



# Chapter IL-Z2 News

GWRRA REGION E • ILLINOIS DISTRICT • CHICAGOLAND WINGS

**Our next two meetings are on Sunday, July 8, and Sunday, August 12, at the convenient Old Country Buffet on North Avenue, Northlake, Ill. Visit us on the Web: [www.ilz2.com?UU](http://www.ilz2.com?UU)**

July, 2007

Volume #10

Issue #7

## Chapter Directors *Jerry & Irene Ciesla*



As we pop into the July calendar, you just have to ask yourself how we jumped so quickly into the main part of the riding season. Rallies everywhere, fund raising events, and ice cream/dinner rides abound! It seems difficult to find time for them all, but we're doing our best to do as many as possible, because we all know that before too long our short riding season will be over!

Starting off the month on July 8 after our regular meeting, all chapter members are invited to go on a scenic ride through the south suburbs ending at Don & Danni's house for a hot dog cookout.

The following weekend brings us to the annual PBTF "Ride for Kids" at the Allstate offices in South Barrington. Participation forms to fill out before the July 15 ride event will be available at the regular meeting. Also, if you're planning to volunteer to help out that day, you'll need to attend one of the two training sessions — either Thursday, July 12, from 7-9

PM, or Saturday, July 14, from 9-11 AM at the Allstate facility. Let's have a big turnout for this worthy cause! For those not volunteering, our group will meet the day of the ride at 7:30 AM at DesPlaines Honda for a group ride with a police escort direct to the Allstate facility.

Wednesday, July 18, has the Z2 Breakfast Club meeting at 9 AM at the Elmhurst Restaurant with a ride at 10 AM following breakfast. Saturday, July 21, we'll be leaving from the Maple Tree Restaurant at 8 AM riding to Thomson, Illinois, for our Golf/Antique weekend. Those planning to golf should bring their golf equipment to the regular meeting July 8 so we can handle their 4-wheel transport to the resort. We'll be returning on Sunday, July 22. The last event for July is a ride to Marysville, Ohio, on Thursday, July 26, for Honda Homecoming. A side trip to the Air Force museum in Dayton, Ohio, is also planned. We'll return Sunday, July 29.

Looking ahead to the Illinois District Rally August 3-4 in Jacksonville, Illinois, we'll be leaving from the Maple Tree Restaurant on Friday, August 3, at 7 AM with a two-night stay at the rally returning home Sunday, August 5. This is a pre-registration event, and you book your choice of the available hotels yourself. Camping is also available. Pre-registration forms will be available at the regular meeting.

That's all for now. Ride safely.

## From our Illinois District...

In the 1980's, motorcyclists asked our lawmakers to help get the word out to the "Motoring Public" to share the roadways with motorcycles. This hard work by a few motorcyclists has given motorcyclists a "Proclamation" as the month of May was "Motorcycle Awareness Month." Rest areas where motorcyclists washed windshields "FREE" and shared with the motoring public info on how to "Share The Roadways" with motorcycles.

For the past three years, GWRRA has stepped forward to get the word out to the motoring public in many ways. The

*(continued on page 6)*



## Chapter Educator & Motorcycle Safety Instructor *Dennis Wegener*



**“Freedom is having a wife who lets you go riding. Happiness is having a wife who wants to go with you. Pride is having a wife who rides beside you on her own bike.”**

Overthinking it: You're always looking way ahead when you're riding on the freeway, right? Well, in addition to scanning for stopped traffic, you should also be alert for sudden lane changes by vehicles up the road. Sure, those changes could mean nothing...but they could also be advance warning that there's something big and potentially dangerous in the road, like a big chunk of tire tread, that could really ruin your day.

If you see such sudden lane changes, slow to give yourself time to deal with the potential debris, while looking for a safe way to move from the lane in question. And, if possible, don't position yourself next to cars as you approach the trouble spot, as they could swerve while trying to avoid the debris.

### **Nine signs around the house:**

- 1) You brake-check other family members in the rush to dinner.
- 2) You know how to get an oil stain out of beige carpeting— before

your spouse gets home.

3) You don't own a T-shirt that isn't from a bike shop.

4) You think that an Aerostich suit is formal wear.

5) You always back your truck into the driveway because, hey, you never know when you'll need to load up and hit the trails

6) The tan lines on your face match your goggles

7) You have more money invested in riding gear than work clothes.

