

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION



GWRRA



Region N



NC District



Catawba Valley Wings

## NC 02 "CATAWBA VALLEY 'WINGS & THINGS'"

October 2011

Visit our web site:

[www.catawbavalleywings.com](http://www.catawbavalleywings.com)

## 2011 NC 02 Staff

### Chapter Directors:

Johnny & Lou Perry

828-396-3777

[jcperry@embarqmal.com](mailto:jcperry@embarqmal.com)

### Treasurers & Goody Sales:

Charles & Barbara Janus

828-396-4376

[nphillybj@aol.com](mailto:nphillybj@aol.com)

[theace327cmp@aol.com](mailto:theace327cmp@aol.com)

### Chapter Educators:

Lamar & Sara Shelly

828-397-4585

[lamarshelly@charter.net](mailto:lamarshelly@charter.net)

### Assistant Chapter Directors/

### Chapter Couple of the Year:

Ronald & Beverly Chapman

828-256-7192

[ronbev@charter.net](mailto:ronbev@charter.net)

### Ways & Means:

Lee Graves & Diane Nantz

828-256-7192

[golfer1945@charter.net](mailto:golfer1945@charter.net)

[dnantz50@aol.com](mailto:dnantz50@aol.com)

### Directors of Sunshine:

Gerald & Lena Sipe

828-465-3225

[gunslingersp@juno.com](mailto:gunslingersp@juno.com)

### Recruiting & Retention & MED

### Ride Coordinator:

Steve Pruitt

704-434-7105

[steve.pruitt@ccbcc.com](mailto:steve.pruitt@ccbcc.com)

### **Chapter NC- 02 HICKORY NC**

#### **Next Gathering**

Sunday, November 20, 2011

Eat at 5 - Meet at 6

Libby Hill Seafood

Hwy 70  
Hickory, NC

## Bring Can Goods to the Meeting

The expense of children going back to school has been a hardship for many families, let alone not enough food for the family. Our response for collecting food has declined. Please be mindful there is still a great need in our communities. Please try to bring at least one can of food to our next meeting.

Barbara J.

