster	Bill Haggerty	(250) 493-0153 webmaster @ goldwing calgary.com
Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Tracy Boyda	(403) 279-0383 mec @ goldwing calgary.com



**November
50/50 Winner**



Alex Middleton

**GWRRA TOLL FREE NUMBER
(CANADA & US) 1-800-843-9460**

NATIONAL LEADERS

Executive Director	Mike Stiger	(623) 581-2500
Asst Natl Director Rider Ed	Milt Sorensen	(403) 346-0756
Region J Directors	Phil & Margaret Craven	(250) 353-7108
District Directors	Ross & Audrey Woolsey	(780) 922-2670

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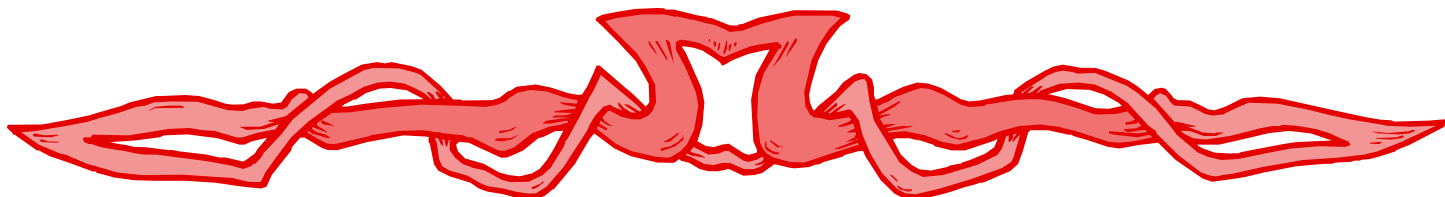
Special Guests



Joey Bleviss, Chief Administrative Officer, Calgary Poppy Fund, Veterans Food Bank received a \$500 donation from our Chapter.



Andrew Arbuthnott, Maryn International Inc., Sales Director



Prize Winners

Harley Sanders



Brian Hooker



Richard Dawson



Alex Middleton



James Tremblay



Phil Poirier



Jim Baker



**Andrew Arbuthnott,
Maryn International Inc., Sales Director**

**Brought and distributed door prizes to
various chapter members.**

More Prize Winners

Art Foster



Harvey Matthews



Marie Lammler



Additional Door Prizes were distributed by Chapter Director, Ron Syroishka.