

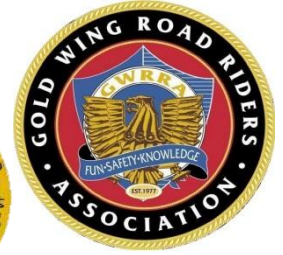
Gold Wing Road Rider's Association

Chapter P

Pittsburgh, PA

PA District, Northeastern Region

"Friends for Fun, Safety, & Knowledge"



Volume XI

OCTOBER 2012

Issue X

Region & District Teams

<http://www.gwrrapadist.org/>

NE Region Director

Tom & Renee Wasluck

570-474-1014

NE Assist District

Director

Al & Val Aumack

610-381-4092

NW Assist District

Director

Rick & Andi Riek

814 255-3147

District Couple of the Year

Barry & Rhonda Blyler

717-334-6702

District Rider

Education

Doug & Cindy Motter

570-998-9722

District Director

Dana & Danise Hartle

814-938-7136

SE Assist District

Director

Larry & Linda Dice

717-369-5131

SW Assist District

Director

Jim & Diane

Heffelfinger

814-943-1392

NE REGION COY

Kevin & Robin Sedlak

2011 - 2012

Asst District Rider

Education

Phil Pirozzi

412-600-0395



Gathering:

October 21st, 2012

3rd Sunday of the Month

Eat N Park Restaurant
Route 60 & Manor Park Dr.
Robinson Township, PA
(412) 787-8556

8:30 AM Breakfast
10:00 PM Meeting



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Chapter "P" TEAM

<http://www.chapterp.com/>

Chapter Directors

Marty & Karen Miller

(412) 563-4920

millermartin@lycos.com

Assistant Chapter Director

TBA

Chapter Educator

Andy Lucas

(724) 776-4309

Treasurer

Larry Meyer

2012 Chapter Couple of the Year

Andy & Hilda Lucas

Ride Coordinator

Larry Meyer

(724) 224-1716

Mad Coordinator

Andy Lucas

Newsletter Editor

Darlene Pirozzi - 412-600-3027

dpirozzi2003@hotmail.com

Chapter Goodies

Karen Miller

Webmaster

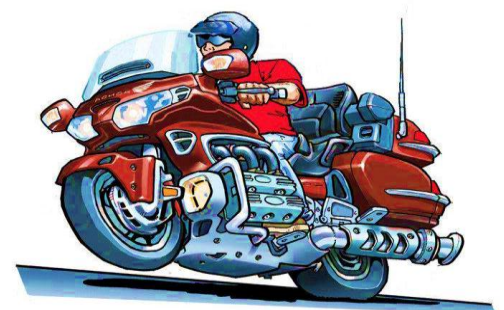
Marty Miller

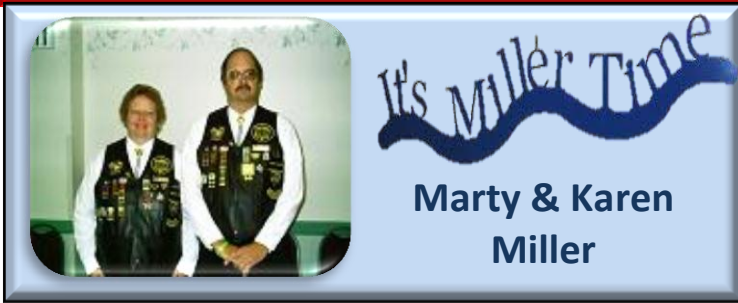
<http://www.chapterp.com>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

David B.	9th
May P.	22nd
Pat M.	24th





Can you believe the year is almost over? A month ago we had the PA State Convention and everyone who attended had a great time. Next year's convention will also be at Gettysburg so if you didn't have time to do everything you can do it next year. We had a little problem this year as Lenny (the vendor who sells Gerbing heated clothing) fell while getting into his rv on Saturday. He was hurt pretty bad but is now doing fine. When he was at the hospital, they said his defibulator had gone off which means his heart did stop. We don't know if the defibulator caused him to fall or it went off afterwards. After he fell Chuck Stone and I took care of him till the ambulance got there. He is doing well now as we seen him in North Carolina at the state convention.

