

NORTH CENTRAL ILLINOIS WILD ROSES' ROSE PEDALS



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Director's Letter

By Gigi Beard, Chapter Director

Happy Anniversary Roses!

It was one year ago this month that a group of people I call "the original 7" met at the China House in DeKalb for the first organizational meeting of a new chapter of Women On Wheels®.

We were supported by a handful of members from the Northwind Riders chapter as well as Illinois State Ambassador, Rusty Harmening. There were 12 total in attendance.

Mary Schulz ran our first 50/50 drawing which yielded \$64 after the winner donated the money back to the chapter and the meeting attendees piled money on the table in order to make sure we had the \$50 required to charter the chapter.

I handed the money to Mary Lynn Buckner and appointed her Treasurer. Liz Fisher took our first meeting minutes and then I handed the rose colored notebook and pen I purchased especially for that purpose to Venita Larson and appointed her Secretary. I asked for a volunteer for Road Captain and Sharon Boda stepped up to the plate. I asked for a volunteer for Newsletter Editor and Shelly Zachary accepted the position. The remaining two new members, Barbara Manning and Mark Larson became our Assistant Chapter Director and our Sergeant at Arms.

Our first newsletter came out the following month. The theme was blue, it was four pages long and contained two for sale ads, a Did You Know section and an Announcement that Bob-Jo Cycle had signed on as our sponsoring dealership.

Those seven people and Bob-Jo Cycle formed the foundation upon which the Wild Roses chapter was built.

Now, 36 members strong, we are making great progress and having great fun. I am very proud of the accomplishments of this chapter. Each and every

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member has brought his or her own talents to the group and has used them to make it better. I want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to the chapter and for working so hard to make it a success.

You make this chapter special and I look forward to watching the chapter continue to evolve and grow long after my time as Chapter Director has passed.

Ride Safe - Ride Often
Gigi



Membership News

Please join us in welcoming the following new members to the NCI Wild Roses:

Chris Bowman
Carla Clayton

To date, the following members of the NCI Wild Roses are planning to attend the International Conference in Kerrville, TX in July. Be sure to let them know if you'd like to join them:

Gigi Beard
Shelly Zachary

Notes from the Activities

Coordinator

By Mary Lynn Buckner marylynnbuckner@hotmail.com

Help! I need ideas for fun activities. Well, I know just being out there riding is fun, but I need some help with the extras. Right now, I'm focusing on places to visit and eat at while we're on our monthly post meeting rides. So, if you're familiar with an area that we're going to this year, and have a favorite sight or restaurant, please let me know.

By now, some of you have started collecting photos of yourself on our "Points of Interest" Tour. Remember, you must have a sign stating "2009" in the photo. You make your own sign. It can be an old pillowcase, a piece of cardboard, whatever. If it gets ruined in a rainstorm, or you lose it, just make another. Also, if you have some ideas for next year's Points of Interest Tour, please tell me. I'll start keeping notes now, so that we'll have a great list ready for 2010.

I know there are other great ideas for fun activities for our group that you may know of. Please send them my way. Thanks!

International Female Ride Day

Don't forget that Friday, May 1st is International Female Ride Day. This event occurs on the first Friday of May each year. This is one day devoted to women riders of all ages and all experience levels. It is a chance to demonstrate your personal passion and pleasure for riding. The concept is to simply JUST RIDE -- no matter where you live or what you ride. Be one of the thousands of women who participate!



Update on T-Bone



Hello, my name is T-Bone. I want to welcome you to my travels across the by-ways, thorough-fares, bridges, tunnels, mountains, hills, lakes and... and... and... Steak Houses as I journey across America en route to the Women On Wheels® 23rd Annual International Ride-In in Kerrville, TX. My website is <http://wowirondragons.org/tbone.html>.

Here's the latest update on T-Bone's whereabouts:

"T-Bone is in **IOWA** enjoying the spring weather with the Heart of Iowa gals until MAY 4th. Then he will be shipped to **MAINE** per Kay Woods' instructions.

