

# Heartland Wings

August 2015 Newsletter

GWTA  
Nebraska  
Chapter A



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## August Dinner Rides

Come Ride, Eat, and Play With the A-Team

Meet at the NW or SW spot @ 6 PM.

[NW: Cubby's @ 680 & Irvington | SW: Dept. of Roads @ 108<sup>th</sup> & I]

### **8-5 Business Meeting**

Millard Library 6:45 PM

13214 Westwood Lane

### **8-12 Main St Café (SW)**

221 Main St

Louisville, NE

402 234-3663

### **8-19 Henry's Diner (NW)**

Crescent, IA

712 545-3600

### **8-26 Mineola Steakhouse (SW)**

408 Main St

Minneola, IA

712 526-2078

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Saturday 9AM @ Dillon Brothers coffee and Destination  
Friendship

Sundays 9AM @ Golden Corral, 1511 Gregg Road West,  
Bellevue – Emergency Breakfast

## Upcoming GWTA Events

Hard Rock Café (Sioux City, IA) Fun Run – August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Date: 8-15-15.. Time: 2:00 PM

Place: North Meeting Spot

Buffet Prices: Dinner – **Saturday** -- 14.99

Brunch -- **Sunday** -- 12.99

Super 8, Comfort Inn, and Holiday Inn & Express

Motels are close to the casino....Scenic Park

Campgrounds is located right across the river from the  
casino [402-494-7531](tel:402-494-7531).....make your reservations now if  
you are planning on staying overnight....

Movie Night at the Brush's sometime in August or  
September

## Chapter Directors' Words of Wisdom

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"Read Mark's article, seriously."



Jim and Karen Durand



# NEBRASKA

# FRIENDSHIP CAMPOUT 2015

## August 28-30th

Mormon Island Grand Island, NE  
I-80 Exit 312

Come and join in for  
SMOKE fun.!

**Registration Per Person \$20.00 BEFORE 7/15 - \$35.00 AFTER 7/15**

Names _____	# of Members _____	@ \$20.00	\$ _____	Early Bird
Names _____	# of Members _____	@ \$35.00	\$ _____	Late Registration
Names _____	# of NON-Members _____	@ \$35.00	\$ _____	Non-Member
<i>Camping 1/2 site \$24.50 / Full site \$49.00</i>				
Size of Site _____	1/2 _____	Full _____	\$ _____	
		<b>Pre Registration 50/50 _____</b>	<b>@ \$1.00 EA</b>	\$ _____
Membership # _____	Chapter _____	Total Registration	\$ _____	

Your Registration Includes the Saturday Breakfast & Evening Meal & Sunday Breakfast!  
Make Checks Payable to **GWTA Nebraska** and send along with your Registration  
To... Barb Mills 16110 Platteview Rd. Springfield, NE 68059

# Meeting Minutes

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GWTA Chapter A  
Meeting Minutes  
Omaha Public Library-Millard Branch  
July 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chapter Director Karen Durand. There were 14 members present. The mysterious stranger visited the meeting again and handed out gold coins to all attendees!

June's meeting minutes were included in the July newsletter. A motion to accept the meeting minutes as published was made, seconded and passed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Mike Brush. Mike provided a 2 month treasurer's report which was carefully typed and all numbers seemed to add up. There was some question as to whom is actually doing the treasury work but leaders always get the credit and the workers go unnoticed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the report.

## **Old Business:**

Karen reviewed some of the planned activities.

- Freedom Rock tour. July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Meet at Casey's on Cornhusker & Highway 75. Kickstands up at 8:00 am.
- July 13-16 – Gold Rush XXVIII, Albuquerque, NM. Karen asked people to line up riding partners – take a look at her July Words of Wisdom and filing a flight plan.
- If anyone has any raffle tickets/money please get it to Karen soon. They need the ticket stubs in Indianapolis for the drawing during Gold Rush.
- Hard Rock Café (Sioux City, IA) Fun Run – August 15<sup>th</sup>. Leave from NW spot at 2:00 pm.
- Movie Night at the Brush's sometime in August or September.