Karen and I did go to the North Carolina Convention and it was a cold trip. Karen was extremely cold because when we got to the first stop in Flatwoods, WV she couldn't feel her hands anymore. She went to the McDonalds and spent some time under the hand dryer. When we left there I gave her some artic gloves to wear and she was fine the rest of the trip except when we got to Charlotte and it was 85 degrees. The hotel we stayed at had everything you needed. There was a Ruby Tuesday next door and a Logan's Steakhouse next to that. Across the street was a McDonalds and a Steak and Shake. On the other side we had a Wall Mart and Sam's and Bruster's ice cream. While we were in Charlotte we became certified bike show judges as that was of the classes they offered. Karen also donated blood at the Bloodmobile and they collected a total of 32 pints. Yours truly won 1st place in the stock factory trailer class. We did have a great time and spent too much money.....Karen came home with heated gloves and a heated jacket. I hooked it up to a car battery in the garage and she said she felt like a piece of toast. Maybe this will help. I also bought a set of fog lights for my bike and YOU WILL KNOW WHEN I'M COMING!!!! The ride home was a little cool as it was only 65 degrees for the high but it was a great day for riding. Over all we had a great 4 days of riding.



A ride is scheduled to Black Water Falls in West Virginia on October 13th and will leave Kings in Bridgeville at 9:00 am.

Pat had a stint put in and is doing good except she has Larry to take care of.

Joe went in for a stress test and the doctor said he has a heart of a 24 year old.

Karen's hand is pretty much healed as she has been beating me.

Carl has a body cast as a result of a Kayaking accident and now thinks he's superman because you can't punch him and hurt him. He will be in that for a while.

Next month's list will be who is not sick.



We are both doing just fine; I see my Doctor on Wednesday, one month already. I am walking with a cane and starting to walk without one but still always to go without a limp.

Tale care, Larry & Pat





RIDER EDUCATION, CHAPTER P, ANDY LUCAS



2012 COUPLE OF THE YEAR Andy & Hilda Lucas



INTERSECTIONS : WHERE HAZARDS MULTIPLY

Where do you think most accidents happen? On the interstate, on the two lane, or on a dirt road. Most accidents happen at intersections. Parallel, perpendicular and turning flows of traffic must share or conflict over one small place. Stationary, accelerating, braking and continuous speeding traffic all meet in intersections.

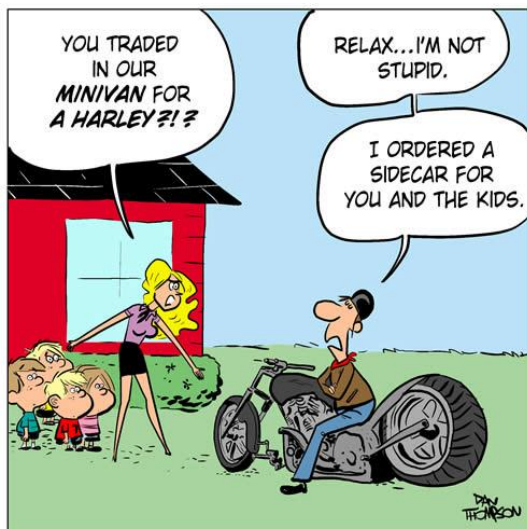
Motorcycles are often the smallest--- and least noticeable--- objects at intersections

Changing traffic signals at intersections cause motorists to make snap decisions about their timing and speed. When things go wrong at intersections, large objects often skid, slide and collide. Like a sitting duck, a motorcyclist, having no exterior steel protective cage, is most helpless when sitting stationary at an intersection. Remain vigilant at intersections, first gear engaged, with an escape route in mind, scanning in all directions. I hope this brought some attention to the dangers of intersections.

COLD WEATHER RIDING TIPS

As the cold weather approaches we should take steps as to how to enjoy your riding. Dress in layers to trap insulating air next to your skin. Consult a wind chill chart before dressing to ride. (Page 11-3 in your gold book) Electrically heated riding clothing banishes discomfort. If you've begun shivering. stop riding. get some heat and warm up.

Alcoholic drinks diminish the body's ability to conserve heat, make correct judgments or react quickly. Remember to protect any portion of your body that you intend to use later in life.