# CHAPTER NC-02 ROSTER

Johnny & Lou Perry	Ronald & Beverly Chapman	Charles & Barbara Janus
Chapter Directors	Assistant Chapter Directors	Chapter Treasurers & Goody Sales
PO Box 285	Newsletter Editors	3111 Dry Ponds Road
Granite Falls NC 28630	2000 34th Ave Dr NE	Granite Falls NC 28630
828-396-3777	Hickory NC 28601	828-396-4376
<a href="mailto:jcperry@embarqmail.com">jcperry@embarqmail.com</a>	828-256-7192	<a href="mailto:nphillybj@aol.com">nphillybj@aol.com</a>
<a href="mailto:loulperry@yahoo.com">loulperry@yahoo.com</a>	<a href="mailto:ronbevch@charter.net">ronbevch@charter.net</a>	<a href="mailto:theace327cmp@aol.com">theace327cmp@aol.com</a>
LaMar & Sara Shelly	Steve & Darlene Pruitt	Lee Graves & Diane Nantz
Chapter Educator	Recruiting & Retention & MED	Ways and Means
4585 Rudisill St	Ride Coordinator	2740 29th Ave NE
Hickory NC 28602	3672 W Stagecoach Tr	Hickory NC 28601
828-397-4585	Shelby NC 28150	828-310-1848
<a href="mailto:lamarshelly@charter.ent">lamarshelly@charter.ent</a>	704-434-7105	<a href="mailto:golfer1945@charter.net">golfer1945@charter.net</a>
	<a href="mailto:steve.pruitt@ccbcc.com">steve.pruitt@ccbcc.com</a>	<a href="mailto:dnantz50@aol.com">dnantz50@aol.com</a>
Gerald & Lena Sipe	Archie & Brenda Reynolds	Tony & Rita White
Directors of Sunshine	1407 9th Ave NW	3508 Robinson Rd
2137 Claremont Rd	Conover NC 28613	Newton NC 28658
Newton NC 28658	828-465-0201	828-464-9796
828-465-3225	<a href="mailto:goldwinger1@bellsouth.net">goldwinger1@bellsouth.net</a>	<a href="mailto:torgw@bellsouth.net">torgw@bellsouth.net</a>
<a href="mailto:gunslingersp@juno.com">gunslingersp@juno.com</a>		
Ted & Meredith MacMillan	Butch & Linda Walker	David & Martha Propst
1630 Nathaniel St	2431 28th St NE	1052 30th St NE
Newton NC 28658	Hickory NC 28601	Conover NC 28613
828-234-5568	828-256-9656	828-310-2293
<a href="mailto:tednmed@charter.net">tednmed@charter.net</a>	<a href="mailto:lwalker0853@charter.net">lwalker0853@charter.net</a>	<a href="mailto:davidrp94@yahoo.com">davidrp94@yahoo.com</a>
Tracy & Crista Feedback	Whiskers & Claire Sipe	Jerry & Karen Kirby
PO Box 2053	4480 Rifle Range Road	108 Spotted Fawn Ct
Drexel NC 28619	Conover NC 28613	Hudson NC 28636
828-391-8845	828-256-7060	828-320-7108
<a href="mailto:tnfeedback21@charter.net">tnfeedback21@charter.net</a>	<a href="mailto:whiskersclaire@aol.com">whiskersclaire@aol.com</a>	<a href="mailto:jkirby169@charter.net">jkirby169@charter.net</a>
Don Irmiger & Julia Rush	Dale & Bernie Hoffman	David & Mary Gryder
1503 Laurel Road	279 Maplewood Lane	7744 Sherrills Ford Rd
Wilkesboro NC 28697	Taylorsville NC 28681	Sherrills Ford NC 28673
336-838-2951	828-635-6448	828-478-3459
<a href="mailto:dkijr@webtv.net">dkijr@webtv.net</a>	<a href="mailto:homer828@bellsouth.net">homer828@bellsouth.net</a>	<a href="mailto:hodgepodge91@charter.net">hodgepodge91@charter.net</a>
Lisa Travis	Joe & Phyllis Cohen	
5088 South Oak Circle		
Granite Falls NC 28630		
828-396-8745		
<a href="mailto:logsdon1234@charter.net">logsdon1234@charter.net</a>	<a href="mailto:joec@earthling.net">joec@earthling.net</a>	



# Happy Anniversary

Charles & Barbara Janus – October 9

- Dale Hoffman – October 2
- Don Irmiger – October 10
- Brenda Reynolds – October 20
- Meredith MacMillan – October 30
- Diane Nantz – October 30

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## HELP US TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

20% of our regions children live in POVERTY according to the Western Piedmont Council of Governments. Our region covers Catawba, Caldwell, Burke and Alexander counties. That means over 57,000 people live below the poverty level. Folks who have always been independent and fought to make ends meet are now facing an economic struggle and seeking help. (Info taken from HDR article published 8/21/11)

### MANY FOLKS ARE OUT OF WORK AND IN NEED OF FOOD

NC 02 is continuing our food drive in 2011 for folks in our community who are in need.

Please bring can goods, pasta, or any grocery items which would have a sustainable shelf life. As we collect these items, Barbara and Charles Janus have been delivering the goods to local agencies to be distributed to those in need.

Remember - Small pop-top cans are needed for the homeless.

**NC 02 is making a difference – please help us continue to make this project a success.**

# FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS NC-02



If you missed Wings over the Smokies, you missed a good time. Ronald & Beverly did our chapter proud with their presentation at the couple's selection process. Ray Griffin, who heads this group stopped Lou & me and told us how much the judges were impressed with Ronald & Beverly and said they hoped they would stay in the program. All of the NC-02 group that attended the WOS was at the selection process to support Ronald & Beverly. A special thanks to Ted MacMillan who drove up Friday morning to give his support to Ronald & Beverly.

I want to thank those that worked the gate for our Chapter. Tony & Rita, Lamar & Sara, Archie & Brenda, Ron & Bev, and a special thanks to Patrick & Lisa, and Jerry Kirby who drove up Saturday morning and did their part of the work. It was an interesting assignment since they changed the rules during the day. The huts where you bought your ticket and showed your pass to go into the vendors were moved to inside the gate to a tent they set up. In all I think the rally was very good considering all the changes that were made. Sometimes change can be good. I am sure that Andrew & Vicky will work out some kinks by next year.