## **New Business:**

- No Family of the Year in 2015 but Karen would like us to think of nominees for next year.
- Mark volunteered to provide the mileage report to GWTA HQ as Mit has retired from that job. Mike Brush has also volunteered to call anyone who is late providing their information at 3 am with a 'gentle' reminder.
- Chapter still has openings for a Safety (Rider Education?) and Ride Coordinators. Feel free to volunteer or nominate someone else.
- We had a good discussion led by Carol on recruitment ideas. What can we do differently to attract new members?
  - We discussed dinner every other week and some sort of recruitment activity the off weeks. Examples were to attend events with lots of people and have our bikes and colors in evidence.
  - We also discussed the need to prospect all of the time. As an added incentive, if we invite someone to attend a dinner ride the chapter could pay for their meal. After some discussion a motion was made, seconded and approved to try this recruitment approach.
- Rumor is that Monica Bumpus has a new Honda Stateline and Mit Grimes purchased a 50cc scooter.

Karen closed the meeting. We held a 50/50 drawing which Lynnette (?) won then off to DQ.

## Celebrations

### *Birthdays*

*8/8 Melanie Doyle*

*8/21 'Bump' Willenborg*

.....  
*I think you will have fun finding the song that was No.1 the day you were born.*

*Enjoy finding the song of others in your family and friends!!*

<http://playback.fm/birthday-song>

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What did the pirate say when he turned 80?

Aye Matey.

Region C at Gold Rush Kickoff



The Original 'Wild Hog' – Madrid, NM



What's different about the tree in the middle?



# Luck of the Irish

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You're so lucky.  
God has a plan for you.  
You need to buy a lottery ticket.  
You have a second Chance.  
God isn't done with you.

I don't know what the answer is but it's given me pause. Let me back up a bit.

It had been a fairly decent Gold Rush. When I headed for home Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, I had put on almost 2,200 mile and it was just under 1,000 from home. Hundreds of these miles were in the mountains – both in Colorado and New Mexico – fantastic scenery and fun twisties.

By 10:30 AM I was already assuming I'd be cancelling my hotel in Fort Morgan, CO and continuing another 150 miles or so into Nebraska for the night. Fort Morgan was a 450 mile day but I left around 5:00 AM so I'd already ridden 300 miles when I passed mile marker 60 on I-25 North.

That's when IT happened. I can't say exactly what IT specifically was. Was it the wind? Had I been looking at the big wind turbines as a certain smartass SOB mentioned? Was I watching the car I was passing at 75+ mph? I don't know. It doesn't matter cuz it was my fault.

Suddenly I was heading for the median and was past the rumble strips before I could take my feet off of the highway boards. When the front wheel dropped off of the pavement I knew I had no choice but to ride my 2008 Goldwing down.

At first it seemed to be working. I was keeping the bike upright and I remember thinking, 'I may be able to control her until I can get her stopped.' That thought didn't last long.

The front wheel hit a rut or something and the handlebars cranked to the right and I was flying through the air! My thoughts were this is it - I'm going to die. My life didn't flash before my eyes like they say. I think I thought of Nancy and was sorry to do this to her. Then I hit the ground!

I don't recall specifically if I rolled or just slid but when I came to a stop I was surprised to still be there. I started to sit up and my boom microphone was hanging by a wire so I took off my helmet (I know you're not supposed to do that but at the time I wanted out of it) and took an inventory. I could roll around and move my arms and legs so nothing seemed broken.

I stood up and was a little shaky but no pain yet. My sunglasses had flown off so I walked the 50 feet or so where my bike was laying on its left side, opened the left side pocket and took out my glasses case and put on my regular glasses.

The first thing I noticed was pieces of red plastic lying all over the place. The Iron Rider bag I carry strapped to the luggage rack was about 25 feet on the other side of the motorcycle – ended up that 4 of the metal hooks snapped right I half and the bag took its own ride.