8) In an emergency, you know how many motorcycles would fit in your dining room

9) You've warmed engine cases in the oven and cooled crank bearings in the freezer.

### **Did you know? Illinois crash facts and figures...**

October, 1972, the Implied Consent law was implemented. Implied Consent laws require vehicle drivers to submit to some form of chemical test, such as breath, blood, or urine testing, if suspected of DUI.

January, 1973, the legal minimum drinking age was changed to 19 and 20-year-olds the right to purchase and consume beer and wine.

February, 1974, the maximum speed limit was reduced to 55 m.p.h.

October, 1977, law was amended to report crashes with damages in excess of \$250 (previously \$100)

January, 1980, legal minimum drinking age re-established at 21 years of age for all consumption, purchase and possession of alcoholic beverages.

January, 1988, safety belt law amended to make non-use of safety belts by drivers and front seat passengers a secondary offense.

January 1995 Zero Tolerance law enacted for drivers under the age of 21. Ride safer!

## Picking the right lid so you don't flip yours

Wearing a motorcycle helmet is up to you in Illinois, Iowa and New Hampshire, but if you go that route, how do you choose the right one?

Here are some things to consider: The purpose of a helmet is to absorb energy in a crash. It spreads some of the energy through its outer shell, which is usually made of plastic, fiberglass or carbon fiber (with prices ranging from \$39 to a couple hundred dollars and increasing in that order).

The inner liner, made of polystyrene foam, absorbs most of the impact, though. Plastic shells are usually the least effective at absorbing impact, so these helmets often have a thicker liner and are sometimes heavier. Carbon fiber helmets are usually the lightest. Weight is more of a consideration for the long-distance rider.

You sometimes can't see the liner because it is behind a fabric comfort cover, but you should still be able to feel it. Unsafe helmets usually contain only soft foam, if any padding at all.

Plenty of mail-order and Web sites sell helmets, often at competitive prices, but it is best to try a helmet on before you buy it.

How do you know if it fits? \*It should feel snug but not too tight. You should be able to shake your head vigorously in yes and no motions without the helmet moving.

\*It should provide good peripheral vision so you can see traffic and make a "head check" over your shoulder when changing lanes.

Good helmets offer a minimum 210-degree field of vision. If you wear glasses or sunglasses, try the helmet

*(Please turn to page 7)*

## Events to Look Forward to:

**July 4 - No Breakfast Meeting**

**July 4-7 - Wing Ding, Billings, Montana**

**July 8 - Z2 Meeting and Cookout, Don & Danni's House**

**July 12 - Ride for Kids Training, 7PM, Allstate, Hoffman Estates**

**July 14 - Ride for Kids Training & Setup, 9AM, Allstate, Hoffman Estates**

**July 15 - Ride for Kids, Allstate, Iv. Des Plaines Honda, 730AM**

**July 18 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Elmhurst Family Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst**

**July 21-22 - Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.**

**July 26-29 - Ride to Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio**

**August 1 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Phoenix Rest., Norridge**

**August 3-5 - Illinois District Rally, Jacksonville (west of Springfield)**

**August 12 - Z2 Meeting and Ride to John Deere Museum, Grand Detour, Ill.**

**August 15 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Elmhurst Family Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst**

**August 23 - Dinner Ride, Uncle Bub's Cruise Night, Westmont, 6PM**

**August 25-26 - Ken's Kamping Weekend, Wisc. Dells; Iv. Milk Pail Rest., Elgin, 8AM**

**August 26 - Ride to Chapter R's Surprise Ride, LaSalle, Ill.**

**September 5 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Phoenix Rest., Norridge**

**September 7-9 - Davis Rally, Iowa**

**September 16 - Chapter Meeting and Apple Orchard Ride**

**September 19 - Z2 Breakfast Club, 9AM, Elmhurst Family Rest., 441 W. Lake St.**

**September 23 - Ride to Corn Maze, Richmond, Ill.**

*Chapter Meetings are held at the Old Country Buffet, 139 W. North Ave. Northlake, IL  
Phoenix Restaurant: 8349 W Lawrence Ave., Norridge, IL  
Elmhurst Family Restaurant: 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst, IL*