We had a good ride on Sunday, October 9th, with 9 people going on the ride. It was nice to see several of the usual members, Ronald, Steve, Whiskers, Lamar & Sara, and new members Don Irmiger & Julia Rush. The food was good and it was a nice setting looking out over the lake.

We also had 12 folks who went on our dinner ride October 25<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed a Japanese/Chinese buffet dinner. But mainly we enjoyed being together.

Johnny & Lou  
Chapter CDs

# From Chapter NC 02 - ACDs



Doesn't time just fly these days? It seems like only a few weeks ago we attended the OPS meeting, and now 2011 and the 2011 riding season is almost over. But our Chapter has been busy this year with visitations, Chapter events, Region events, Wing Ding and best of all our own Wings Over the Smokies.

We only have a few more rides set for the remainder of the year. One of our rides will be on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at Golden Corral for their Veteran's Day celebration. Please be there at 3PM. After eating we will place our bikes where the veterans will be in line to have their free dinner, and can check out our bikes while they wait. This is a good chance to promote our GWRRA Chapter and to thank the many veterans for their service to our country.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, the Friday after Thanksgiving, Goldwingers can ride the Charlotte Motor Speedway. If you reach 100 MPH, you become a member of the 100 MPH Club, get a patch and have your picture made in victory lane.

Also, keep December 3<sup>rd</sup> open on your calendar for the GWRRA Christmas Party at J Iverson Riddle Center. More info to come.

Ride Safe & Have Fun  
Ronald & Beverly Chapman  
ACDs



# CHAPTER EDUCATOR

LaMar Shelly

## "I Didn't See Him" Usually Means "I Didn't Look For Him"

I came across an interesting article in the "Insight" under rider ed. If you are like me, sometimes I skim these as I have a lot of stuff to read. This article caught my eye as it started "I Didn't See Him". This information was taken from a study done in 1981. Some of the info may have changed over time, but I think it is still important today. Joe & Gracie Mazza are the International Assistant Directors of Rider Education. They published an article written by Robert Vaughan. It is a summary of the Hurt Report of 1981. It reads as follows.

I recently came across an article written by Robert Vaughan that summarizes some of the Hurt Report of 1981. Harry Hurt was a researcher at the University of Southern California. He studied the causes of motorcycle accidents and countermeasures to avoid such accidents. The motorcycle safety courses developed by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation are designed largely to build the skills that the Hurt Study found to be missing in the accident involving a motorcycle.

- Who hits us? Most accidents involve a car violating our right of way. Most frequently, the car turns left in front of us.
- Where do we get hit? Intersections are the most likely place for a motorcycle accident with the car not only violating our right-of-way, but often traffic controls as well. My wife and I got cut off by a car entering our lane from an on ramp. We were Tail Gunning a group and the driver tried to jam himself between me and the bike in front. Down we went. Talk about violating our right of way!
- Why do we get hit? "I didn't see him" they say. Also, alcohol is involved in almost half the fatal accidents. Most motorcyclists are smart enough to separate drinking and riding. Unfortunately, too many car drivers on the road are more mentally challenged.
- Why aren't we seen? Conspicuity of the motorcycle is the most critical factor especially from the front.
- How can we be seen? Wearing high visibility jackets of orange, yellow or red has been found to be an accident deterrent. Highly visible helmets and reflective material also helps. We should position our motorcycles where we can be seen better in traffic.
- How can we prevent injuries in an accident? Heavy boots, jackets and gloves reduce or prevent road rash. Full coverage helmets can reduce facial injuries.

As we hop on our bikes, lets always remember to be alert, aware, and avoid these situations as much as possible. Enjoy your RIDE!!!!!!!!!!!!

LaMar Shelly  
Chapter Educator

## RIDER EDUCATION

Our Motto...

"Safety is for Life"

Our Mission...