About that time Erin (I wish I had her contact information) came up to me and said she had called 9 1 1. There was a police car just down the road at a traffic stop and they should be here soon. Another guy came and

# Luck of the Irish

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suggested we set up the bike. I grabbed the handlebar and passenger grab bar and lifted her up – when she started to sink in the sand I grabbed my Kawasaki kickstand plate and set it down so the bike was upright. Erin, who informed me that she had been an EMT, told me to sit down as I shouldn't be walking.

She said she had been behind me and saw a big cloud of dust and then a red motorcycle flipping head over heels multiple times down the median. I think that was the first time someone told me I was lucky to be alive.

Pretty soon a sheriff showed up then Colorado highway patrol. A couple more 'you're lucky to be alive' and 'you should buy a lottery ticket'.

An ambulance showed up and checked me out. Other than sore neck and shoulders, I was pretty good. They released me and headed out.

Meanwhile Erin had gathered some of the bigger pieces of plastic and metal that were strewn all over the median. Somehow she found my new \$350 sunglasses which were untouched.

Officer Miller of the Colorado State Police stayed with me. He told me he'd never seen anyone live through an accident like this, never mind be up and walking when he got there. He told me that more than once.

He arranged for Daniels Towing out of Walenburg to come and Chris showed up with a pickup and a trailer. By this time another Trooper was there – he used to be a motorcycle cop until he crashed. The four of us muscled the bike through the sand and up into the trailer. The wheels turned but the steering was shot so Chris had to keep picking up the front end when the bike needed to be adjusted.

We headed to Pueblo and dropped the bike off at Timme Motor Sales. Those guys were great. They helped get the bike off of the trailer and found a spot for it in the garage. I was trying to figure out what to do next.

Should I call Nancy and have her bring the truck – we could rent a trailer and haul the bike back? Could I call Terry Dunaway and have him bring his trailer? I knew he would if I asked. Should I rent something there? The owner, Mr. Timme, solved that. He said I could just leave it there and they would work with the insurance adjuster as the bike was totaled.

The bike was totaled. I think I probably knew that but I hadn't admitted it and no one had said it out loud. I guess that made things a little clearer. I need to get a rental car and get home.

That was the next challenge. Not a single Pueblo, CO rental car company – and I called them all – would rent a car with a drop off in Omaha. I was stuck.

The sales manager suggested I call a rental company at the Colorado Spring airport and there was a shuttle service that would take me there. I canceled my Fort Morgan hotel reservation and made one at the Super 8 in Pueblo. Then I found a rental car from Enterprise. Some other companies wanted almost \$500 for a one day rental to cover the one way trip.

Physically I'm in pretty good shape. My neck and shoulders are pretty sore and I will probably have my doctor check it out. I have a little road rash on the inside of my left knee and my right calf and foot are bruised pretty

# Luck of the Irish

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badly and dinged up. A little bit of road rash on my left elbow. Maybe the guy who stopped and said I was one tough hombre was right. Ha, ha. Doesn't feel like it to me.

Here's some pictures I took at the scene. I have some final thoughts after these pics.





## Luck of the Irish

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### Final thoughts:

- ATGATT – All The Gear, All The Time. Boy is that the truth.
  - I was riding in Colorado – a helmet optional state but wearing my brand new (guess that's a total loss) HJC modular full face helmet. When I looked at the helmet there were a few new chips (it took a header off of my seat at the Region C rally – damn!) and scratches on the helmet and face shield. So I'm thinking how would my head be if I wouldn't have been wearing that helmet?
  - I also was wearing my new TourMaster mesh jacket with armored elbows, shoulders and back. The jacket had definite skid marks on both the shoulders and elbow. How much road rash would there have been if I was wearing a t-shirt and leather vest?
  - I was also wearing heavy motorcycle boots. My worst visual injury was to my right calf. Some scrapes bruises. What I think happened was when I was thrown off of the bike to the left, my right leg broke off air wings and others pieces of the bike as I flipped over. If I hadn't been wearing those boots – not so good.
- Honda makes one tough motorcycle. After flipping however many times – Office Miller found at least 3 spots – not a single bag came open. They weren't locket just stayed shut and I opened and closed them all multiple times when I was emptying the bike.
- Complacency. I estimate I rode around 500 miles in the mountains on this trip and I crash on the Interstate! Not paying attention to the risks inherent in riding no matter what the road was the issue here.
- Lucky? God's plan? God isn't done with you? I don't know about any of that. What really sticks with me was when Office Miller said, "You have a second chance." When I got home and described in detail to Nancy what happened she started to cry. How selfish am I to take these trips and not really think about her at home worrying about me?