## IL-Z2 Board of Directors

### Chapter Directors

**Jerry & Irene Ciesla**  
cdilz2@ameritech.net  
773 259-6896

### Assistant Chapter Director

**Doug Koglin**  
justwingin@sbcglobal.net  
773 299-4781

### Chapter Educator/MSF Instructor

**Dennis Wegener**  
denden04@sbcglobal.net  
312 315-9916

### Treasurers

**Don & Danni Schwieger**  
swiger2@sbcglobal.net

### Events Coordinators

**Mary & Dave Geurkink**  
mcgeurkink@hotmail.com  
630 351-7166

### Ride Coordinator

**Robert Ullrich**  
ullrichr@sbcglobal.net  
630 334-0739

### Secretaries

**Butch & Mary Thielenhouse**  
thielenhouse@sbcglobal.net

### Special Events Coordinators

**Ron Cotton & Betty Schultz**  
valkyrie60714@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Publisher**  
Rita Pacynski

**Historian**  
Charmaine Ullrich  
ullrichr@sbcglobal.net

### Newsletter Editors & Webmasters

**Carla & John Ripley**  
jrip@compuserve.com  
630 627-4944




## Secretaries

***Butch & Mary Thielenhouse***



The June meeting was attended by 30 members and guests. A "welcome aboard" was given to Jerry Starr and Ken Stoffregen. Our 50/50 winners were Alyce Wegener, Doug Koglin, and Ron Walldren. The ride after the meeting went out to the Amboy Pharmacy in Amboy, Illinois, for ice cream. A late safety note to all: The domed plastic gas company inspection covers have been showing up again on both city and suburban roads. Try to avoid these black plastic covers with your bike, as they are dangerous to any two-wheeled vehicle.



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[mcgeurkink@hotmail.com](mailto:mcgeurkink@hotmail.com)



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# Official Publication of GWRRA IL-Z2 Chicagoland Wings

June 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## July 2007

August 2007

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29	30	31	1	2	3	4
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Wing Ding, Billings, MT No Breakfast Meeting	5 Wing Ding, Billings, MT	6 Wing Ding, Billings, MT	7 Wing Ding, Billings, MT
8 Z2 Mtg. & Cookout, Danni & Don's	9	10	11	12 Ride for Kids Training, 7-9PM	13	14 Ride for Kids Training, Site Setup, 9AM
15 Ride for Kids; leave Des Plaines Honda 730AM	16	17	18 Z2 Breakfast Club; Elmhurst Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst, 9AM	19	20	21 Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.
22 Golf/Antique Weekend, Thomson, Ill.	23	24	25	26 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	27 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	28 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio
29 Honda Homecoming, Marysville, Ohio	30	31	1	2	3	4

July 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30	31	1	2	3	4

## August 2007

September 2007

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26	27	28	29	30	31	1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Z2 Breakfast Club; Phoenix Rest., Norridge, 9AM	2	3 Illinois Dist. Rally, Jacksonville, Ill.	4 Illinois Dist. Rally, Jacksonville, Ill.
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12 Z2 Mtg. & Ride to John Deere Museum, Grand Detour, Ill.	13	14	15 Z2 Breakfast Club; Elmhurst Rest., 441 W. Lake St., Elmhurst, 9AM	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Dinner Ride, Uncle Bub's Cruise Night, Westmont 6PM	24	25 Ken's Kamping Weekend; leave Milk Pail, Elgin, 8AM
26 Chapter R Surprise Ride, LaSalle, Ill. Ken's Kamping Weekend	27	28	29	30	31	1

## 2007 Spring Fling Photos from Ralph Chalker!

### Secretaries

***Butch & Mary Thielenhouse***



Our ride to Niehaus: The weather was beautiful and and so was the ride out to the Niehaus Open House in Litchfield, Il.

Everyone had a good time.

The dinner at the Best Western was good, but the breakfast was to be desired. But it was a good time.

Thanks to Mary for the hotel, it was really great.



### District News *from page 1*

windshield wash has again reached out to many non-motorcyclists. IDOT was very happy to say that this year was the first time that all the Windshield wash banners were given out and some had to be turned in so that others could use them.

**Support Our Sponsors!**  
***Tell Them:***  
**"I Saw Your Message in the Chicagoland Wings Newsletter!"**



**Helmets** from page 2:  
on with them on.

Different brands of helmets fit differently -- and won't necessarily match your hat size. Some brands are more round and fit round heads. Others tend to be oval.

