

# SECTION H



## *CHAPTER SPIRIT*



## WEAR CHAPTER COLORS

Be proud of your Chapter colors. Wear them everywhere; to meetings, on rides, to other Chapter events, everywhere. If your Chapter color is purple, call it “A2 purple”. If it is red, call it “E2 red”.

## SONG

Find a song or make up one that fits your Chapter and sing it at special events. Some ideas are: “We are family”, “Heard it through the Grapevine” (Indiana A2), “Purple People Eater” (Ohio T2), etc. Let people know that YOUR Chapter is on the premises!



## COLORED CAMPING LIGHTS

If a group of members camp at rallies, use colored lights in your Chapter colors and decorate your campsite with them. You can buy the lights after Christmas at a discount.

## CHANTS

A number of Ohio Chapters have chants that they use to show Chapter spirit. They use these chants whenever possible.

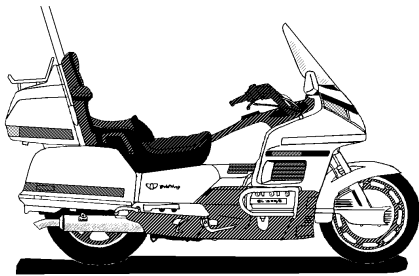
- \* Chapter X2 crosses their arms making an X and holding up 2 fingers on each hand, while chanting X2, X2
- \* Chapter T2 chants “Hi-dee-ho” to each other and to other people whenever appropriate.

## WOODEN CAMPSITE DECORATIONS

Have a woodcrafter in your Chapter design and cut out a camping emblem to put at your campsite, designating your Chapter logo or your name. Drive 2 metal posts in the bottom of the emblem to anchor it into the ground. Ohio Chapter T2 has the following:



Chapter O2 in Ohio has a wooden emblem at their campsite also.

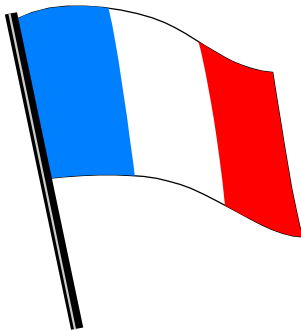


An Indiana Chapter has cut out and painted Gold Wings and put their names on them. The emblems are about 1-1/2' and 2' wide and are painted in detail.

## POST-IT NOTES

Ohio Chapter X2 had a rubber stamp made that says, "X2 was here". They stamped small post-it notes and put the notes EVERYWHERE. The notes appeared on people's backs, walls, doors, pictures, plants, etc., etc., etc.

**X-2  
WAS  
HERE**



## PARADE FLAGS

Besides flying the large American and District flags on your bike, make a Chapter parade flag that will fit on the same flagpole. Make a rectangular flag the size of the American flag in your Chapter colors. Put binding around the outside of the flag in an accent color and put grommets along the short end after it has been reinforced. These parade flags look great flying behind your bikes and show Chapter spirit.

You can also use your Parade Flags to decorate your campsite. Attach them to your campers so that everyone can see how proud you are.

## DO THINGS TOGETHER



When your Chapter goes somewhere together, try to do things as a group, such as going to meals or on a ride. When you do things together, you feel closer to each other and more like a Chapter “family”. This is a great time to wear your Chapter colors and show others how proud you are.

## BATTLE OF THE CHAPTER EVENTS

The rallies usually have events that you can enter as a Chapter. Get a group of your members together and enter into these events. Rally events are a lot of fun and you will talk about them for months to come, whether you win or not.

