



CHAPTER H  
VOLUME 15, ISSUE 9

# “H”appenings



Keep Up To Date With Your Chapter  
[www.christmasinjuly.org](http://www.christmasinjuly.org)



JUNE 26, 2008

CHAPTER “H” ONCHOS

## Chapter Member of the Month; Larry Greco

By Les Chapman



Larry Greco from his 2005 Great Alaskan Adventure Experience taken with Joel Gyurnek and Joe Hughes

Larry Greco is our Member of the Month for June 2008. Larry and Nancy joined AGWA in 1995. Larry has always shown a deep affection for our club and it's members.

Larry has worked in our poker run's from the beginning to the end. He has helped with the parking, set up and the food. Larry has helped with our Christmas party's and the food pantry. Larry's GPS has saved us from being lost a couple of times. Thank you for that alone.

Larry has acted as a representative to the Ride for Kid's on behalf of Chapter H and is active in

His BMW and GWRRA chapters. Larry supports our dinner run's and Chapter meetings. Never sell Larry a 50/50 ticket, because He always wins! Larry has an 1800 cc Gold Wing (Ruby) That he picked up in Tennessee, please read his article in this newsletter.

Larry's e-mail's and video's of his trips have been exciting and entertaining. We thank him for being a part of Chapter H.

Larry has the same Idea's and beliefs as AGWA and Chapter H; to promote safety, fellowship and fun. Thank you from Chapter H . :)

### Chapter Representative

Les Chapman  
Trek1@aol.com  
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### Assistant Representative

Cary Levin  
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### Treasurer

Steve Roberson

### Secretary

Ken Archibald

### Newsletter/Webmaster

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## Special “H”appenings

### Happy Birthday!!

Russ Prichard	27-June
Joyce McNeely	1-Jul
Jim Bayert	6-Jul
Luther Miller	9-Jul
Mike Hanus	14-Jul
Sydney Schaefer	14-Jul
Russel Levin	16-Jul
Bob Ciston	20-Jul
Les Chapman	21-Jul
Jerrold Schaefer	26-Jul



### Welcome Back!

Lloyd & Leona  
Tatman

### Welcome New

### Member

Al Bates

### Happy Anniversary!!

Dottie & Greg French	3-Jul
Sharon & Larry Thurman	8-Jul
Pat & Bob Ciston	14-Jul
Paulette & Mark Brenton	16-Jul



MEETING STARTS AT 7:00 PM

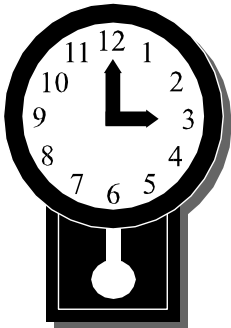
THE NEST CAFÉ, BARTLETT, IL.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2008



## Meeting Agenda

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Reading of the Minutes from the 05/29/2008 Meeting
3. Introduction of guests:
4. Birthdays and Anniversaries
5. National Business:
  - 6/23-6/26 2008 AGWA Gold Classic Rally XXV, Hendersonville, NC *Did anyone attend?*
6. State Business:
  - None Reported
7. Old Chapter Business:
  - Treasury Report
  - Breakfast Rides-Dinner Run review.
8. New Chapter Business:
  - 2008 Ride Destinations continued...
  - 06/29 Breakfast Ride
  - 07/04 Re-schedule or cancel the Ice Cream Ride? Normally 7pm leaving from McDonald's
- 07/06 Breakfast Ride
- 07/13 Breakfast Ride
- 07/19 Chapter H Dinner Run—Leaving 6pm SHARP from McDonalds!
- 07/20 Breakfast Ride-Ride for Kids
- 07/27 Breakfast Ride
- 07/31 Chapter H General Meeting of the Membership.
9. Break-50/50 Sales-Who knows a good joke?
10. SPEAK UP! Open Discussion.
11. 50/50 Drawing
12. Meeting Adjourned...

