



# Chapter J News

Hiawassee, GA

October 2018

## Chapter J Staff

Chapter Directors	Dave & Pam Worsham	gwrra.ga.j@gmail.com GWRRRBlueJs@gmail.com
Asst Chapter Directors	Dennis & Sue Bible	706-400-9613 2up450@gmail.com
Asst Chapter Directors	Bob & Caroline Baillargeon	
Treasurer	Barbara Schleicher	706-379-3018 wmbs10262@windstream.net
Ride Coordinator	Roger LeRoy	706-781-1046 allegro35@windstream.net
Asst Ride Coordinator	Fred Henige	847-212-0662 henz@att.net
MEC Coordinator	Nick George	706-897-2247 icrane@windstream.net
Activity Coordinator	Sue Bible	706-400-2675 susanbible@ymail.com
Sunshine Lady	Sandy Tomb	706-219-2281 sandgordo@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Bill Schleicher	706-379-3018 ga.j.newsletter@gmail.com

**Chapter J Meetings**

[October 2018 Meeting](#)

**Saturday, October 20, 2018**  
**Daniels Steak House**  
**Hiawassee, GA**

[November 2018 Meeting](#)

**Saturday, November 17, 2018**  
**Daniels Steak House**  
**Hiawassee, GA**

**We eat at 11:00 AM and meet at 12:00 PM**

## From Your CD(s)



Hello BlueJays,

What a fantastic September we have had this year. The rides were fun and entertaining. And it was an honor to be included in the 9/11 memorial ride. We are looking forward to October being just as fun, beginning with our annual picnic. We are hoping for some nice Fall colors and beautiful scenery to enjoy.

At the October 6th picnic and the October meeting, we will have raffle tickets to take and sale for our First Annual Raffle which will be a \$500 Gift certificate to Motor Sports Plus in Blairsville. Only 100 tickets will be sold for \$10 per ticket.

Looking Forward,

Dave and Pam

## From Your ACD(s)



## Chapter J's Annual Picnic



Once again we are planning our annual picnic in Meek's Park. Scheduled for **Saturday Oct 6th at 12:00 noon**, Pavilion 3.

The Chapter will provide the Fried chicken and Refreshments and we ask everyone to please bring a Salad or Dessert and any games you might like to share. Be ready to play a little Bingo, try your nerves at playing "Jenga" or your coordination at Badminton or Corn Hole! Should be a lot of fun and hope to see you there. Please RSVP (so we'll know how much chicken to order) by **September 28th to [susanbible@ymail.com](mailto:susanbible@ymail.com) or call me at 706 400-2675.**

Thanks and hope to see you there!

Sue

## Treasurer's Report

### Chapter J Christmas Donations

Chapter J will again be donating money to the following organizations for Christmas: Union County's "Shop with a Cop" and Towns County's "Empty Stocking Fund".



The "Shop with a Cop" is where Officers and employees from the Blairsville Police Department join members of the community during the Christmas season to take under-privileged children shopping with funds provided by the Community. The Union County Family Connection works closely with the Police Department in providing a list of families that are in need of assistance.

The "Empty Stocking Fund" takes proceeds and purchases gifts for underprivileged children in Towns County, children who might not receive Christmas gifts due to family financial hardships.

Donations will be accepted at the Chapter J picnic on October 6, 2018 and at the Chapter J gatherings on October 20 and November 17, 2018.

A ride to present the money collected to both organizations will be announced.

So far, we have collected \$150.00. Last year, we collected \$700.00.

Thanks to our Chapter J Members for your continued support. Barbara

### GWRRA and Chapter J Flags, Patches and Pins for Sale

Need some GWRRA or Chapter J styling on your bikes, your vests and/or your chapter shirts? Chapter J has flags, patches and pins for sale.

