



**Garden City Wings**  
**Chapter GA – F2**  
**Augusta, Georgia**



**GOLDWING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION**  
**Friends For Fun, Safety and Knowledge**  
**REGION A**

**November 2008**

Thoughts from the Chapter Director

Can you believe it its November already, where has the year gone? Our Christmas party is next month on the 13<sup>th</sup>. We will start a 5pm, The chapter will supply the Turkey and a Ham. Please bring either a desert or a side dish. We will also be having our Dirty Santa games please bring a female gift if you are a female and a male gift if you are a male. Please make the gifts from 10 to 20 dollars. We will have the party at the Harlem Women's Club in Harlem. I hope everyone will be able to attend. Family members are also welcome to join in the festivities.

Thanks  
Larry

**The State Staff**

**District Directors**

Bill and Betty Livingston

**Rider Educator**

Chuck & Anne Reed

**Assist Directors**

Sherrel & Kay Davis

**Assist District Directors**

Ron & Susan Larson

**District Trainer**

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**Assist District Directors**

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**Assist District Directors**

JJ and Marcia Etzle

**Assist Rider Educator**

Danney & Janet Mackey

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**Chapter Directors**

Larry & Nu Cates

**Assist Chapter Directors**

Jim & Laverne Underwood

**Chapter Educators**

Ray & Sandra Bowman

**Secretaries**

**Treasurers**

Sandra & Marshall Skinner

**Newsletter Editor**

Larry Cates Stephanie Ward

**Ride Coordinators**

Larry Cates

**Webmaster**

Kurt Bennett

## Birthday's for November

Ray Bowman 6 Nov  
Ken Deeder 23 Nov  
Louis Lepping 28 Nov  
Chuck Reed 5 Nov  
Josh Shoemaker 28 Nov  
Don Blair 23 Nov  
Thelma Blair 17 Nov

## Anniversary's for November

Larry & Angelia Cates 11 Nov



***“As I See It,” A thought from the “Educator.”***

*This month's safety topic will be:*

### Motorcycle Deaths Increase Across the States

*I recently read an article (Augusta Chronicle, August 9, 2008) that I thought might be interesting to motorcyclists at large. By looking at the tables below, you can easily realize that wearing a helmet saves lives!*

*The first table is compiled from South Carolina statistics.*

<i>Year:</i>	<i>MC Crashes:</i>	<i>MC Fatalities:</i>	<i>% Fatalities (No Helmet):</i>
<i>2008</i>			
<i>2007</i>	<i>2,128</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>79.6</i>
<i>2006</i>	<i>1,956</i>	<i>106</i>	<i>75</i>
<i>2005</i>	<i>1,792</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>74</i>
<i>2004</i>	<i>1,740</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>82</i>
<i>2003</i>	<i>1,537</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>82</i>

Georgia is doing better even though, according to the article, Georgia has more motorcycles registered. I wonder why Georgia has fewer mc fatalities? Hint: How about the helmet law?

Year:	Crashes:	Fatalities:	% Fatalities (No Helmet):
2008			
2007	4,560	162	?
2006	4,041	154	13.54
2005	3,664	144	10.42
2004	3,271	111	7.21
2003	2,851	103	11.65

### ***These tables tell me two things:***

*-- Motorcycle crashes are increasing regardless of helmet use so pay attention and keep your eyes moving!*

*-- Fatalities are more when helmets are not used.*

***This monthly safety publication of "As I See It" is presented for your consideration by Ray Bowman, your Chapter Educator. Constructive comments and or suggestions are always appreciated.***

*To Whom It May Concern:*

My mother and I ride a 2006 GL1800 Goldwing. On August 19th, our bike experienced a loss of 5th gear in the middle of the night just east of Hoover Dam which rapidly deteriorated into a fully failed transmission. Since that fateful night, I have been doing some homework on this issue with the GL1800's. I posted a preliminary thread on <http://www.gl1800riders.com/forums/index.php> entitled "2006 GL1800 Another BLOWN TRANNY" in which I requested riders to send me certain information if they were either having a problem with the transmission, or if it had failed already.