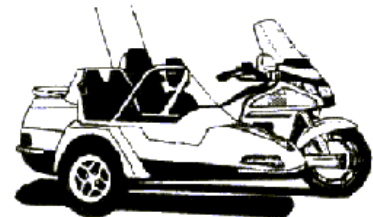


## Minutes of the 05-29-08 Meeting

Meeting Place Nest Café  
 Number of members in attendance –  
 Meeting called to order at 7:00pm  
 Meeting brought to order  
 Review Chapter Members of the Month  
 Chapter Members for the month of May are Mark and Paulette Brenton.  
 Introduction of Louis Graf  
 Reviewed upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries.  
 New Chapter H member – Al Bates

### -Chapter "H" Business-

Reviewed upcoming rides-  
 Saturday 5:00 Barbeque at DesPlaines Honda.  
 Leaf River Parade – June 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Rock Cut State Park – June 8<sup>th</sup>.  
 Motion to Authorize \$150.00 for Picnic Expenses by Cary Levin  
 Seconded by Nancy.  
 50/50 winner: Joel G. \$37.50  
 Meeting adjourned 8:30pm  
 Minutes taken by Ken Archibald & transcribed by Dawn Garner



*SIGN UP 7 NEW MEMBERS IN A YEAR AND RECEIVE A FREE 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP!!*

**The Next Meeting of the Membership will be 7pm, Thursday July 31st, 2008 @ The Nest Café 800 N. Route 59, Bartlett**

## A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE

by Les Chapman

June has been a great month for the riding side of Chapter H and the social side. The weather could have been a little better for our June 8th ride and picnic. We still had a good turn out. Let me go back to May and start from there. First let me start with a recap of our Chapter Happening's for May.

Larry, Joe, Bev and I went to GWRRA Z-2's spring fling at Lombard Lagoon Park on the 11th. Great food and a lot of prizes.

On May the 3rd and 4th, Bev and I were at a family reunion in Indiana .

We had a good turn out for our Dinner Run at Ponderosa in Aurora.

Joel, Lewis and I did the little Angel's ride on the 18th at Woodstock HD.

Sunday the 25th (Memorial Weekend) we went to the Abraham Lin-

coln National Cemetery in Elwood to see Jasper Passalacqua's grave site. For breakfast we stopped at R-Place in Morris then on to JC Whitney's .Ed and I came home because it looked like rain.

Some good news for the Chapter is that we picked up a new member during May. Al Bates or Big Al as I call him. Al has been riding with us off and on for three or four years. Glad to have you in Chapter H. Sunday we had a new couple named Lou and Debra from Elk Grove ride with us. We hope to see them come out more often.

On May 29th we held our monthly meeting of the membership. We had 19 members that attended and one guest.

On Saturday the 31st, Des Plaines Honda had their open house along with RFK's. They had a good turn out from Chapter H and G. Thanks for the food and prizes.

The 1st of June

was our Leaf River Parade. We collected \$200.00 for the Chapter fund. I would like to thank all the members who stood out in the heat and gave up their riding time to help out the club.

June the 8th was a special ride for all the chapter's of AGWA and other clubs. We started out with a good crowd at the Old Country Buffet in Bloomingdale, but the weather turned to rain and thunder as we got near Rockford. Most of the riders turned around and went home. Some stopped to eat. We had about 15 people show up in cars and bikes. I would like to thank Ken for his help on getting the park and the food for our picnic. Also special thanks to Joel and Larry who worked so hard on a great route! I just wished the weather was better so more could have enjoyed the entire ride.

No ride on June 15th due to rain.



**Les Chapman**  
**Chapter-H**  
**Representative**

Our Dinner run on the 21st was a great success; lots of food and music. All the girl's had on Grass shirts and coconuts. Thank you Jim for the Idea for our Laue as our dinner run. Thank you to my wife for the surprise birthday party for my 60th. Aloha! The next Day was our ride to the Jelly Belly factory in Wisconsin. We got to take a tour of the factory and the gift shop.

Till next month. Be Safe!