OUR ISLAND VACATION

In June of this year, after our return from Slovakia we went to Bois Blanc Island in upper Michigan. Bois Blanc also known as Bob Lo is a step back in time it consists of One bar, one general store ,There are also two churches, a post office, a one room school house, and a library. There is a real nice airport which is the only way to get of the island in the winter if there is no ice bridge. There is also a police station who's chief of police is Mr. Whipple, and you all wondered where Mr. Whipple went when he left TV. There is not one paved road on the island, but there is a lot of dust. All of the roads are tree lined and will eventually take you to five inland lakes. In July we had visitors come up to visit, and we went to Mackinac Island which is about 10 miles away. When the company left a week later we had to go and get our son and his children. Now to get them we had to drive to Detroit, leave our car at the airport and catch a plane to Charlotte NC. Because our son is a pilot we fly standby. We could not get on the flights and had to spend the night in Detroit. The next morning we were at the airport bright and early. The attendants said that most flights were full and we may have to wait till later. Hilda told them that today was her birthday, which it was, and we were on the next flight. When we arrived at Charlotte we got in the car and started to drive to the island because we should have been there the night before. Two days later we arrived at Detroit airport where we picked up our car and headed to the island. A week later we drove to Detroit airport dropped the car off and continued to Charlotte. We spent one night at our sons home then caught a flight back to Detroit, and drove back to the island. Now the PVGP was upon us so we drove from Cheboygan to Pittsburgh, spent three days and headed back to the island. About two weeks later Hilda's friend and husband and a couple from Allison Park Pa came up to the island. We then toured Mackinac Island (again) Harbor Springs, Petoskey, and Traverse City. When they left we just sort of chilled out and hung some dry wall in the newly remolded bathroom, and cut down some trees. We then took two days to drive home, with a stopover in Frankenmuth Michigan where Bonners Christmas store is, no we did not buy anything there, but we did have a very nice dinner. The next day we arrived home, and boy was it nice. So this is how our summer went.

Andy and Hilda
PA-P COY



Decisions--Decisions ?
Problem Solved
New Sport "Cycle-yaking"

ohiopyle
a web guide to the area

A BAD DAY ON THE RIVER

On Sunday Aug 26, it was such a beautiful day that once again I was faced with deciding which of my favorite sports to do. It was not really all that difficult a decision because two years ago I had devised a new sport called "Cycle-Yaking". As far as I know, to date, I am actually the only person I know of that participates in this sport. I will admit that I do have an advantage over most other people who might be interested in participating in this sport because I am an avid Class V whitewater kayaker and I also own a Honda Gold Wing with a California Side Car. If you have not already figured it out, my new sport is a combination of motorcycling and kayaking.

One beautiful sunny day two years ago I was trying to decide which to do, kayak or motorcycle, so I decided to see if my kayak would fit into my sidecar. Shazzzzaaaaammmmn! My little squirt/trick boat slipped right down into the sidecar like it was meant to be. There was even plenty of room for my paddle, spray skirt, life vest, whitewater helmet and other paraphernalia needed for whitewater kayaking.



In the summer when things dry up, and you live in Western PA, the Youghiogheny is one of the few rivers that remains runnable unless it is right after a real good rainfall. With a good rainfall there are lots of rivers in Western Pa and WV to paddle and then I prefer to travel

to the river in my van because often times it is actually still raining. So most of my "Cycle-Yaking" trips are on sunny summer days to Ohio.

My first trip to Ohio to paddle the Yough was almost as interesting as paddling the river itself. From my home in Monroeville to Ohio is about 60 miles and I think I must have averaged about 1 photo per mile taken of my Gold Wing shuttle vehicle. Going out the PA Turnpike, cars would start to pass me, then suddenly slow down while a passenger or even the driver would get out their cell phone or camera to take pictures, then give me a "Thumbs Up" and continue on their way. Next time I think I will hang out a sign that says throw \$1.00 in coins into the sidecar for each photo taken or wait for me at the Donegal exit and pay my toll.



On Aug 26 I decided to paddle the Yough again, but things did not go so well. Now, understand that I have been whitewater kayaking since 1969 and am a considerably experienced Class V paddler. Whitewater rivers are Class I to VI. Class VI is considered life threatening and I really am not confident enough to go there. The lower Yough, even when running really high is at most a Class IV. I can't even begin to count the number of times I have paddled the Lower Yough in my 40+ years of paddling and know each rapid and ripple by its first name. In all those years of paddling I have never had any more serious injuries than scratched knuckles, a bruised shoulder or bumped knee.



