



Oregon Caves Ride



# MOUNTAIN VALLEY RIDERS

Gold Wing Touring Association, Chapter M, Southern Oregon

Volume VI, Issue 12

December 2011

Website: <http://gwta->

[oregon.org/Chapter\\_M/main.html](http://gwta-oregon.org/Chapter_M/main.html).

## CHAPTER MEETING: \*

4TH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH  
BLACK BEAR DINER – MEDFORD

- 8:00 No Host Breakfast\*
- 9:00 Meeting
- 10:00 Ride

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday: Meet'n'Munch

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday: Business Meeting  
(when needed)

Last Friday: Movie Night

## CHAPTER DIRECTOR:

**Dave Norton**

(541) 582-3705

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**\* Visitors are always welcome no matter whether or what you ride!**

## Editor's Note:

This will be my last newsletter, as I will be succeeding Charlie as Chapter Director in 2012. I have enjoyed writing these, and I thank those of you who have expressed your appreciation. As before, I encourage you to drop our new Editor a line frequently with anything that might be of interest to the group. It is your contributions that will make this newsletter worth reading!

If you are receiving this Newsletter in printed form and an electronic copy would be acceptable, please email your new Editor with your email address and let them know. Also, note that the photos are *much* nicer seen on a monitor than they are in print!

Sincerely,  
Dave Norton

## Meet'n'Munch at Paisano's, November 9

By Dave Norton

Twelve of us gathered at **Paisano's Italian Kitchen** in Rogue River. It was a chilly evening and the Shrike was the only 'cycle. **Charlie & Paula, George & Kathy, Gary & Yvonne, Dennis & Sue, Tim, Donna & Diana** joined me. They pulled a bunch of tables together and we took up most of the dining area.



Paisano's is a small Mom & Pop place (Pop's the cook, Mom's the waitress) that specializes in real Italian home cookin'. They make their own pasta from scratch, use fresh local organic veggies, and take great care in satisfying their customers.

I had baked Ziti, one of their specialties, as did several of the others. One portion is plenty for two, or the leftovers make a great lunch the next day.



The price is mid-range. The food and visiting were first rate! I really enjoy supporting this small local business that's making it's own way the old way, with quality and service. They're really nice folks!

## A new ride

by Charlie Buckner

I had been looking at Trikes for about 2 years but the right one for the right price had not come along. Well, on November 19<sup>th</sup> while we were at D&S Harley-Davidson Terri, who had been trying to find us one took us in the back and there it was. A 2005 Ultra Classic with a Motortrike conversion sat with the price we were willing to pay. We look, sat on, walked around, talked about and decided this was the one.



We felt that it had our name on it, it had 36080 miles, it was owned by a woman in Redding and she was looking for a new 2012 Tri Glide and wanted to sell this one. The reason for a trike is I have a bad knee and it seems to be getting a little weaker and I was worried about falling when I stopped at a stop sign or light. Rather than wait for that to happen the decision for a trike seemed the best way to go. I have found that the older I get the fewer parts work like they did 30 years ago. With a trike I can keep riding and enjoying the freedom. I have put a few miles on it, just to get the feel a trike.



With all the chrome on it I may be cleaning chrome for awhile after each ride. Nick and I took a short ride around the valley on Sunday November 20<sup>th</sup> and stopped at Patty's Kitchen in Gold Hill for lunch, and the temperature was not as warm as it looked but the ride was fun and relaxing, also gave me a chance to practice some curves and back roads, which the steering and ride is different than I was use to. We like the trike and now **MAYBE Paula** will be more willing to ride with me on some of the short outings. I am looking forward to next spring and warmer weather so we can get some good rides in and have lots of fun.



## Mountain Valley Riders General Meeting Minutes, November 26

By Dave Norton, for Kathy Woods, Secretary

Fifteen members and one guest (our good friend and State Safety Coordinator **Don Coons**) met at the Black Bear Diner for our last (due to Christmas commitments) general meeting of the year. Breakfast was our usual fine fare with plenty of coffee.