Blue J Flag with Mounting Kit	\$ 5.00
Mountain Blue J Patch	\$ 3.00
Mountain Blue J Pin	\$ 3.00
GWRRA Gold and Black Round Patch (small)	\$ 5.00
Wings of Gold Trike Rider Patch	\$ 6.00
GA State County Patch	\$10.00
Chapter J Bar	1 Free to Chapter J member

See Barbara Schleicher for purchases



## **THAT TIME HAS COME**

### **A retrospective of a riders life.**

**By Jack Gottlieb**

As a nearly lifelong rider, the specter of hanging up my helmet permanently has been a growing shadow which became impossible to ignore a couple of weeks ago. At eighty-three, with approximately three hundred thousand miles traveled on two wheels, I suffered my first crash. That said, I am sure there are many of my fellow riders who have traveled many more miles than I without mishap and I make no claim of being unique in any way. What follows is simply a history of one mans love affair with riding on two wheels.

Circumstances dictated my riding life, starting at the age of 14 when most of my friends and I had a scooter of one kind or another, graduating to small motorcycles after obtaining our drivers licenses. Bigger bikes followed, usually British or other foreign brands such as BSA, Triumph, Norton etc.

Early 20's brought marriage, kids and responsibility that made riding a no no. A 15 year hiatus followed, the end of which saw me pick up an old '42 Harley army bike from my former brother-in-law, (a divorce didn't hurt) putting me back on two wheels. Held together with duct tape and coat hanger wire, it featured ape hanger bars, suicide clutch, shift lever alongside the tank, 3 speeds, kick start of course and to add to its allure, no front brake. Every time I got on it was an adventure. An example: Waiting for the sign to change in downtown St. Paul, suicide clutch pushed in by left foot. Right leg getting tired, sign changes, rev engine, foot slips off of clutch, bike does big donut and falls over. Car drivers amused.

I rode that thing an entire summer on into the years first snowstorm, finally calling it quits November 22. It never ran again, its long life ending in the junk yard. A 3 year stint on a '76 Yamaha triple ended in '79 with the purchase of a Honda 750 K model. This was a little larger and enabled my wife June to ride with me.

During these years I rode with friends, never considering joining a club of any kind. My efforts at checking the bike for possible glitches had been purely instinctive, not triggered by anyone other than myself. It wasn't until 1983, when I purchased a brand new Yamaha Venture Royale, that I became involved in an organization strictly existing for motorcyclists. A friend and June and I formed a chapter of the Venture Touring Society and that was the beginning of my exposure to things like organized rides, club meetings and national rallies. The '83 Venture was followed by an '86 and then, because they were being phased out, a '93. Every one of those bikes was bulletproof.

It was also the beginning of the many trips June and I would take, eventually to have visited every state in the lower forty-eight minus one, which was Kansas. There are times when my memories simply overwhelm me, due to the many places I've been and all of the things I've seen.

People ask me to tell them the most interesting, spectacular, whiz bang thing I have seen over the years and it's very difficult to do so.

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The trip we took to see Mt. Saint Helens remains in my mind as the most interesting, spectacular, whiz bang thing I have ever seen. We were there ten years after the eruption and signs of it remained in stark detail.

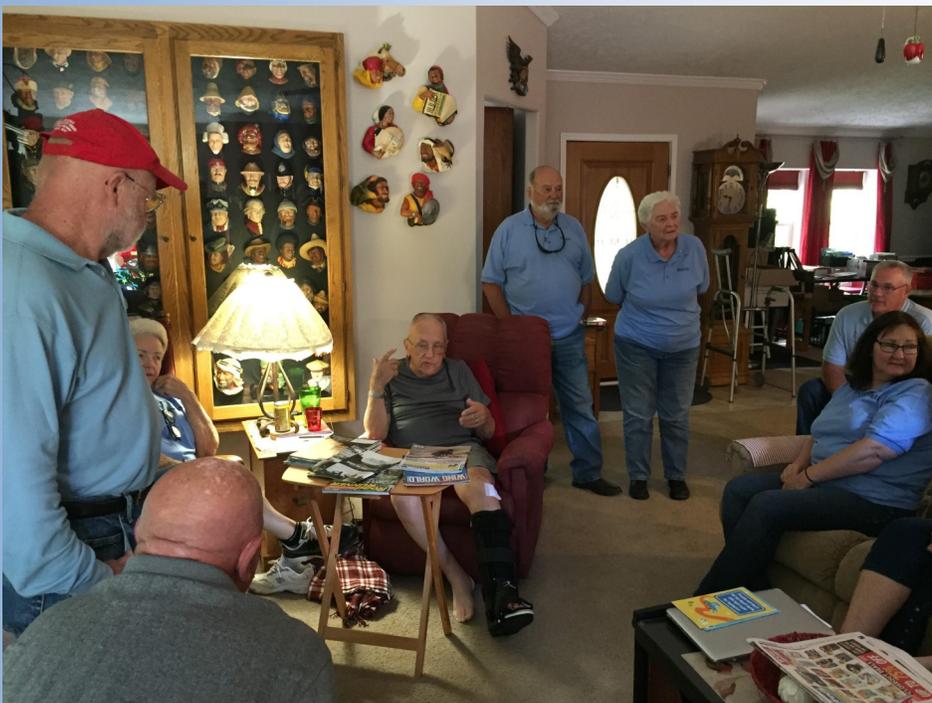
In 1999 we sold out in Minnesota and moved to what was then the quiet little mountain town of Hiawassee, Georgia. After a short time I traded for a '98 Honda 1500 which lasted until I test rode an 1800. Had to have it, sold the 1500, got the 1800 and rode it 10 years until June decided to stop riding. That span of time was the very best of our riding together due to the friends we made while participating in Georgia Chapter J of GWRRA.