However, on this particular day I flipped over in a measly Class III rapid called "Bottle Of Wine" (because on the first recorded trip by a kayaker down this river they found a bottle of wine floating down through this particular rapid). After two unsuccessful attempts to roll and still upside down in the middle of the rapid and running out of air, I decided to exit my boat, certainly not the first time that had happened with no consequences. Before I could get into the correct position to float through the rapid, leaning back with my feet in front of me to absorb the shock of colliding with submerged rocks; I hit a rock right smack in the middle of my back. My first thoughts before even coming up for the first breath of air were that I might have broken my back. Ouch!---Lots and lots of severe #10 pain.

Fortunately, I was paddling with three friends, one in a kayak and the other two on a raft called a "Shredder", which is just two huge inflatable pontoons with a platform in between. I was able to get hold of the tail of the Shredder and my friends ferried me to the edge of the river. We had just passed some friends, a man and wife and one of her friends who had stopped for lunch to watch people surfing at "Swimmers Rapid". They were paddling a full blown 6 person, self-bailing raft and were coming down the river shortly behind us. One of my friends used their whistle, part of our safety gear, to signal them over. They took me the rest of the way down the river in their raft towing my kayak behind.

I managed to walk up the hill to the shuttle bus, get back to Ohiopyle in my friend's van then had to decide if I could ride my motorcycle home or not. My "new friends" in the raft have a house in Ohiopyle and offered me a place to park my bike if I felt I could not ride home. I rode around town a bit then decided I could make it. It was not an easy ride and one I am sure I could not have done it without some kind of training wheels, i.e. my sidecar.



The next day, Monday I went to my PCP, he sent me for x-rays of my back and my leg. Oh I forgot, I also took a helluva hit on the outside of my left thigh. They could see nothing on the x-rays that looked bad. They gave me a prescription for Oxycodone and sent me home. By Wednesday the pain had gotten even worse so I went back to the PCP and he sent me for x-rays again, this time concentrating on my abdomen. It was deduced that the trauma had affected all the muscles in my torso. That caused my bowels to go non-functional and I had an extreme buildup of gas, a condition known as "Adynamic Ileus" (*a new term to add to my vocabulary*). This gas buildup compounded the pain suffered by the trauma. The Oxycodone pretty much kept me in "la-la land" but, by the following Sunday I was still in so much pain that I went to the emergency room. They took more x-rays and a CAT Scan to get a closer look at my stomach and intestines. They could see no damage and sent me home, but called within a few minutes of my

arrival back at home, to let me know they looked at the x-rays again and found a break in vertebrae #T-9. I was given the choice to come back to the hospital and be admitted or just take it real easy till the neurosurgeon could see me on Tuesday. I stayed home and waited.

End result is: no surgery necessary, but was fitted with a custom molded "brace" that goes from my tailbone nearly to my throat with cut outs for



my armpits. Because of the pain I was only comfortable sleeping in a reclining chair for nearly 1 month. Now I am no longer taking pain pills and able to sleep in bed, but have to wear the brace for at least another month to keep my back from bending in the middle where the fracture is located.

Probably won't be riding my Gold Wing for a while, but hope to be "back in the saddle" and back in the kayak in the near future.

Carl "Erbie" Erb

GWRRA PA Chapter "P"



WWW.RIDEFORKIDS.ORG

OCTOBER 2012 CHAPTER P EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PUT THIS CALENDAR ON YOUR FRIG! DON'T MISS ANY EVENT!

DATE	DAY	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
OCTOBER 13 TH	SATURDAY	BLACK WATER FALLS RIDE		
OCTOBER 21 ST	SUNDAY	GATHERING	EAT N PARK	8:30 AM EAT 10:00 AM MEETING



All rides subject to change....check chapter home page scrolling banner for details:

<http://www.chapterp.com/>

Open ride is a ride that people want to go to and they can arrange a meeting place and time.

If you are not sure about a ride due to weather or not sure where to meet feel free to call our ride coordinator,

Larry Meyer

on his cell at 724-968-8139

The WV State Parks Official Site

Blackwater Falls
STATE PARK





Frank's Shoes has been serving the Pittsburgh area for more than 45 years and continues to offer the highest quality work footwear and specialty work clothing. Come and see our 6,400 sq. ft. store conveniently located in the South Hills at the Caste Village Shopping Center. Also, visit our new location at the Robinson Town Centre across from Ikea, which opened Oct.1, 2010.