**Charlie** opened the meeting as usual with the Pledge to the Flag and a warm welcome to our members and guest. He announced that he won't be serving as CD next year, and thanked the members for an enjoyable experience making new friends and going on some fun rides, despite a difficult year for the Chapter. He wished us a happy and prosperous new year.



### Old Business:

- CMA Toy Run, which most of missed this year.
- Rogue Valley Toy Run: 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary. Gathering starts at 10 AM December 3, rain or shine, at the Motorcycle Superstore on Crater Lake Ave. in Medford. Kickstands up at noon, ending at the Eagle's Club on Tablerock. Bring a new wrapped toy, or cash donations are accepted. Several members indicated that they plan to attend.
- Our Christmas Party will be on December 3 as well, at the Rogue Regency Inn in Medford at 6 PM. Bring a wrapped present (<\$10 please) for the gift exchange, one per person.
- January 1 will be the annual UBSO Polar Bear Ride, Starting points: 1. Herb's on Rogue River Hwy in Grants Pass, Kickstands up at 11:00; 2. Iron Skillet in Phoenix, KSU 10:30; 3. Pilot in Central Point, KSU 11:00. Then to the Long Branch in Gold Hill, KSU at 11:30, ending at the Rogue River VFW in Rogue River. Breakfast available from the menu from 10 AM to 2 PM.

### New Business:

- Election was held for the 2012 Chapter Director. Candidates were **Bea Downs** and **Dave Norton**. **Bea** withdrew her name and **Dave** was elected unanimously.
- The December General Meeting is cancelled due to proximity to Christmas.
- **Dave** said a few words of thanks and expressed his hopes for increased membership, fewer meetings, more rides, less stress and **more fun** next year! He asked for those willing to serve next year to give him a call or email. He should announce his 2012 staff at the Christmas party.
- 50/50 drawing: **Charlie** won the \$19 pot (let's see, \$19 for a year's service as CD???)



The Big Bucks!



Sue Says:



No comment...

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dave Norton, for Kathy Woods, Secretary.

## Movie Night, November 25

By Dave Norton

**Dave** showed up with the season's first pumpkin pie to find **Tim and Diana** recovering from colds and several others down with a bug as well. We cancelled the evening's festivities and left the pie and the movie (October Sky) for another day.

## Director's Corner

By Charlie Buckner

The year is drawing to an end for my term as Director of the Mountain Valley Rides Chapter of GWTA. It has been interesting and in some instances disappointing when trying to schedule events and activities that more members would participate in. For the most part I have enjoyed my term as Director and we will always cherish the new friends we have made along the way. Last year I said I would take the position for a year, now that year is drawing to a close and I hope that some of the programs will continue to be carried forward. The Meet N Munches were always a bright spot for members to gather and get to know each other and not be in an organized setting with the chapter.

It is our hope that as Dave carries the chapter into a new phase and toward the goal of having the chapter grow, that the members will support him to reach his goal that he sets for the chapter. We may not be as active in the chapter as we were last year but we do look forward to seeing the chapter grow and prosper so that the members enjoy getting together for rides and other events in the future. I will be available to help Dave if he needs my help. As always I hope everyone will RIDE SAFELY and have lots of fun.

## Safety Corner

By Dave Norton

[This was passed on to us by **Don Coons**, State Safety & Rider Ed Coordinator]

October 24th, 2011, DETROIT – Harley-Davidson is recalling about 308,000 motorcycles to fix a switch problem that can cause failure of the brake lights and possibly even the rear brakes themselves. The company says in government documents that brake light switches can be exposed to too much heat from the exhaust system. The brake lights can fail, and the problem also can cause fluid leaks and the loss of rear brakes.

The problem affects Touring, CVO Touring and Trike vehicles from the 2009 through 2012 model years.

Harley says it will notify owners of the recall. Dealers will install a rear brake light switch kit free of charge.

The recall affects about 251,000 motorcycles in the U.S. alone. The company says it's aware of only one crash from the problem. It was unclear if anyone was hurt.

## Davie's List

*This is the spot for your Rants and Raves concerning local businesses. Got a favorite spot, or one you'll never repeat? Here's your chance to share it with the rest of us!*

### Rants:

**U.S. Postal Service** in Rogue River: Our mail delivery is a constant source of irritation, with numerous instances that don't warrant listing. We end up using UPS or the White City USPS office. Did you know that at one point if you ordered commemorative stamps from USPS they were (are?) shipped via UPS?