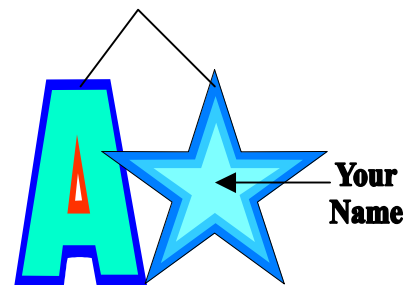
## TALENT SHOWS

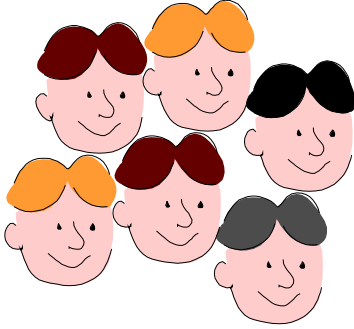


Most GWRRA rallies have talent shows. Try to work up some kind of skit or song or dance that **EVERYONE** who wants to participate will have a part. You may not win, but you will have a great time rehearsing and making costumes. The fun that goes into preparing for a talent show is worth all the time you put into it.

## WOODEN DOOR ORNAMENTS

Make wooden ornaments showing your Chapter designation to hang on your door at your winter weekend events.





## **BEST DRESSED CHAPTER COMPETITIONS**

District and Region rallies usually have “Best Dressed Chapter Competitions”. Get a few of your members (check number required), dress up in your best and try out for this competition. Come up with a little poem, cheer, chant, or something that you can do in the competition. You never know – you just might come home with **FIRST PLACE**. It puts a real charge in your members to win, even if they were the only ones competing. Again, the preparation and practice for this event are worth the time even if you don’t win.

## **CHAPTER SUCCESS**

(From Linda McFarland, Ohio Chapter K2)

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?  
Or are you just content that your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?  
Or do you meet in private and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along?  
Or are you satisfied to be the kind who just belongs?  
Do you work on committees, to this there is no trick!  
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about “the clique”?

So come to meetings often and help with hands and heart.  
Don’t just be a member, but take an active part.  
Think this over, members, you know what’s right and wrong.  
Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

## **RAIDS**

Ohio Chapter X2 has their “Raiders”. They find out when a local Chapter is having an event, such as cookout. They dress up like pirates, get on their bikes and “raid” the event. They have even made antenna flags that they fly when they are raiding.



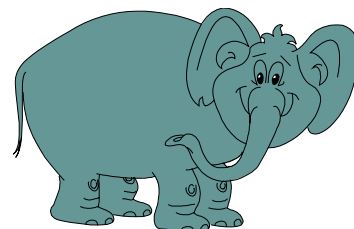
## COSTUMES



Geri & Chuck Conner of Ohio Chapter A2 always try to let their members know that they are working for **THEM**. Here are some terrific ideas for showing spirit.

At their first meeting as CD's, Geri made a cape with her Chapter designation on it in glitter and made a grand entrance (complete with strobe lights and an emcee) to "2001 Space Odyssey" theme music. She was embarrassed to death, but said that it really broke the ice.

When they had their White Elephant Sale, Geri rented an elephant suit. She came dancing down the aisle with "For Sale" tags on her behind!



They have a Mardi Gras meeting where everyone dresses up. Geri & Chuck dressed as the King and Queen of Hearts. They took giant playing cards and wore them front and back and had crowns, etc. The staff also dressed up. They handed out masks to all in attendance and the staff entered the meeting to jazz music and threw beads and candy to everyone.

## KIDS SPIRIT

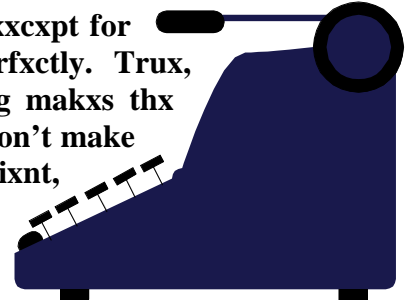
Make the kids feel important and part of the Chapter by giving them responsibilities such as:

- Having a section in the monthly newsletter where they can announce events. Ohio Chapter G3 kids announced "If you wear a hat to the next meeting you will receive an extra door prize ticket."
- Have them write an article in the newsletter about a past or future event.
- Call out door prize numbers at the monthly meeting.
- Pass out door prizes at the meetings.
- Have a kid's choice ride where they can make all the plans on where the ride is going and what everyone will eat.
- Encourage them to play the Kids Games at the rallies and be there as a Chapter to cheer them on.
- Make them welcome at the Chapter meetings and events.