Ask NOT what your chapter can do for you, ask what YOU can do for your chapter!



The chapter is built on your participation and involvement in its planning and operation. We have many positions open and many tasks undone, which you can help us with. Please contact Marty Miller for more information on how you can help your chapter!

No volunteers will be turned away!

**Pittsburgh
Cycle
Center**

PITTSBURGH CYCLE CENTER
(**FORMALLY KNOWN AS THE HONDA HOUSE**)
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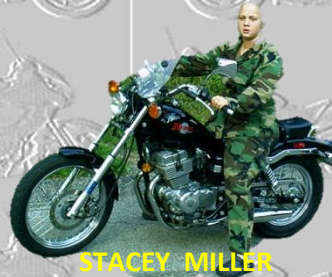
MEET SOME OF OUR MEMBERS COME JOIN US



MARTY & KAREN MILLER



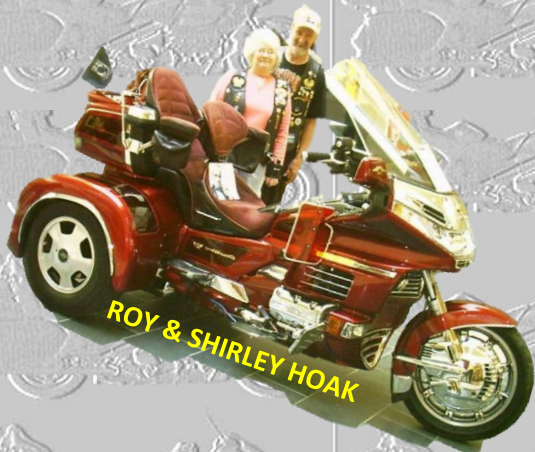
ANDY LUCAS



STACEY MILLER



CARL ERB



ROY & SHIRLEY HOAK



LARRY & PAT MEYER



FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR:

The 2012 Pennsylvania District Convention is in the history book and it was a great party. Danise and I want to thank everyone involved for their efforts. The district staff worked tirelessly to provide a fun filled experience to all in attendance. If I start to name people I will surely miss someone so a blanket thanks to all is appropriate.

Jere Goodman was sharing with me his thoughts on what he saw at the convention. He was impressed with the participation of the chapters and found your chapter pride showing in all that you were doing. He saw you having FUN which is a huge part of the experience of being a member of GWRRA. You had fun visiting with each other, fun participating in the ARC and Trike courses, fun sharing the time in educational programs, and fun just playing and relaxing.

The light procession from the Eisenhower Convention center into to town and back had approximately 85 bikes. Special thanks to PA-V for flagging the intersections. It was an impressive site as they made their way through town. People stopped and watched, and hollered, and clapped and learned a little about GWRRA. Following the procession the judging took place on those bikes that entered the contest. First place flashing was Ray Lee, second place flashing was Gary Doverspike. In the non flashing division we had Chuck Stone taking first place and taking second was Gerry Vanart.

The Show Case of Talent Friday night was great. So much fun, laughter and tomfoolery. **Here is a link** to just two of the many fun presentations by the chapters. Barry and Rhonda did a great job hosting this event and the chapters showcased their creativity while some individuals showcased their talent. Great job everyone.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVpJMrUssDw&sns=em>

Chapter I gave us an opportunity to play some games on Friday morning. The attendance for the games was very good and again we heard the laughter and saw the smiles. Thank you PA-I for a job well done!

The bike show had Gerry Vanart taking the Best of Show plaque home with him this year. The table decorating contest was won by PA-B with their Arbor Day presentation and second place went to Chapter K with their tribute to veterans. All of the tables were amazing. I stand in awe of the talent that was shown by the chapters with their tables and with their hats. As a person with NO artistic talent I am always amazed with others creativity. Congratulations to all of you for doing such a wonderful job.