Les :)



Get the AGWA Group Riding Pamphlet At:

[www.christmasinjuly.org/GroupRidingchapterH.pdf](http://www.christmasinjuly.org/GroupRidingchapterH.pdf)

## RETRIEVING MY NEW RIDE

by Larry Greco

I guess it started back in September when I sold my black 2001 Gold Wing and start riding the BMW R1200RT that I had purchased the previous December. I had kept the Gold Wing after purchasing the BMW so that I could take it to Billings, Montana for Wing Ding 2007. After riding the BMW for a while, I found it was not very comfortable and a 50 mile ride would make my butt sore. So I sent the seat to be rebuilt at an aftermarket seat maker. First try made the seat slightly more comfortable but still not great. The seat went back for a second rebuild and came back with no change. After trying to get some warranty and technical issues resolved with BMW service department with no success, I decided to sell the BMW and go back to the Gold Wing. I advertised on the Internet and it took two months to sell. I started my search for a Gold Wing upon the sale. I decided on a used one from a private party instead of a new *Wing*. My decision was based on the sale tax structure of Illinois. The sales tax if I had bought from a dealer would be 8.25% of the sales price. The tax if bought from a private party is a flat \$25.00 for a used motorcycle. I started my search by looking in the classified section of the newspapers and on the Internet. The Internet sites that I would check 2 to 3 times a day were would be

the GWRRA message board classified section, Ebay, Hondadirectline.com classified for GL 1800 and cycletrader.com. There were several on Ebay that I wanted, but I was out bid on or the listing disappeared for some reason or another. On several listings from Honda Direct Line, I waited to long to make a commitment and was sold by the time I said I would buy their *Wing*. The same thing happened with Cycle Trader. Then I saw one to my liking on Cycle Trader. I called right away instead or e-mailing the owner whose name is Gary. I told him of my interest for his bike. Gary lives in Troy, Tennessee. I told him I would look into travel arrangements. There are no airports nearby that I could fly into. Gary mentioned that the Amtrak train stopped in nearby Fulton, Kentucky and he could pick me up there. I checked the Amtrak schedule and found that a train leaves Chicago Union Station every night at 8:00pm and arrives in Fulton, Kentucky at 3:15am. I call Gary and tell him the train schedule. He responds that it is not a problem to pick me up at that time. I walk over to Union Station to purchase a ticket for Saturday night and I'm told that the train is sold out, so I ask for a ticket for tonight which is Friday. This train is also sold out. Now I don't know



what to do as I walk back to my office. Maybe I can go to the Amtrak Internet site and get a ticket. I check out the site and it also says SOLD OUT. Then I see an upgrade option and click on it. The upgrade is a sleeper room on the car and they are available. The option is a \$92.00 upgrade, but with the upgrade, I get a senior citizens discount on the regular seat price and the difference is only \$32.00. This is the option I choose as I select it on the web site. I call Gary and we agree upon a price, make the necessary arrangements with Gary to pick me up in Fulton, Kentucky. Saturday evening I take the Chicago Metra train from Roselle, Ill, the train I take every work day and already have an unlimited ride monthly ticket to Union Station. An hour after I arrive at Union Station, I board the Amtrak train, find the sleeper car and settle into my room for the 8 hour ride. I have

some juice provided by Amtrak and start reading a book I brought with. After a couple of hours of reading I set the bench chairs into the bed and lay down but do not intend to fall asleep in fear of missing my stop. I drift off a couple of times but keep waking up and try to figure out where the train is. At 1:30 am I get up and look at my ticket and discover that Fulton, Kentucky is a flag stop. Now I am worried that the train will not stop unless I inform the conductor where I want to get off. I walk around the train car and can not find anyone to tell. I walk into the next car which is the dinner car and find the conductor there. He informed me that he knows who gets off where and where they are on the train. He says that if someone missed their stop that he would

*Continued Next Page*



## RETRIEVING MY NEW RIDE (CONTINUED)

be in big trouble. I go back to my room, but can not get back to sleep. The train arrives in Fulton around 4:00am because of being delayed by some freight trains. Several people leave the train in Fulton, I see a gentleman get out of a pick up truck and I call out – GARY! He answers and I am relieved that he is there to pick me up for the drive to his house. My plans were to take care of business, get on the bike and make a speedy departure toward home that is 500 miles

away back in the Chicago, Illinois area. After some small talk we arrive at Gary's house. He shows me the Gold Wing he is to sell to me and it is spotless with many more options than were described in his advertisement. We do all the necessary paperwork and then Gary asks me if I had eaten on the train. I responded that I had eaten the night before at home. Gary then turn to his wife Edna and ask her to make me breakfast. I wanted to leave, but how could I pass up the nice