I continued to ride after selling the Gold Wing, first on a Yamaha scooter, which proved to be too tall due to the fact that degenerative disc disease caused a six inch loss of height. Traded for a Honda CTX 700 with its 28" seat height. A great handling little bike, I had fun riding it and putting things like a tour box, back rest, lowers and extra lights on it. It served me well, aside from a harsh ride, right up until the crash and now, several weeks later, I still don't know what happened. According to the police report aggressive driving was a factor. The road I was on has a forty-five mile an hour speed limit, many tight curves, and I haven't ridden it often enough to speed on it, so I doubt I was riding over the limit.

Riding was a huge part of my life which I will miss greatly, as I will miss the friendships I made. I'm fully aware that despite the promises of continued contact, many of the friends I made riding will gradually disappear and of course, that's only natural. So I say to all my riding buddies, please be careful, use your heads, and try hard to be honest about when it's time to quit. I find myself in the strange position of worrying about all my friends that continue to find joy by hanging out there in the weather, no matter what it may be, laughing at the rain, wind, heat and cold, and arriving at their destination with huge smiles on their faces.

I bid you everlasting good luck my friends.

Jack



## Wing Ding

The trip to Wing Ding started off much like other rides. Gordon and Sandy, Roger and Dottie, Rod and Kay, Nick and Sandy along with Carol and I departed from the Blairsville Marathon under fair skies, all eager to get to our next Wing Ding. As scheduled, we met up with our CD (Dave) along the way and continued along Rt. 294. for a short time enjoying the twists and turns and the cool morning until it began to rain. We rode for a while hoping it might stop but it didn't so we put our rain gear on and continued. As we came into Tellico it cleared up so we pulled into a gas station and packed up our rain gear, took a short comfort stop and jumped on to Rt. 411 North. After getting through Maryville, we took 129 then 33 to 441 then across the Tennessee River bridge which put us right in front of the Knoxville Convention center. We turned to go behind the Building for parking to find bikes parked all over. We followed the directions of the police and ended up on a street along the curb in a rather QUESTIONABLE area. It didn't take us long to reposition our bikes to a safer area. Then it was on to The DING. These gatherings are filled with the most upbeat people you will encounter, read, KIDS IN A CANDY STORE. After a quick bite to eat and an attempt to gather our troops together, we all started off to find the stuff we need at the many vendors?? Which, after the first aisle, scattered us all over. As Carol and I found our friends from Illinois we found it hard to shop and visit all at one time but we managed. It seems to me that this rally shrinks each year, But, there were TWO.... YES TWO POTS AND PANS guys there. Didn't see the ladder guy though. He may finally have realized that we can't get those things strapped to our bikes?? Then it was on to our Motel.