## A KEY PERSON

Even though my typewriter is an old model, it works well except for one of the keys. I've wished many times that it worked perfectly. There are 42 keys that function, but one key not working makes the difference. You might say, "well, I'm only one person. It won't make much difference." But you see, an organization, to be efficient, needs the active participation of every person. The next time you think your efforts aren't needed, remember my typewriter, and say to yourself, 'I AM A KEY PERSON AND THEY NEED ME VERY MUCH.'



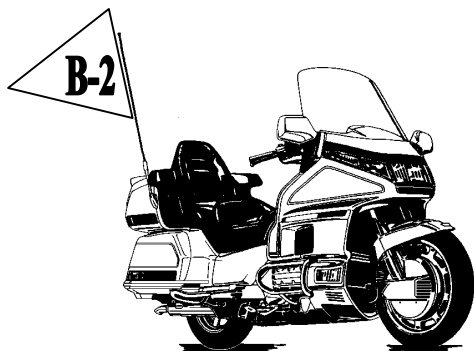
## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Your newsletter is a great place to display Chapter Spirit. Have your editor include a lot of adjectives in the newsletter, like *great*, *fantastic*, *wonderful*, *super*, etc.

Every month try to get a different member to write an article for the newsletter. They can talk about what the Chapter means to them. It is a very pleasant surprise to see what some of the members write and how happy they are.

## DISPLAY YOUR CHAPTER BANNER

Show your Chapter Spirit by displaying your Chapter Banner at your winter weekends, your rallies and any events where people will see your banner.



## ANTENNA FLAGS

There are a number of designs for antenna flags that you can fly proudly, such as National, District, Chapter. You can have special flags made up for an event that your Chapter is doing or participating in.

## MASCOTS

Michigan Chapter H2 has a bear named Sue. Other Chapters steal the bear right out of member's hands or when she is left alone. The Chapters that steal Sue always add something to her, such as a baby bear, a tattoo, and a jail stripes costume. Her ear has been pierced, the baby has glasses and Sue wears a band-aid after having her tubes tied. Certain Michigan Chapters would steal banners from other Chapters. The banners are very expensive and caused some ill feelings when they were stolen, so the idea of Sue was conceived. The Chapter has had a lot of fun with their mascot and it helps promote Chapter visitation.

Ohio Chapter T2, whose color is purple, designed a One-Eyed-One-Horned-Flying-Purple-People-Eater. All of the members got together, cut out the design, pinned it together and sewed about 30 mascots. The Chapter takes the mascots to lots of events, enters them in Mascot competitions and has a great time with them. You can also attach them to your trunk rack and have them ride with you in parades. For their Cabin Fever winter weekend, they made a float of the Purple People Eater, which was about 5' high, and the arms stretched out about 4'. The float took first place. They also did a skit in which they sang "Purple People Eater".



## BIB OVERALLS

Contact a paint store like Sherwin Williams and see if they can order white bib overalls in all sizes and give you a quantity discount. Cut out a pattern of a Gold Wing on a sponge using a scroll saw. Lightly dip the sponge in craft paint in your Chapter color and sponge Gold Wings on your overalls. Be sure to put plastic between the layers of fabric on the overalls because the paint will bleed through to the other side. Wear them for Best Dressed

Competitions, opening and closing ceremonies, visiting other Chapters. Your Chapter will really have fun with this and will look great!

## CHAPTER NEWSLETTER PAPER

Print your monthly Chapter newsletter using colored paper that is your Chapter color. The local office supply stores have photocopy paper in a wide variety of colors. Use the lighter pastel shades instead of the darker colors so that the print shows up better.