Thanks, [Cindy Gildea \(CDHOI\)](#) 🌹

Don't forget to think about where we can take T-Bone when he joins us here in Illinois. As soon as we know the dates we will let you know.

Member Birthdays

Be sure to wish the following members of the NCI Wild Roses a Happy Birthday in April & May:

- 🌸 Laura Adkins - April 2
- 🌸 Shelly Zachary - April 5
- 🌸 Mark Larson - May 9
- 🌸 Carol Fowler - May 21



Member Spotlight

By Shelly Zachary

Our member spotlight this month is shining on Cynthia Jo Fabrizias. When I asked Cynthia Jo where she was from she said “Bob-Jo Cycle Co.--born in 1956 and raised in the motorcycle shop.”

Cynthia Jo manages several family businesses that her Dad built that include the Sycamore Speedway, Bob-Jo Cycle Co. and The Winner’s Circle Bar & Grill. She is single and has two children.

As you can imagine, Cynthia Jo’s Dad got her started riding at an early age. She says that “he loved motorcycles and racing.” When I asked how long she has been riding she told me that she started riding “at the age of 5—so a very long time.” I am sure it will not surprise any of you that everyone in Cynthia Jo’s family rides.

Cynthia Jo’s first bike was a homemade Mini Trail built in 1961. She currently rides a Scooter. She says the longest trip she has taken on a bike was 200 miles—I forgot to ask if that was on her Scooter or on a different bike...

When asked if there is one trip that she has taken on a bike that is her favorite, Cynthia Jo said that “all of the trips she has taken would qualify.” This led me to my next question where I asked her if she had a special trip she wanted to take on a bike. Her answer, “some day when I retire”—guess that means that riding is what she plans to do when she retires and they will all be special. I think that also supports that her favorite thing about riding is the “feeling of freedom.”

Cynthia Jo became involved with the Wild Roses after our Chapter Director, Gigi Beard, approached her and asked if she would be interested in Bob-Jo Cycle Co. becoming a sponsor dealership. Not only was Cynthia Jo honored to do so, she even offered to open up one of her other businesses, The Winner’s Circle Bar & Grill, on the fourth Saturday of every month so that the Wild Roses could meet for breakfast and their meeting.

When I asked Cynthia Jo what she would like to see the Wild Roses do in the future she said that she “wants to see the Wild Roses plan more riding trips and get together.” I, for one, agree—but I sure hope she will take some time off from all of her businesses and join us on some of them.

March Minutes

By Shelly Zachary

The March meeting was held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at The Winner’s Circle Bar & Grill in Maple Park, IL. We had 14 members, 3 support members and 4 guests present for a total of 21 people in attendance. Gigi opened the meeting by introducing everyone and welcoming our guests. She took the time to explain WOW and the Code of Conduct to our guests and also read the Mission Statement.

Old Business:

Cumulative & Annual Mileage: Gigi asked that if anyone knew what their mileage was to please write it down and give it to her so that she can get it recorded in the database she has set up to track our mileage in our Yahoo group. She also reminded everyone to be sure to submit their Cumulative Mileage form as well as their Annual Mileage form to the national office. She explained that for the Annual Mileage contest your form cannot be postmarked any earlier than April 1st. She also pointed out that this contest is not just for fun and prizes. The national office collects the information about the type of bikes, their CC rating and the number of miles ridden by women and sends it to the manufacturers. She pointed out that some of the advances that have been made in the styling of bikes with lower seat height and protective clothing styles for women are due to the submission of this information. So even if you don’t expect to win a prize, she asked that we participate in this valuable program.

Logo/Patch Design: Gigi advised that our logo choice (logo revision C) has been submitted to the national office for review by the Board of Trustees. She expects to hear from them in the next couple of weeks. Mary advised that the Logo Vendor Committee would have a report next month regarding possible vendors and prices.

Track Day: Kim gave an update on track day which is scheduled for May 14th. Fortunately, even though we did not get the minimum amount of people to sign up, they have agreed to still take our group that day. She went through a brief overview of what “track day” is and asked that anyone who is interested that has not signed up to be sure to let her know as soon as possible.