Southern hospitality? She asked what I wanted and I responded with what ever you would like to fix for me. We have briskets and sausage and coffee. We chat for a while and I could tell that Edna will miss riding on the *Wing*, I think that I even detected a few tears as she was thinking of not having the *Wing* to ride on. Gary and Edna are getting up in age and wanted to go riding on a lighter bike. I see that it is starting to get light outside and time to leave toward home. Gary and Edna tell

me to call them when I get home so they would not worry about me (my mother tells me to call all the time also), then add that if I am ever in the Troy, Tennessee area, to stop in and visit them. I leave with a temperature of 45 degrees and lots of fog in low lying areas. I stop a couple of miles down the road and put on my rain suit to warm up some. I arrive in Schaumburg in about 10 hours, call Gary and go to bed.

## May's Chapter Members of the Month; Mark & Paulette Brenton

By Les Chapman

This month, our *Member's of the Month* are Mark and Paulette Brenton, What a great couple! Mark and Paulette joined the club in 1995 along with their son Eric. Mark and Paulette have been active member's, along with Eric, since they joined. They make a great team. Mark and Paulette are always at our meetings and the dinner run's . They have helped with our Chile Cook Off's and Christmas in July Poker Run's. If you have a problem with your bike, Mark is always there to help. They help promote Safety Fellowship and a



good time. This is one more example of how to support the club if you can't ride for some reason. Mark injured his leg while placing his *Wing* on it's center stand almost three years ago and could not ride, but they still come out to our functions even with a cast on his leg (thanks to

### Chapter H Members of the Month for May; Mark & Paulette Brenton taken at one of our many Chapter Dinner Runs

Paulette's chauffeuring). Mark and Paulette have two bikes and a trike (in the making). The bikes are a 1500cc Purple and a 1800cc Yellow Gold Wings. Thanks for being my friend and fellow Chapter members :)

A note from the newsletter editor:

May's Chapter Member's of the Month should have been published in our previous newsletter issue. However, I was unable to produce a newsletter last month, so I felt it appropriate and most worthy of adding this feature, as well as our June birthday and anniversary calendar to this issue of "H"appenings. Sorry for the delay in publishing. No disrespect intended.

Jim



# THIS MONTH'S CHAPTER “H”appenings



## JUNE 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  Sue Hanus	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11  Chris Irwin	12	13	14  Flag Day*
15  Father's Day	16	17  Dawn Garner	18  Malcom & Chris Irwin	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27  Russ Prichard	28
29	30					

Other Stuff:  
6/06 Ice Cream Ride  
6/21 Dinner Ride  
Every Sunday 9am Breakfast Ride

\*6/14 Ana & Jose DelValle



# THIS MONTH'S CHAPTER “H”appenings



## JULY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  Joyce McNeely	2	3  Dottie & Greg French	4  Independence Day	5
6  Jim Bayert	7	8  Sharon & Larry Thurman	9  Luther Miller	10	11	12
13	14 * Mike Hanus Sydney Schaefer	15	16 *  Russel Levin	17	18	19
20  Bob Ciston	21  Les Chapman	22	23	24	25	26  Jerrod Schaefer
27	28	29	30	31		

\*7/14 Bob & Pat Ciston

\*7/16 Paulette & Mark Brenton



**Other Stuff:**

7/04 Ice Cream Ride (see web page to confirm)

7/19 Dinner Ride

Every Sunday 9am Breakfast Ride



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AMERICAN GOLD WING ASSOCIATION,  
ILLINOIS CHAPTER-H

## “H”appenings

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VISIT US ON THE WEB  
[WWW.CHRISTMASINJULY.ORG](http://WWW.CHRISTMASINJULY.ORG)

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Since 1983, the American Gold Wing Association has shared the common desire of fun, fellowship, and safety. AGWA is a family orientated, family membership social organization of Gold Wing owners and other brands of touring motorcycles who share the love for the open road and participating in exciting activities, recreation and educational programs, events, and fellowship. AGWA is an AMA chartered organization. All Directors and Officers are volunteers serving without financial compensation. All positions are obtained through a completely democratic process.



**The Next Meeting of the Membership will be  
7pm, Thursday, July 31st, 2008 @  
The Nest Café 800 N. Route 59, Bartlett**



CHAPTER-H

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