Carol and I hooked up with our friends from the LAND OF LINCOLN for dinner, along with Rod and Kay and we had a super time together. The food was amazing as was the service and we made it a point to delight ourselves and our waitress with our antics. The manager actually came out to thank us and snapped a photos of us. Most of the others went to the WING DING DINNER. The next day found folks all splitting up and Gordon and Sandy and Carol and I searching for a breakfast stop, we found a great little place on the way home with TO DIE FOR PANCAKES! Maybe a ride just for that?? After our glut we headed for the LOST SEA and a rather rough hike to a rather short boat ride to see some half blind fish. And finally home.

Finally got a picture, This was Wednesday night after spending the day at Wing Ding.

Dinner with Rod and Kay and Carol and Fred along with a group of Fred and Carol's friends from Illinois G-2.

A Great ride with Great friends, Thanks to all who helped make this, Great !

Flathead Fred and Carol



## **Ride Report from September 5, 2018**

Wow what a ride the group took today. Due to the emasculate planning by Gordon & Sandy and the knowledge of twisty roads off of Rt. 294 from Dave we had a great ride. Our additional rider and passenger where Bob & Caroline. We enjoyed perfect weather ,overcast and not to warm. our lunch was at the Tellico Grains Bakery and was very good as usual. From there we went across the Cherohala Skyway and home on Hwy 129-141. We made a stop at Bald River Falls (Dave had no idea of its existence ). We all agreed the biggest missing items where riders and passengers.

Especially our good friend Jack. We missed you my friend !!!!

2 trikes, 1 bike 5 people

Gordon & Sandy Tomb

## RIDE REPORT

### 2018 Ride To Remember

September 9, 2018

We met at the Blairsville Marathon for a 7 AM departure. Roger LeRoy, Fred Henige, Allen Cecil, Nestor Morin, CD Dave Worsham and myself rolled out for Athens, GA., just as daylight was breaking at 7 AM.

We had intermittent fog until we cleared Neal Gap. We made a comfort stop at Ingles in Cleveland and changed goggles too. The ride to Athens was pleasant and uneventful. We stopped to top off at the Race Track station about a mile short of the Cycle World dealership.

Arriving shortly after 9AM, the parking lot marshals que'd us up quickly as bikes were pouring in steadily. Even though there had to be about 1,000 bikes there, everything was well organized. The Opening Ceremony, riding instructions and group prayer was at 10 AM. The call to roll out started with an explosion of engines and the leaders lead out in a column of two. It took close to 30 minutes to get everyone out on the Atlanta Highway.

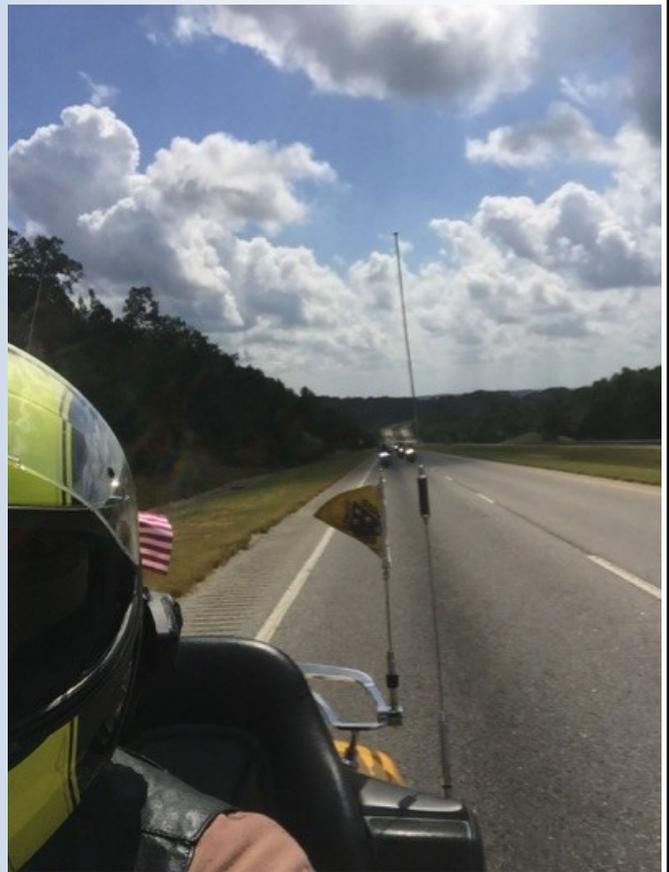
The ride wound its way through a lot of small towns with thousands of local folks out waving flags, cheering and taking video with their cell phones (who's going to watch those video's?). Drivers in both directions of travel stopped and stood in reverence and respect, hats off, hands over hearts, saluting, etc., as the column of bikes passed. It is moving and emotional to be a part of something like that.