New Business:

Treasurer’s Report: Gigi reported on behalf of Mary Lynn that we have a balance of \$342.75 in our account. She also announced that we raised \$66 in today’s 50/50 raffle—Becky was our lucky winner.

Road Captain's Report

By Sharon Boda

Secretary's Report: The Minutes from the February meeting were presented in the March Newsletter. No changes were noted and the Minutes were accepted.

Activities Coordinator Report: Gigi reported on behalf of Mary Lynn that a draft of our 2009 Point of Interest Tour is posted in the March Newsletter. Gigi asked that we all review it and either send out an email to the group at nciwildroses@yahoo.com or let Mary Lynn know at the next meeting if we have questions or suggested changes. A brief discussion was had about the type of sign we would be required to have for the pictures. Gigi reminded everyone that the information would be posted on our Yahoo website.

Road Captain's Report: Due to the time of year, no report was given. Sharon did hand out copies of the 2009 Ride Schedule.

Nominating Committee: Sue advised that she and Val have been working on developing a proxy form. She said that she talked with Kim from Northwind Riders to get a feel for how they handle their elections. Some discussion was had about the difference between a proxy and an absentee ballot.

Quarterly Report: Gigi advised that she recently submitted her Quarterly Report to the national office and the Illinois State Ambassador, Rusty Harmening. She advised that our current membership status is 36 total members—25 full members, 8 support members, 1 child member and 2 dealer members.

Moonshine Lunch Run Coordination: Gigi provided information about hotels in the Casey, IL area for the Moonshine Lunch Run April 17–19th. Those members who are planning to attend discussed meeting places and departure times.

Proper Technique for Picking up a Bike: Gigi advised that Chuck from Bob-Jo Cycle has arranged to have a bike available for us to use so that Gigi can demonstrate and we can all practice the proper technique for picking up a bike. Everyone who was interested agreed to meet over at Bob-Jo Cycle after the meeting adjourned.

Literature: Becky let the group know that she brought in some books she had regarding motorcycling and offered to let anyone who was interested in reading them to borrow them. She also recommended we all consider reading the book Proficient Motorcycling by David Hough.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for April 25th.

A few members of the Wild Roses, who were not fortunate enough to attend the Moonshine Lunch Run this past weekend, met up with several ladies from the Northwind Riders chapter to ride to Starved Rock. Chris (a new member from DeKalb) and I met at Rachel's house near Earlville late Saturday morning. The three of us and Rachel's husband – Mike, left from there to meet up with ladies of the Northwind Riders in Seneca.

One could tell that it was one of the first good weekends for riding by the number of bikes that were out. We saw several large groups of riders and numerous small groups, gathered at the gas station in Seneca. After the Northwind Riders arrived, we bought sandwiches for lunch and headed over to the LST monument in Crotty Park, so the ladies could get their points of interest pictures. Just in case you're wondering, LST stands for "Landing Ship Tank". These ships were built for World War II in Seneca during the 1940's at the "Prairie Shipyard". The monument serves to remember those who both built and served on these ships during WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

After having lunch in the park, some of the Northwind Riders stayed behind and enjoyed the afternoon by playing dominoes. Our Wild Roses group and the remaining NWR's went on to Marseilles to visit the Middle East Conflicts Memorial, which kept with our "war" theme for the day. While there, Rachel, Chris, and I got photos for our points of interest contest, then it was off to our destination – Starved Rock. We had an enjoyable ride over, taking the back roads from Marseilles, by-passing Ottawa and riding through the curves of Starved Rock taking in the scenery.

This last leg of the ride, proved to be the most eventful. We were almost to the Starved Rock Lodge, when traffic came to a halt. It seems that a fellow motorcycle rider went down in one of the curves. It was a sobering reminder that we have to ride alert at all times, ride within our limits, and be prepared for anything. After a brief stop in the parking lot for a few more photos, the group decided our last stop would be for ice cream in Utica. A minor electrical setback, for the spouse of a NWR, was taken care of in the parking lot of the lodge and we all met up again at the ice cream shoppe. Once we had our fill of ice cream, the Northwind Riders decided it was time for them to head home and beat the rain. Our Wild Roses group decided to sneak in a little shopping in town, before heading home. Hopefully, most of the riders made it home before the rain hit. Until next time, remember – If you wait to ride, all that happens is that you get older.

