

GWTA Regional Directors & Operations Meeting  
Billings Hotel  
Billings, MT.  
October 12 & 13, 2007

Attending: Bruce & Linda Keenon, Executive Directors  
JR & Lindy Phillips – Region A Directors  
Steve & Ralphine Andrus – Region B Directors  
Barb Johnson, Region C Director  
Kris Rogers, Region F Directors  
Ronnie & Kathe Vaughn, Rider Education Directors  
Mike & Carol Brush, Education & Retention Directors  
Di Hennings – Helping Hands Director  
John Hunrath - Webmaster  
Linda Grimm – Executive Secretary

George & Debbie Deskins, Region D Directors (unable to attend)  
Wiliferd & Charlotte Lair - Region E Directors (unable to attend)  
Phil & Sue Rueger – Region H Directors (unable to attend)  
Jim & Tania Anderson - Region J Directors (unable to attend)  
Tony & Diane Manry, National Event Coordinators (unable to attend)

### **Friday – October 12, 2007**

Nancy O’Leary from the Billings Convention and Visitor Center was introduced and told us that Billings was made famous because of the railroad and beef industry. She reminded ALL to watch your speed in Montana – especially out of state license plates. There are several tours and rides close to Billings. They are:

Little Big Horn reenactment  
Cody, WY (1 ½ hr away)  
Buffalo Bill Center  
Remington Collection Display  
Beartooth Pass – beautiful view – elevation over 11,000 ft.  
Sacrifice Hill  
Red Lodge Historic town

Cheri Milne of The Billings Hotel & Convention Center led us on a tour of their facilities. The convention center is approximately 11,000 sf. and will host the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. The registration area will be in the Explorer Room. They will also host the Sunday night family dinner with a “Pitch Fork Fondue Dinner”.

Susan of the Holiday Inn and Convention Center led us on a tour of their facilities. The convention center is approximately 30,000 square feet and will host ALL the vendors inside and seminars will be in this facility. She also has several rooms available for individual region dinners or regional meetings.

A reminder that the 2 for 1 registrations for Gold Rush XXI will end on December 31, 2007 (postmark) and NO extensions will be given after that date. The Region that registers the most by Dec. 31, 2007 will receive a \$100 gift certificate to Costco.

The theme for Gold Rush will be: **“The Legend Lives On”**. Bruce asked for any names of members that might be interested in being the Vendor Coordinator for Gold Rush. Please contact him ASAP if someone in your region is interested in this position.

Nancy led us on a motorcade tour that included many sites in and around Billings. Our tour included:

- The Moss Mansion
- Wilcoxson Ice Cream Store
- Rand’s Custom Hat Shop
- Billings Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Center

Friday evening found us at the Acton Bar & Grill, north of Billings for a delicious dinner and FUN entertainment.

### **Saturday – October 13, 2007**

Duties of Regional Directors and Operations Staff Members

1. Region A – Bike Show
2. Region B – Ho Down Dance committee chair people and First Timers
3. Region C – Campsite Judging including rules, Light Parade, Ice Cream Ride, Ladies Ride & Lunch, State Spirit Rules
4. Region D – Registration & Talent Show
5. Region E – On bike games (related to western theme)
6. Region F – Light show, dirty bingo & Iron Eagle competition
7. Region H – Registration & Family Games (related to western theme)
8. Region J – Cake Drive, Chapter Pride (Post new guidelines in TN that make it fun) input from ALL Staff
9. Vaughn’s – Safety Seminars
10. Brush’s – Chapter Olympics, Chapter Director’s Seminar, Education & Retention Seminar
11. Wrights – Golf
12. Hunrath’s – Web Seminar, Craft Class
13. Hennings – Helping Hands Seminar, Battle of the Regions
14. Grimm’s – Bike Raffle Ticket sales and collections
15. Gold Rush schedule was discussed in detail and several changes were suggested. A tentative schedule will be sent out ASAP.
16. EACH Regional will provide 2 GREAT 50/50 Couples to sell for a day @ Gold Rush. Give names to Bruce. They will sell 3-4 different colored tickets each day with sets of 10 for \$5. Colors will rotated each day.
17. It was decided that there will be no Best Dressed Couple Competition due to low participation. Must be printed in TN several times prior to GR.