" To Save Lives Through Quality, World  
Class Education"



# The Virginia Creepers

This weekend Claire & I went to Damascus, VA to ride bicycles on 17 miles of the Virginia Creeper Trail.

Thursday: arrived at Grindstone Campground at night....backed truck & camper into site in pitch dark. No cell signals at camp....can't even get weather channels.

Friday: morning 53 degrees...cool and damp.....slept late....went to antique store about 12 miles away....toured the area. Got a sample from a huge bean tree....beans over 14 inches long. Night...rained off and on....windy...chilly.

Saturday....morning.....36 degrees.....wet snow flurries and light rain...windy. arrived at bike rental company at about 9:45 am....picked out comfortable beach cruiser bikes....at about 11:15 am shuttle van took us to the top of the trail on top of White Top Mt. ....just above freezing...snowing like crazy...windy (at 9 am that morning the ground had been white on top of the mountain).

Now for 17 miles of downhill and many bridges and former railroad trestles. A little over half way, we stopped at the Creeper Trail Cafe. Just as we were leaving Claire was crossing the bridge to the trail.....I hollered "You have a flat tire". We went into cafe to call rental company (had to use their phone...no cell service on trail). Just as we got the rental company on the phone....a guy that fixes tires showed up....the rental company knew him.....he fixed the tube with a piece of plastic milk jug & duck tape.

Trail weather.....rain, snow, chilly, high of 44.

Sunday: morning 34 and snow flurries at campground. Drove down mountain to home.....61 at home & sunny.

Ron (Whiskers.....PawPaw Whiskers)



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## LINKS TO YOUR NATIONAL, REGION & DISTRICT NEWSLETTERS:

NATIONAL: <http://med.gwrra.org/newsletter/newsletter.html>  
<http://www.gwrra.org/enewsletters.html>

REGION: <http://www.region-n.org/Content%20Pages/Region-Gazette.html>

DISTRICT: <http://www.gwrranc.org/>

# NC02 FALL RIDE AND EVENT LIST

November 12<sup>th</sup>  
November 14<sup>th</sup>  
November 25<sup>th</sup>  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Cookout  
Golden Corral – Veteran's Dinner  
100 MPH Ride-Charlotte Motor Speedway  
J Iverson Riddle Center-Gifts on Cycles

What is a BUFFET?



Big  
Ugly  
Fat  
Folks  
Eating  
Together

\*\*\*\*\*

Below is our safety slogan for Canteen Vending and I was thinking that this slogan could apply to most every aspect of our lives – even when riding a motorcycle. Beverly

**CANTEEN SAFETY**

**STOP.THINK.ACT.**

When is a good time to perform STOP.THINK.ACT?

- Prior to beginning any task
- When familiar or unfamiliar work conditions present themselves
- At or away from work
- Constantly and continually throughout your day

STOP.THINK.ACT. "moments" occur all the time. When was your last one?