I've always had a cavalier attitude about life but I think I need to take this second chance. I need to be a husband to my wife, a father to my daughters and a grandfather to my granddaughter. So my motorcycle days are over. I'm going to take this second chance since it's been offered to me. Besides, we have a Mustang convertible to ride those twisties on. Almost the same – almost. Some of you may understand where I'm coming from. Some of you may not. I really don't care. If you don't agree with my direction that's you're right but keep it to yourself.

Mark Holling GWTA #105204

# Bike Buzz – News, Rumors, Innuendo, Gossip, etc.

MOTORCYCLE RECALLS FROM MC Consumer NEWS (Mar - Aug 2015)				
BRAND	MODEL/YEAR	COMPONENT	NHTSA ID#	MCC NEWS ISSUE
Aprilia (Piaggio)	2015 Caponord 1200/2014-15 Shiver 750	Powertrain	15V007000	March-15
BMW	Numerous produced from 11/2003 - 4/2011	Rear wheel flange	TBD	June-15
BMW	Too many to list	Final Drive	TBD	May-15
Brammo	2013-14 Empulse/Empulse R	Powertrain	15V053000	April-15
Ducati	2010-2014 Multistrada 1200	Throttle	RCL-15-001	July-15
Ducati	2014 1199 Penigal, Superleggera	Suspension	RCL-15-002	Auguat-15
Harley Davidson	2012 Dyna & Softail	Brakes, Hydraulics	14V794000	March-15
Harley Davidson	2014-2015 Electra Glide, Street Glide, Road Glide & Road King	Powertrain - Clutch	HD 0165	July-15
Harley Davidson	2015 XG500 & XG750	Exterior Lighting - Visibility	HD 0650	July-15
Harley Davidson	LED Turn Signal Accessory for Dyna/Softails	Exterior Lighting	15E011000	May-15
Honda	2014 brs1000s	Suspension	JQ3	July-15
Husqvarna	2015 FE350S & 2015 FE501S	Suspension	15V055000	April-15
Indian	2015 Scout	Hydraulic Service Brakes	15V142000	May-15
Kawasaki	2009-13 Concours 14 Police	Electrical System	15V117000	May-15
KTM	Assoc with 15V055000 recall	Suspension	15V055000	April-15
Piaggio/Vespa		Fuel System	15V066000	April-15
Shark Helmets	Shark Raw	Fails impact attenuation regs	14E086000	March-15
Suomy	Apex S1R EX	Helmet	15E006000	May-15
Triumph	2011-14 Triumph Explorer 1200	Structure - side stand bolt	14V765000	March-15
Triumph	2014-2015 Daytona 675R & Speed Triple R	Suspension	SB524	July-15
Victory	2013-14 Cross Country, Eight Ball, Hard Ball, Jackpot, Ness Cross	Fuel System	15V002000	March-15
Yamaha	Multiple 2015 models	Powertrain		July-15

## Victory Motorcycles unveils electric Empulse TT



(Victory Motorcycles)

4 months after Polaris took over the Brammo electric MC Company, they unveiled their 1<sup>st</sup> battery powered bike. Sales price later this year for the 470 lb, 54 hp, 61 ft. lbs of torque and 57-100 mile range will be \$19,999. Six speed transmission and 100 mph limited top speed although the bike did hit 145 mph in the Isle of Mann TT Zero race this year. <http://www.foxnews.com/leisure/2015/07/29/victory-motorcycles-unveils-electric-empulse-tt/?intcmp=hpf>.

# Rides

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Submit your favorite picture for the 'Rides' page.