## **Gold Rush Tentative Schedule**

### **Monday**

Opening

First Timers 30 min after opening in same building

Day full of Seminars scheduled at least 15 minutes apart.

Webmaster Seminar at least 1 hr.

(1) Dirty Bingo

Lite Parade

Lite Show

Ice Cream Ride

### **Tuesday**

Living Logo in soccer field close to Hotels

10:00 AM - Great Lakes Drill Team in Holiday Inn Parking lot

Iron Eagle Competition

Accident Management Seminar right after Iron Eagle Competition

Ladies ride & Lunch w/ Barb Johnson (Region C Director)

Amusement Park Activity

Harley cookout?

Dance in evening

### **Wednesday (SAFETY DAY)** (wear Orange Safety Shirt)

8:00 AM - Chapter Directors Seminar

8:00 AM - SRC 2&3 wheel

11:00 AM - On Bike Games

(2) Dirty Bingo

PM - Family Games

5-6 PM - Bike Show set up downtown

6-7 PM - Bike Show Downtown

5-7 PM - Street Party Downtown Depot

7:00PM - Drill Team (Bow Wow Girls)

### **Thursday**

9:00-12:00 AM - SRC 2 & 3 Wheel

Talent Show

Battle of Regions

Closing Ceremonies - Awards ceremony will be combined with closing. ALL trophies need be given out at each event and posted on marker boards that are to be setup at the information table. Need HUGE information table banners. Information table needs to be manned at all times with 50/50 tickets also.

Financial information was discussed, including budgets, ways to increase revenue's & ways to increase membership numbers and \$\$\$.

Our tour continued from yesterday, with a visit to the local Harley-Davidson shop and the local Honda shop. Then on to visit the KOA campgrounds, which is only 4-5 miles from the hotels. Please remind members to make their reservations at the Holiday Inn or Billings Hotel NOW if they think they will be attending Gold Rush next summer. The KOA will be taking reservations for next summer after January 1, 2008.

## **Region Reports**

**Region A** – JR & Lindy Phillips – A November 3 date was set for the Education & Rider Education Seminar at Hinshaw's Honda in Auburn. Oregon has already scheduled their meeting. The Eastern Washington seminar is tentative scheduled for mid Nov.

**Region B** – Steve & Ralphine Andrus – Winter Weekend is scheduled for March 28-30, 2008 in Sacramento, CA. Check Touring News for registration form – details to follow.

**Region C** – Barb Johnson – Several Education & Rider Education Seminars have been scheduled within their region.

**Region F** – Kris Rogers – Several Education & Rider Education Seminars have been scheduled within their region.

## **Operations Staff Members Reports**

**Helping Hands** – Di Hennings – Di gave a report of the monies collected for Helping Hands and the requests for help. Several criteria's have been put into place to ensure we are helping those really in need of financial help for major motorcycle accidents and major medical problems.

**Bike Raffle Ticket Sales** – Linda Grimm – We have set our goal of over 60,000 bike raffle tickets to be sold this next year. Tickets will be available in December and are not to be sold till January 1, 2008, so as to not conflict with the 7 Chance tickets being sold till December 31, 2007.

**Safety Program** – Ronnie & Kathe Vaughn – Several seminars will be presented at Gold Rush in July for both 2 wheels and 3 wheels. Many members have obtained Level 4 in the Rider Education Program.

**Touring News** – Bruce Keenon – Members are encouraged to send pictures and write articles for Touring News.

**Retention & Education** – Mike & Carol Brush – Retention and Education seminars have been scheduled in ALL regions. Several seminars will also be presented at Gold Rush.

**Webmaster** – John Hunrath – The "GWTA.ORG" web page will be updated and a new look soon. Some new additions will be added including a section for "trikes".

## **Review**

1. The future of GWTA was discussed at length. We must ALL have a positive attitude and NO NEGATIVITY!
2. Communication is a lot of WORK and that is something, we ALL need to work on! Bruce will have a conference call in January to update us all on Gold Rush. He will set date later.
3. Communication – work with each Region’s Board of Directors
4. Recruiting was discussed and we see NO way we cannot increase membership with the “Free membership” program available till November 30, 2007.
5. A good time was enjoyed by ALL staff members. We will ALL return to our regions and encourage “Destination Friendship”

Linda Grimm  
Executive Secretary/Bike Raffle Ticket Sales