It is not a bad idea to "test drive" the helmet in the store for 5-10 minutes to see whether it is comfortable. This is also a good time to find a mirror to check its looks. Ugly helmets go on fewer rides than uncomfortable ones.

Speaking of style, you have a choice among a half helmet, a three-quarter helmet resembling what a football player wears, a full-face helmet that protects the chin or a helmet where the chin section flips out of the way on pivots for convenience. Full-face helmets offer the most protection, half-helmets the least. But in hot weather, the full-face style must be adequately ventilated for comfort. In the winter, a half-helmet wearer may need a balaclava or scarf.

Replace your helmet if you drop it, if it has a crack or loose parts or if it is more than 4-5 years old. Even a small fall can cause damage that will make the helmet less safe. If you are unsure, return it to the manufacturer for inspection or buy a new one. Over time, the materials begin to break down from ultraviolet light, sweat, hair products and environmental factors.

Manufacturers are required by law to place a label on or in the helmet with the manufacturer's name, model, size, month and year of manufacture, construction materials and other information. A helmet without such labeling usually does not meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 218.

In states with mandatory helmet laws, some riders wear helmets that do not meet FMVSS 218. These helmets, sold as novelty items, violate the law. Some users even buy stick-

ers that say DOT and put them on the helmet.

### **Foundation tests, certifies helmets**

Founded in 1957, the Snell Memorial Foundation independently tests helmets. Its first safety standards for protective headgear were issued for auto racing in 1959. Snell certification is voluntary for manufacturers.

Snell standards address performance rather than materials and design.

Periodically, utilizing specially designed test equipment, the foundation upgrades its specifications on performance characteristics of helmets to keep pace with advances in materials, technology and design.

The most recent Snell tests, revised in 2005, cover four criteria:

- \*Impact management -- how well the helmet protects against collisions with large objects.

- \*Helmet positional stability -- whether the helmet will be in place, on the head, when it's needed.

- \*Retention system strength -- whether the chin straps are strong enough to hold the helmet on throughout a head impact.

- \*Extent of protection -- the area of the head protected by the helmet.

*Excerpted from the Chicago Tribune*

**GREENVILLE, S.C., June 15 -- Michelin has notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Transport Canada that it is recalling Michelin(R) Pilot(R) Power 2CT and Pilot(R) Power 120/70 ZR 17 (58W) front motorcycle tires with the "Made in France" markings in the United States and Canada. This recall involves these specific tires only and has no impact on any other Michelin tires. Related actions are under way in other countries.**

An examination of these tires showed a possible defect in the

tread due to a manufacturing irregularity. No cases of pressure loss have been reported and no accidents have occurred.

Because rider safety is the primary concern, Michelin has decided as a precaution to replace the 120/70 ZR 17 (58W) Michelin Pilot Power 2CT and Michelin Pilot Power front tires, which can be identified by the following markings on the sidewall:

- a "Made in France" label
- DOT 6UCW 980T or DOT 6UCW 979T

Any consumer in the United States or Canada who believes they are affected by the recall should not wait to receive notification but should call Michelin Consumer Relations at 1 866 324 2835.

The company will be replacing all potentially affected tires in a comprehensive commitment to retrieve from the market any tire that does not meet Michelin quality standards. Replacement tires are available at no cost (including mounting and balancing) to consumers through participating Michelin(R) motorcycle tire servicing retailers.

Headquartered in Greenville, S.C., Michelin North America (<http://www.michelin.com/>) employs more than 22,000 and operates 19 major manufacturing plants in 17 locations.

Make sure your tire is of the make and model:

Michelin(R) Pilot(R) Power 2CT or Michelin(R) Pilot(R) Power 120/70 ZR 17 (58W)

Then, look for a DOT code 6UCW 980T or DOT 6UCW 979T on the sidewall.

If you are having difficulty identifying your tire's DOT code, please ask your local tire dealer to assist you or call Michelin Consumer Relations at 1 866 324 2835.

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New in 2007 is a **Cold Weather Comfort Package** feature, you can add heated grips and even a heated seat and passenger backrest specially designed for rider and passenger comfort, all wired to run off your Gold Wing's electrical system (featuring a new-for-2006 standard-equipment 1,300-watt alternator). In addition, there's adjustable warm-air ducting from the engine to heat your feet.



