



The following is a reprint of the history that was developed for the 10th Anniversary of Chapter I

GWRRA

Maryland Chapter I

In March of 1992, a group of friends, who rode motorcycles, came together at Po Folks in Waldorf to charter Maryland Chapter I of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association.

At that time, Chapter Director's were known as Area Representatives. The First Area Representatives were Joe & Amy Loukota, with Jim and Suzie Bardine as their Assistants.

At the first meeting in April 1992 were Joe and Amy Loukota, Jim and Suzie Bardine, Joe Benzing, and Charlie Schappett (2 wheels). Our first visitor was Will Davis, a friend of the chapter to this day.

GWRRA chapters have Charter Members, those who were there during the first three gatherings. Our Charter Members are Joe and Amy Loukota, Jim and Suzie Bardine, Joe Benzing, Charlie and Jeannie Schappett, and Jim and Debbie Roberts.

With many changes in leadership through the years, Chapter I has steadily grown, gathering new friends annually. The Chapter Directors were:

3/92 – 3/93 Joe and Amy Loukota with Jim and Suzie Bardine as their Assistants

3/93 – 12/96 Jim and Suzie Bardine with a host of Assistants including Charlie and Jeannie Schappett, Chris and Val Ludlow, Tommy Ray and Ruthie Chedester, Ricky and Debbie Johnson

1/97 – 12/98 Tommy Ray and Ruthie Chedester with Llyod and Alicia Morrison as their Assistants

1/99 – 12/99 Lloyd and Alicia Morrison with Charlie and Jeannie Schappett as their Assistants

1/00 – 12/01 Charlie and Jeannie Schappett with Mike and Brenda Harley/James and Teresa Buchanan as their Assistants

1/02 – Present James and Teresa Buchanan with Ray Hartman and Cheryl Kneff as their Assistants

Chapter I has been represented by a Chapter Couple or COY through the years. In no particular order, they have been

Junior and Jeanette Bowen

Dave and Kitty Cullinan

Ricky and Debbie Johnson

Lloyd and Alicia Morrison

Nick and Andrea Sheldon

Ed and Linda Coleman

Mike and Brenda Harley

Dan and Brigid Kenney

Over the years, we have had a succession of new friends join us in our fun. We have also had a few to leave us. Dave Cullinan passed away in August 1996. In memory of Dave, Chapter I participates annually in the Relay for Life, raising thousands of dollars for cancer research. Chapter I raised the most money the years we began the event. Chapter I has also participated in other events that give a great deal of pride to all of us. Each Thanksgiving, we select families who could use some help, and we provide the whole Thanksgiving package from turkey to the cranberry sauce, with enough extra that the family doesn't have to eat turkey for a week straight. At Christmas, we made Santa really happen for a lot of kinds who would not have had Christmas otherwise. Chapter I frequently visited the nursing home in Prince Frederick for a rousing round of Christmas carols sung with the help of a few of the residents. These were truly wonderful visits, with Santa in attendance with a keepsake for each resident. The staff of the nursing home looked forward to our visits. We also returned at Easter and spent a little time with the lovely people there, bringing our Gold Wings with us for them to see. An Easter Bunny on a pink and white trike...now that's something to see!

Many of the events sponsored by Chapter I were made possible because Chapter I was successful each year in the fund raising department. Many of us volunteered to sit atop the Drop-board in the Dunk tank at the Charles County Fair. No matter how cold, our guys

and gals sat through shivers and blue lips to bring joy to hundreds of fair-goers. It seems we have a following from year to year who look for the big guy to be on the seat...they want Mike Harley wet!

Chapter I has an open invitation to set up at the visitors center on Rt. 301 on holidays. We always have a motorcycle or two for visitors to climb over and look at, coffee, soft drinks, and snacks for weary travelers to enjoy and take a break from the road. One member was even seen walking the dog of one family so they could better enjoy themselves.

Several years ago, our friends got together and suggested a bike show, found a sponsor and location at Spurs in Waldorf, and put on the first show. Each year, this event has also grown, as do most events Chapter I becomes involved in. This show has been open to all classes, and brands of motorcycles, bringing together those who enjoy the wonderful world of two-wheel adventure. A few other events have also been attended by Chapter I participants, not all being charitable, some being downright damaging to members pocketbooks. These include Wing Dings in Greenville, South Carolina, Huntsville, Alabama, St. Louis, Missouri, Wings over the Smokies in Ashville, North Carolina, Rally in the Valley, Salem Virginia, the South Carolina District Rally in Myrtle Beach, Rolling Thunder, Ride for Kids, Honda Hoot, Great Water Ride, the annual Ride for Pizza in Norfolk, VA., the train ride to Frostburg, Maryland, the Pennsylvania District Rally, the Maryland District Rally, monthly Dinner rides, ice cream socials, and just plain old rides for the fun of it! No one who has attended any of the Maryland Winterthings will forget the Chapter I "Last dance" event. None who attended this past Winterthing will soon forget the delightful antics of the Chapter I "Hee-Haw" cast and crew who provided an evening of entertainment and laughter.

Among our many friends, some move away to continue their lives in other areas. We don't look at this as losing our friends, but as gaining new ride destinations. Jr. and Jeanette Bowen have relocated to Florida, and are very active in their new chapter there. Oliver and Margaret Dowell are now in Alabama; Honda and Londa Cooke are in the Sevierville Tennessee area, and are walking Chambers of Commerce for the area. It is a great joy visiting them at

their home. Many of our members have stopped riding their motorcycles due to advancing age, or for other reasons. We don't forget them, and feel they are still a part of our family.

We have come a full ten years now, and we celebrate this event with joy and pride. They years have been good for us, we have grown in many ways, and all a little wiser thanks to the good training provided by the Chapter Educators, and by the many volunteer instructors at the rallies we attend. We have all come closer to one another like any normal family will do. We have learned from mistakes, we have improved our strength by overcoming obstacles and working together to make GWRRA Chapter I Southern Maryland a place that many of us call home.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHAPTER I

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E-Mail: dankenney@hotmail.com		Nextel: 24*17709	



RAIN DELAY AT WING DING 98



JR. & JEANETTE ALL DRESSED UP RIGHT DOWN TO THEIR FEET



Miss Kitty at her best!!!!!!

NO CAPTION NECESSARY



CHAPTER I GOES TO CHURCH AFTER ROANOKE RALLY



SO YOUNG



PARTS IS PARTS



WINTERTHING CHARTER MEMBERS



CHARTER MEMBERS



BIRTHDAY PARTY



MIKE HARLEY AS THE EASTER BUNNY



OUR FRIEND JIMMY COLBERT



THE FAMOUS CHAPTER I LAST DANCE AT WINTERTHING



12030 Trade Zone Court
Waldorf
(301)870-0290



\$125.00

Pre-Ride Special

Oil & Filter Change

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Check/Add Coolant & Differential Fluids

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Check/Adjust Fork Air Pressure

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FULL TIME MECHANICS

ON DUTY

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9AM TO 6PM

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SAT 9AM TO 5PM

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