### Raves:

**Paisano's Italian Restaurant** in Rogue River. See Meet'n'Munch article above.

**Blondie's Bistro** in Grant's Pass: Ellie and I have eaten there twice. Their Mediterranean Pasta, a glass of Ashland Amber and Apple Cobbler alamode was the best meal I've had in a long time! The ambiance is lively but very relaxed, Not a place for a quick bite. Relax, bring a deck of cards (yes, really!) and enjoy your meal. Price is moderate, the food is fresh, savory and wonderful.

## Member's News

**Dave Norton** nailed a big Tom Turkey at 40 mph, dead-center on the windshield, just before Thanksgiving. Fortunately, he was in the van rather than the Shrike. He stopped and went back for the carcass, but found no sign of him. Tough birds!

**Dave** entered the Shrike in the last Car Show of the season, at the VA DOM in Eagle Point, with

proceeds going to dependents of Oregon veterans. This is a small annual show (32 entries this year). The weather was clear and decidedly brisk in the morning. Friends **Patrick and Joann Densmore** showed up in their red hot Roush Mustang convertible. The Shrike took the Modified Motorcycle class, and **Patrick's** 'Stang won People's Choice!



Best Modified Motorcycle



People's Choice

## Jest fer Fun

By Dave Norton

### Words of Wisdom:

Genius may have its limitations but stupidity is not thus handicapped.

### Quote of the Month:

There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works. -Will Rogers

### Thought for the Day:

In a democracy, the majority of voters and all non-voters get exactly the government they deserve.

### Joke of the Month:

The Alabama State Trooper pulls over a good old boy in a beat-up pickup truck for speeding. He asks the driver "Do you have any I.D.?" The driver responds: "Bout what"?

## Nort's Notes

By incoming Chapter Director Dave Norton

Hello all! Thanks for allowing me to serve as next year's CD, I look forward to the challenge.

I'd like to share with you some of my thoughts on the coming year in Chapter M. You all know we've had some difficulties and lost some membership over the past two years. It's been tough. The good news is that we've got nowhere to go but up!

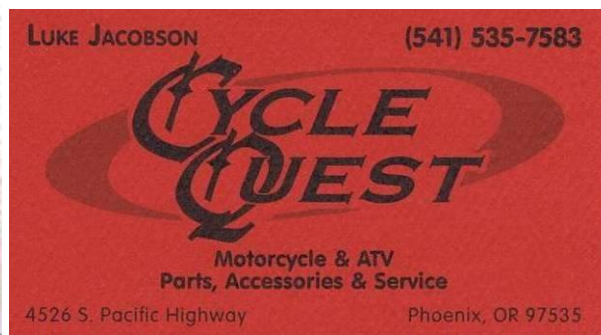
My goals for next year are simple: increased membership, fewer meetings and more rides, less stress and more fun (heavens, I sound like a politician already!). Simple, yes. Easy, no. But my goals are not what's important. It is not my goals that will drive us forward, but yours. It will be you, the members, that decide what we do, not me. It will be my job to help implement what the membership wants. GWTA is not driven by leadership from the top, but by membership from the bottom. By this time next year we will have exactly the chapter that our members choose, either by action or by inactivity.

What is certain is that we all can't sit back and let everyone else do the work. It's like Maggie Thatcher says is wrong with socialism: the trouble is that you eventually run out of other people's money. Well, folks, we've just about run out of other people to do the job. All we got is us. So please be ready when asked to help out!

And now, a word from our sponsors...



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**December 2011  
Mountain Valley Riders**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 	3 RV Toy Run, 10 AM <b>MVR Christmas Party!</b>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Meet'n'Munch 6 PM Location TBD	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	253 Movie Night 6060 Rock Way, CP, 7 PM	24 No General Meeting this month
25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26 	27	28	29	30	31
Jan 1 <b>Polar Bear Ride</b> @ Pilot, C.P. KSU @ 11	Jan 2 	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6	Jan 7

**LET'S RIDE!**