REGION N



NC DISTRICT



# CONGRATULATIONS on your WOS awards!



*Photos borrowed from the NC Precision Drill Team's Facebook page*

# Observations on Growing Older



- ~Your kids are becoming you...and you don't like them...but your grandchildren are perfect!
- ~Going out is good.. Coming home is better!
- ~When people say you look "Great"... they add "for your age!"
- ~When you needed the discount, you paid full price. Now you get discounts on everything... movies, hotels, flights, but you're too tired to use them.
- ~You forget names.... but it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!!!
- ~The 5 pounds you wanted to lose is now 15 and you have a better chance of losing your keys than the 15 pounds.
- ~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything.... especially golf.
- ~Your spouse is counting on you to remember things you don't remember.
- ~The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.
- ~Your spouse sleeps better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than he or she does in bed. It's called their "pre-sleep".
- ~Remember when your mother said, "Wear clean underwear in case you GET in an accident"? Now you bring clean underwear in case you HAVE an accident!
- ~You used to say, "I hope my kids GET married... Now, "I hope they STAY married!"
- ~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch..
- ~When GOOGLE, ipod, email, modem.... were unheard of, and a mouse was something that made you climb on a table
- ~You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?"..."when?"... ???
- ~Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.
- ~Your husband/wife has a night out with the guys or gals but is home by 9:00 P.M. Next week it will be 8:30 P.M.
- ~You read 100 pages into a book before you realize you've read it.
- ~Notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!!!
- ~What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
- ~Everybody whispers.
- ~Now that your spouse has retired ... you'd give anything if he/she would find a job!
- ~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet ... 2 of which you will never wear.
  
- ~~~~But old is good in some things:  
old songs,  
old movies,  
And best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!

# YOUR Chapter Couple of the Year - Ron & Bev

## The Great Technology Withdrawal of a 6.5 Year Old Girl

The weekend of October 15 Ronald and I took our granddaughter, Sarah, and went to Camp Linn Haven at Linville. Friday evening, as we settled into our 1 room cottage, the first thing Sarah noticed was that there was NO TV, and then she said "We don't even have a phone!". I said, "Well we do have a phone, I have my cell phone". She said "But it's not like my Mom's - you can't play games, you can't get on the internet.....". So I got out my portable DVD player and the stack of movies I had brought for her. Lo and behold-all the movie cases were EMPTY! There was one movie-a Shirley Temple-BLACK AND WHITE!! You would have thought It was the end of the world to have to watch a B&W movie!! Then Sarah said, "I wonder what kind of activities they have planned for us tomorrow". Well, it was not that kind of weekend at the Camp -we were on our own for activities. And I was thinking - 'We are not off to a good start for this Camp Linn Haven weekend'. Then when Sarah got ready for bed, we noticed she was broke out with patches of hives. I rushed her down to another cottage to let her Sunday School teacher diagnose the condition (since she keeps children for a living, I knew she had seen everything). We decided that it was an allergy to something??? So since Sarah was upset and I was concerned-we shared a twin bed that night - and that was a tight fit! However, things did improve on Saturday. We went to the Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk. Folks were **selling** Woolly Worms-and we were crazy enough to buy -not just 1, but 2- and I just know that guy was laughing.....ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK! ... And, of course, we had to buy a little box to keep the wooly worms in; then Sarah made a candle; then she wanted corn on the cob, cheese fries, & grilled cheese sandwich for lunch. After lunch she needed some doughnut holes sprinkled with powdered sugar - well, so far I was up to \$45 out of pocket expenses -- and that was before our visit to the Candy Store at Valle Crucis! You should have seen her at the candy store - her eyes were as big as saucers. The bigger her eyes got, the fuller her candy bucket got. (And I was right behind her taking some out of the bucket and putting it back in the barrels.) When we got to the car ( \$16 later ) the first thing she wanted was that big red sucker she had put in her bucket, and I had to confess that I had put it back!

When we got back to the Camp we went in search of more wooly worms - she took home a total of 6 wooly worms and they are all still alive. She is watching for them to make cocoons and then turn into Tiger moths - (according to the guy who laughed all the way to the bank!!)

I do think we proved to Sarah that you can have fun without technology gadgets, (but it does take a fat wallet!).

Beverly & Ron



Time changes  
Sunday  
November 6<sup>th</sup>  
@ 2AM---  
fall back one  
hour.

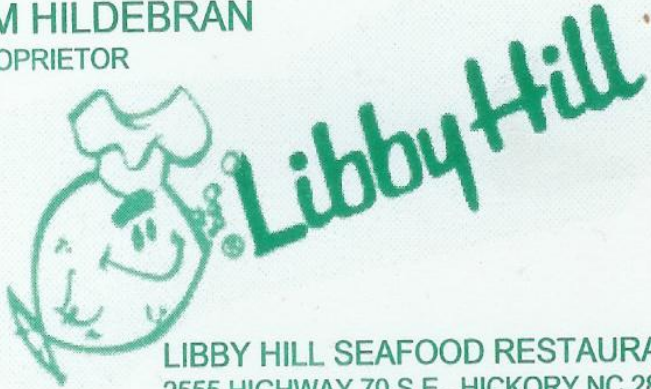


# Pictures from 2011 Wings Over the Smokies

Sara Shelly



JIM HILDEBRAN  
PROPRIETOR



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Hickory, NC 28601

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www.allegrahickory.com

mwoodie@allegrahickory.com

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