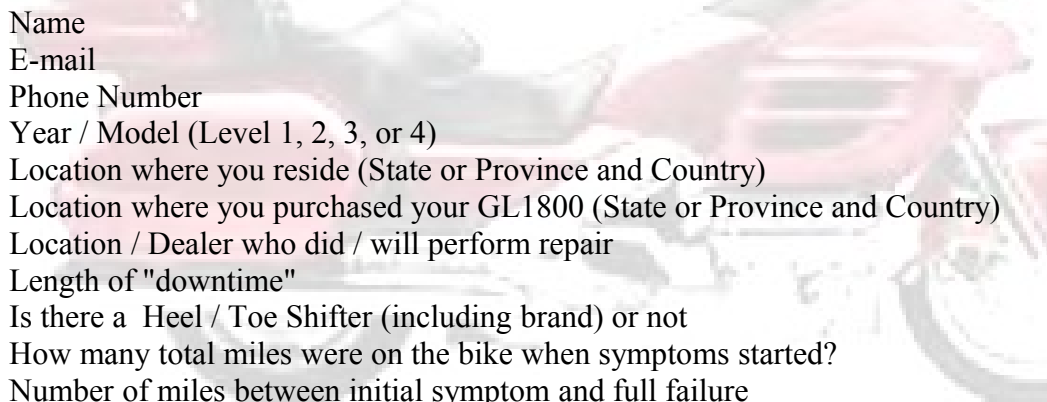
I have not yet finished compiling the details of what people have sent to date, but so far 20 owners have said their transmissions are demonstrating symptoms of a future failure and 12 owners (plus myself) have had a full failure. Owners' reports of issues with their transmissions keep coming in as people happen to notice the thread. In an attempt to find out just how widespread this issue may or may not be, I am asking you to forward this e-mail to all GWRRA CD's in Region A, and ask them to address this matter with their members during their next monthly meetings and include it in their newsletters. If they

have any members who feel they should be included in the list, they can e-mail me directly at [firefitr@cxp.com](mailto:firefitr@cxp.com). If possible, we would like to have the information that is requested at the bottom of this communication. If anyone would like me to respond to his/her e-mail, I will comply as promptly as possible.

I cannot stress strongly enough how important this is. I know of one rider whose transmission slipped out of gear in the middle of a turn, which resulted in the bike going down and the rider being injured.

Yours was selected as the test region to see if there may be enough of a problem to warrant pursuing this on a national level. Once Region A has time to reply, the results will be provided to GWRRRA Executive Director Melissa Eason. She will take it from there and is expected to send inquiries to all other Regions if we have a significant response from Region A. When she has enough data, if it seems warranted she will contact American Honda directly, and will only be in touch with the National Highway Traffic & Safety Administration if circumstances so indicate. Therefore, we do not encourage individuals to directly contact the authorities about their concerns at this time.

Here is the information needed. None of this data will be shared with anyone except GWRRRA Corporate and possibly Honda and perhaps NHTSA. You'll note that specific addresses are not needed, but it is important to know if the problem is cropping up in specific areas which might indicate a certain batch of bikes.



Name  
E-mail  
Phone Number  
Year / Model (Level 1, 2, 3, or 4)  
Location where you reside (State or Province and Country)  
Location where you purchased your GL1800 (State or Province and Country)  
Location / Dealer who did / will perform repair  
Length of "downtime"  
Is there a Heel / Toe Shifter (including brand) or not  
How many total miles were on the bike when symptoms started?  
Number of miles between initial symptom and full failure  
Any other aftermarket things (Like Traxxion Suspension or Progressive Springs)  
Any out-of-pocket expenses?  
+Any other info you think could be of use.

Thank you very much for your attention and efforts on this potentially critical matter.

Doug and Laura Roberts  
PR Coordinators FL1-X Orange Park, FL  
[firefitr@cxp.com](mailto:firefitr@cxp.com)