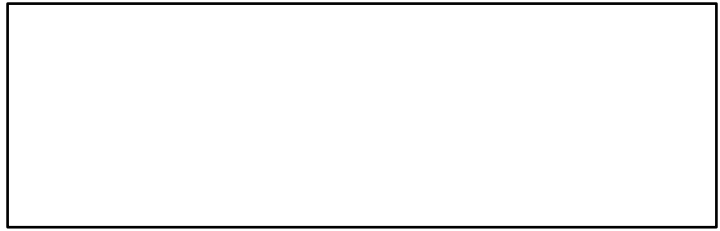
Gerry and Bonnie along with Doug and Phil had a lot of great training opportunities with the various seminars. We also had opportunities for the women with some crafting events which were well received. We thank all of the folks who taught the classes and gave of their time to share their knowledge and talent with those in attendance.

The feedback from those who came to Gettysburg was this convention was FUN! That was the goal and it appears it was accomplished. If I have one regret, it is that we had so many not attend this party and those people missed a great event. We have 2200 members in PA and only saw about 300 of you. We missed your smiles, your laughter and your involvement. Danise and I hope that as you learn the fun is back you will come back to the party. Mark your calendars for next September. We are back in Gettysburg where we once again will keep the Ghost of Gettysburg awake because of our laughter!

As the convention closed, so does the term of some of the district team. Bob Gabrielle has served the district since the early part of this century. He finished 6 years as Goodies Coordinator and we thank him for his service to the district. Dave and Cindy Marconi have accepted the position replacing Bob. We welcome them to staff and know they will serve the membership well. Ruth and Mort Smith stepped down to deal with personal issues before the convention and have been replaced by Diane Hefflefinger as District MEC. We want to say "thank you" to the Smith's for their efforts to serve the district for many, many years. Lastly Al and Val Aumack will be completing their term as NE Assistant District Directors. We have decided not to replace the position. We have lost three chapters in the past few years and are going to attempt to reduce the district staff. Each ADD will have 7 chapters where they use to have 6 when we had 24 chapters. The assignment of chapters is as follows: Rick and Andi Riek- Chapters T,E,P,D,I,Nand Q. Jim and Diane Hefflefinger- Chapters W,S,F,M,R,X and G Larry and Linda Dice- Chapters C,V,K,B,A, L and H All of this is subject to change. Danise and I will be helping everyone with the distant Chapters as far as visiting. The above assignments are for paperwork and dealing with chapter issues. We hope to see different District staff doing visits this year so you will have visits but not necessarily from the ADD assigned to your chapter. This alignment may not work but we are going to give it a try and will measure the problems, if any, and adjust where needed.

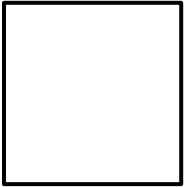
Danise and I traveled to the Bi-State convention in Budd Lake NJ last month. We had a great time and enjoyed visiting with our GWRRA friends from other districts. Paul Wood, NY District Director, asked me to make sure and let you all know how much they appreciated the support and are hoping to see all of us in Liverpool NY August 7-11, 2013. We also had a great time at All Chapters West hosted by PA-Q. Thanks to the entire chapter for their hard work in preparing the party for us. Even though hurricane Isaac was on our minds all week as a possible deterrent, he turned out to be nothing in the Warren area and a great party took place. I encourage chapters to take a hard look at the All Chapter events as a place to ride to and take part in the fun. I have been going for years and you don't need to camp to take part. If your chapter is saying there is nothing to do and you aren't coming to All Chapters...I need to tell you that it is something TO DO! Lastly we are saying good-bye to Tom and Renee Wasluck as part of the district team. When they stepped up as Region Directors we got very creative and named them PA District Convention Coordinators. That kept them part of the staff through this years convention in Gettysburg. They have been part of the district team for many years as Rally Coordinators, ADD's (and Rally Coordinators) District Directors (and Rally Coordinators) and most recently Region Directors (and PA Rally Coordinators). They may not be listed as part of the staff but as Region Directors they will stay an active part of Pennsylvania for years. We wish them the best in their new positions and now that the rally is behind them they can concentrate on the business of the Region. Ride safely this month. Don't forget the sun is setting at a different angle so road glare is a real hazard for us. Also we are not as visible in the morning and night if the sun is to your back. The sun shines in the eyes of those you are coming towards and blocks us from being seen so take special care to watch for traffic coming across in front of you and pulling out in front.

Dana and Danise Hartle Pa District Directors



OCTOBER 2012 ISSUE

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge

Marty & Karen Miller
GWRA PA Chapter "P" Directors
1321 Chappel Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA. 15216