The new **Honda Satellite-Linked Navigation System** uses proven GPS technology in a fully integrated system that lets you view maps on a color LCD screen, and even follow step-by-step verbal directions via your Gold Wing's sound system. Its so feature-rich and packed with options, it's simply the best GPS-based navigation system on a motorcycle today.



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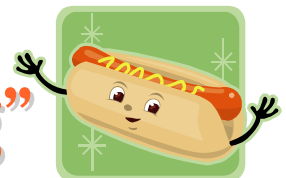
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or call 1-800-843-9460 or 623-581-2500 to register.



## Red Riders

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## Invites All Riders to Join Us "In Search of the Best Hot Dog"



Join us as Des Plaines Honda Red Riders go "In Search of the Best Hot Dog" during the 2007 riding season. Rides are the second Wednesday of every month.

**The next ride is July 11.** Rain dates will move to the following day (Thursday.)

Door prizes will be given away at the end of each ride.

A Special Benefit for HRCM Members: Your first hot dog is free!

Ride with us, or ride your own route and pace to the Hot Dog. All bikes are welcome.

Meet at our store at 6PM to register and get a map. Clutch out at 6:30PM.

Rides will last approx. 30-60 minutes.

Call 800-571-1000 for more information.

Newsleter Editors & Webmasters  
John & Carla Ripley  
jrip@compuserve.com 630 627-4944

Historian  
Charmaine Ullrich  
ullrichr@sbcglobal.net

Newsleter Publisher  
Rita Pacynski 757-767@cin.net

Special Events Coordinators  
Ron Cotton & Betty Schultz  
valkyrite60714@yahoo.com

Secretaries  
Butch & Mary Thielehouse  
thielehouse@sbcglobal.net

Ride Coordinator  
Robert Ullrich  
ullrichr@sbcglobal.net 630 334-0739

**Visit us on the Web: [www.ilz2.com](http://www.ilz2.com). Or, call  
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Events Coordinators  
Mary & Dave Geurkink  
mgeurkink@hotmail.com  
630 351-7166

Treasurers  
Don & Danni Schwieger  
swieger2@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Educator /MSF Inst.  
Dennis Wegener  
denden04@sbcglobal.net  
312 315-9916

Assistant Chapter Director  
Doug Koglin  
justwingin@sbcglobal.net  
773 299-4781

Chapter Directors  
Jerry & Irene Ciesla  
cdilz2@ameritech.net  
773 259-6896

GWRRA IL-Z2  
Jerry & Irene Ciesla  
6623 N. Oketo  
Chicago, IL 60631



# Chicagoland Wings GWRRA Chapter IL-Z2



## Region E "America's Heartland"

Directors Dave & Gwen Carter  
Foxwing1@sbcglobal.net

Region Website -- [www.gwrra-region-e.com](http://www.gwrra-region-e.com)

## Illinois District Officers

Earl & Pat Hobbs IL ADD/North  
earlhr@sbcglobal.net

## Illinois District Educators

Steve and Tammy Hatten  
s.hatten@insightbb.com

## Illinois District Website

[www.gwrra-ildistrict.org](http://www.gwrra-ildistrict.org)

Chapter IL-Z2 Website -- [www.ilz2.com](http://www.ilz2.com)

Wing World Magazine-- [www.wingworldmag.com](http://www.wingworldmag.com)

GWRRA National -- [www.gwrra.org](http://www.gwrra.org)

Des Plaines Honda -- [www.dsphonda.com](http://www.dsphonda.com)

Zone Honda -- [www.motorcyclezone.net](http://www.motorcyclezone.net)

IL-Z2 monitors CB Channel 2

***GWRRA Chapter IL-Z2 meets at the Old Country Buffet restaurant in Northlake, IL (708) 836-9966 on the second Sunday of every month. Breakfast: 8 a.m.; Meeting: 9 a.m. We ride after the meeting!***

***The Old Country Buffet is located just east of I-294 and I-290 at the North Avenue exit.***

***Look for us between Sam's Club and the Wal-Mart in this large shopping center/parking lot.***

***Our next two meetings will be Sunday, July 8, and Sunday, August 12. Please join us!***