Rusty's Ramblings

By Rusty Harmening, Illinois State Ambassador

My visit in Effingham was worth the trip. The Girls Gone Biking was a first time event for Legacy Harley Davidson and I think it went very well. At the beginning of the program, they questioned the attendees with three questions: 1) How many have been on a bike as the rider? 2) How many have been on a bike as a passenger only? and 3) How many have never been on a bike as either a rider or passenger? Of the 35 ladies there, about one quarter raised their hand for being a rider, most raised their hand for being a passenger, and 4 or 5 raised their hand for none of the above. I'm glad they had the courage to attend and see what it's all about.

While I was there I got to meet with two new members. One who had just received her membership packet and one who wrote a check and filled out the application which I put in the mail the next day. Let's hope they can convince a few friends to join. I was able to leave W.O.W. information at two dealerships who had never heard of Women On Wheels®. Getting a couple Chapters started in the middle of IL will help bridge the gap between the northern Chapters and the one Chapter in southern Illinois and open up a whole new area for rides and charity events.

Because I have someplace to stay for free, Springfield is my next target for posting W.O.W. information in dealerships.

The schedules are getting busy in June. First on everyone's schedule is the Peoria Gathering, June 5-7th. This is the Springfield Campout moved to Stoney Creek Inn in E. Peoria. The hostessing chapter, the Northwind Riders have moved the event to Peoria and I am looking forward to riding some new roads. There is also camping available nearby. Contact the NWR's for more information.

Next on the NWR schedule is a Meet & Ride with the Indy Ladies June 12-15th and a June 13th ride to Lacon along the scenic river roads for those not making a weekend of it. The meeting on June 20th includes a ride to meet with the NCI Wild Roses and the IL Red Hawk Riders. They have June 20-21st listed as Sturgis on the River in Davenport, IA, but the dates for this are actually June 17-20th. June 28th they're going to Turkey Run State Park in Indiana.

The NCI Wild Roses are planning on going to the Gathering, but also have a chance to go to Fox Valley Cycle Dirt Days on June 7th. They'll be meeting with the NWR on the 20th or going on the Illinois Freedom Run from Joliet to Marseilles. On June 21st they're going to the Rock River Hill Climb in Polo and June 27-28th is the JP Cycle Open House in Anamosa, IA.

The River Riders Chapter has at least a couple members who plan to attend the Gathering and then on June 11th their Ice Cream Dinner Ride will be to The Depot in New Windsor. Sturgis on the River is June 17-20 at the Mississippi Fair Grounds in Davenport, IA. This event has grown and moved several times since the first one 15 years ago. Although the Davenport river front was a great location, the river forced a last minute move to higher ground last year. The new location has prompted the promoter to increase the number of days for this event and to bring in new activities. For more information go to www.sturgisontheriver.com. June 25th the River Riders are going to meet at Wild Cat Den State Park for their June meeting and on the 27th they're off to the J&P Open House.

The Shawnee Riders have a meeting June 4th in Herrin and on June 11th plan to attend Bike Night at Mike's Drive-In in W. Frankfort. On June 14th they'll all be attending their W.O.W. Family Picnic.

A last minute reminder, send in those mileage forms. IL only had 11 entries last year! And 5 of those were from the River Riders Chapter which is probably the smallest Chapter in the state! W.O.W. needs these numbers to send to the manufacturers so even if you don't have a shot at "winning" the mileage contest, the survey is important and with that information we'll all "win".

Ride Safe,
Rusty

Points of Interest Tour

2009 NCI Wild Roses Points of Interest Tour

Purpose:

1. Promote a positive image of motorcycling.
2. Encourage riding and have fun.
3. Members who submit photos of any of the sites noted below will become eligible to enter a drawing for a prize.