We took a 30 minute break for comfort, food & fuel in Cornelia, then rolled out again. The column passed through Cleveland, GA., and continued up Hwy 129 to the Copperhead Lodge. As they turned west at Owl Town Road, our group stayed on Hwy 129 north as we'd had 8-9 hours in the saddle by then and were ready to get lunch and/or go home.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this annual ride to remember this 17th anniversary of the 3,000+ casualties and devastation of September, 11, 2001.

6 riders, 6 bikes/trikes, 200 miles, 9 hours.

Dennis Bible



## **RIDE REPORT**

### **SEPTEMBER 12, 2018**

With a forecast of rain hanging in the air, we had 9 riders and co-riders on 6 bikes show up at the Hiawasse Citgo Station. They were: Glenn Gottlieb (our ride leader for the day), Fred & Carol Henige, Gordon & Sandy Tomb, Roger & Dottie LeRoy and Tom & Jill McDaris. The weather was ideal as we rode north to Hwy. 64 taking us through Franklin, NC. In the community of Cullasaja, we turned north on Ellijay Road. This was a new road for some in the group as it has plenty of twists, curves and hairpin turns and takes us to Hwy. 107 where we turn right for about 5 miles to our first rest stop at a service station.

After our break, we stay on Hwy. 107 for only about 3 miles to our left turn onto Hwy. 281. Another fine twisty road, Hwy. 281 also known as Canada Road, takes us along the shores of Cedar Cliff Lake and Bear Creek Lake before we turn left on Charlie's Creek Road. With some dark clouds showing on the horizon, we turn left onto Hwy. 215. Just before reaching the underpass for the Blue Ridge Hwy., we decide to stop and put on some rain gear. Some donning a complete rain suit while others choosing rain jacket only. Getting back on the road, we encounter only light sprinkles of rain before reaching our lunch destination - The Jukebox Junction Restaurant and Soda Shoppe.

Located at the intersection of Hwy. 215 & Hwy. 276, the Jukebox has been serving milkshakes, malted drinks, ice cream, root beer floats, etc. for over 30 years. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their sandwiches and drinks in an atmosphere sprinkled with wall hangings showing celebrities and automobiles from the 50's & 60's. And they really did have a jukebox.

After lunch we headed west only about 5 miles on Hwy. 276 and into Waynesville, NC. Here we picked up Hwy. 74 heading towards Cherokee, NC. Just before the turn-off for Sylva, NC the sky opens up and we immediately pull to the side of the road to put our rain gear on again. Our leader, with no CB continues until he sees that we have stopped.

Getting back on the road in a continuing downpour, one couple takes the Sylva exit followed by our leader. The rest continue on Hwy. 74 to the exit for Hwy. 23 and Franklin. Here two couples continue on Hwy. 74 toward Bryson City, NC and one couple takes the exit heading toward Franklin.

Even though the rain split us into three separate groups, everyone made it home safe and sound. However, everyone has some wet clothing to help remember the day's events by. We still call it a fun day, despite the rain, and our thanks to Glenn for showing us some new roads and a great lunch stop.

Roger LeRoy

## October 2018 Events

Saturday, October 6, 2018—Chapter J Annual picnic Meeks Park

Thursday, October 11, 2018—Chapter Dinner Ride, Jim's Smokin Que, 5:00PM

Saturday or Sunday, October 13 or 14, 2018—Rome Air Show

Saturday, October 20, 2018—Chapter J Gathering Daniels Steak House

For last minute rides or information, please check GA Chapter J website.

<http://www.chapterj.gwrra-ga.com/>

## Notice

**October 31, 2018 is the deadline to update your contact information in the GWRRA Gold Book.**

678-343-3137

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Contact Bill Schleicher, 706-379-3018

[bschlei@windstream.net](mailto:bschlei@windstream.net)