Guidelines:

1. Eligibility is limited to Full Members.
2. Participant must travel to each point of interest by motorcycle.
3. Proof of your visit must be documented by a photo of your motorcycle (and you if possible) with your "Points of Interest 2009" participation sign.
4. Label the back of each photograph with your name & the point of interest.
5. Each photograph submitted is good for one chance in the prize drawing.
6. Deadline for photos is December 31, 2009.
7. We will draw for prizes at the January 2010 planning meeting. You don't need to be present to win, but you must get your photos to Mary Lynn Buckner. Remember, I can't get them electronically, as you must provide a hard copy and label the back.

Points of Interest:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Dixon Arch, Dixon, IL | 9. Wind Mill Farm * |
| 2. Totem Pole* | 10. Lock & Dam |
| 3. Any state line sign * | 11. The Train in Amboy, IL |
| 4. Cow statue* | 12. Ferry * |
| 5. Chief Blackhawk Statue, Lowden State Park | 13. A large character (such as "Big Boy") * |
| 6. Freedom Wall, Marseilles, IL | 14. Abe Lincoln * |
| 7. Swiss Chalet* | 15. Wooden Bridge * |
| 8. Kettle Moraine State Park sign | |

*There is no limit to the number of photos you submit of these points, as long as they are different, and the back of the photo is labeled with the location.

Awards:

1. A certificate will be presented to each participant.
2. The points of interest tour winner will receive a prize selected from a random drawing the will take place at the January 2010 Planning Session.

Ride and Meeting Schedule

Chapter Meetings

April 25, 2009 @ 8:30 am

The Winner's Circle Bar & Grill
Highway 64; Maple Park, IL

May 23, 2009 @ 8:30 am

The Winner's Circle Bar & Grill
Highway 64; Maple Park, IL

Rides & Upcoming Events of Interest

April 25, 2009

Tech Days Hosted by Kim Muhr—she's going to show us how to do some basic maintenance on our bikes.

April 26, 2009

Pecatonica Swap Meet; Winnebago County Fairgrounds – or – Motorcycle Sunday; Fox Valley Cycle, Aurora, IL

May 1, 2009

International Female Ride Day 2009
See Page 3 for more details.

May 3, 2009

Mystery Run Sponsored by Fox Valley Cycle – Lead by Northwind Riders, Aurora, IL – or – Slimy Crud Run from Pine Bluff, WI to Leland, WI

May 9, 2009

Ride to Poopy's, Savannah, IL with Northwind Riders

May 23, 2009

Ride to Kettle Moraine, WI – or – Springfield Mile at the Illinois State Fairgrounds

July, 7–9, 2009

WOW's 23rd Annual International Ride–In
Kerrville, TX

August 19–22, 2009

Registration is now available at www.womenandmotorcycling.com for the AMA International Women & Motorcycling Conference – Keystone Resort & Conference Center, Keystone, CO

Additional information on all of these events is available at www.nciwildroses.com or www.womenonwheels.org. All events and meetings are open to all WOW Members and Non-Members.

Supporting Dealers



Bob-Jo Cycle Co.
 50W112 Old State Road
 Maple Park, IL 60151
 Ph: (815) 895-5251
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NCI Wild Roses Executive Committee

Gigi Beard, Chapter Director
 Kim Muhr, Assistant Chapter Director
 Mary Lynn Buckner, Treasurer/Activities Coordinator
 Shelly Zachary, Secretary/Newsletter Editor
 Sharon Boda, Road Captain

Know anyone who might be interested in advertising here? If so, please contact Shelly Zachary, Newsletter Editor at shellyzachary@comcast.net. Placing an ad in the Rose Pedals is only \$25 for 12 months.

 Have something to sell? For Sale ads are free for members and \$5 per month for non-members.

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Women On Wheels® • Mission Statement

To unite all women motorcycle enthusiasts for recreation, education, mutual support, recognition and to promote a positive image of motorcycling.