

Women in the Wind - Ladies of Chrome and Leather Chapter



The ABC's of LOCAL A Guide for New Members

As a new or potential new member to Women in the Wind - Ladies of Chrome and Leather Chapter ("LOCAL"), we want to extend a huge WELCOME to you! You will soon realize that we are a group of women from all walks of life who have one thing in common--we love riding motorcycles! We have created, within this Chapter, a very unique sisterhood and we welcome you to our family.

Please find below a glossary of terms and explanations which will help you navigate your way through this new and exciting journey.

A

Acronyms

Here are a few acronyms that you may hear or see:

AMA = American Motorcycle Association

KSU = Kick Stand Up (see "K" below)

LOCAL= Ladies of Chrome and Leather Chapter

MSF = Motorcycle Safety Foundation RC = Road Captain

SO = Safety Officer

WITW = Women in the Wind

B

Board Members:

LOCAL has six elected Board members and a number of appointed (non-elected) positions such as Assistant Road Captain, newsletter, etc.

The elected officers are:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Road Captain

Safety Officer

Official duties of each elected position are outlined in the Chapter Bylaws.

Bylaws:

You can find a copy of the current International Women in the Wind Bylaws at <http://www.womeninthewind.org> in the membership section and, also on the LOCAL website under "How to Join." The current LOCAL bylaws can also be found on the LOCAL website and LOCAL's private (Members Only) facebook page. Please read! Many of your questions regarding the organization of the Chapter will be found in the bylaws.

C

Chapter Name:

The chapter name is Ladies of Chrome and Leather Chapter or "LOCAL" for short.

Chapter Meetings and Rides:

The Chapter meets at 8:00 am the third Saturday of each month (except December) at Flo's Farmhouse Café in Riverside. (The restaurant is open for breakfast at 7:00.) Rides generally start at 9:00 am. Please check the website, your email, newsletter or Facebook for upcoming ride information.

D

Dee

You will hear just "Dee" a lot. Dee Norman founded LOCAL Chapter in 1999 and is still an active member in our Chapter. (See History)

E

Elections

Elections are held every two years in August and those wanting to run for office must have been a Chapter member for a minimum of one year when taking office (September 1.)

F

Facebook

After receiving your membership forms and fees, you will be eligible to join both closed group Facebook pages for Women in the Wind at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2342553754/> and Ladies of Chrome & Leather at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/158869504469787/>.

Before joining, you can check out the public pages at:

<https://www.facebook.com/womeninthewind/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WomeninthewindLOCALChapter>.

G

Group Riding

Group riding provides additional rewards to those you get from solo riding, but it also holds additional risks. The #1 thing to remember in group riding is you are responsible for **YOUR OWN** safety first. But don't endanger the rest of the group while you are looking out for yourself! (See Ride Guidelines)

H

History

WITW was founded in 1979 by Becky Brown in Ohio. She placed an ad in her local newspaper and eleven women joined and they formed the first Women in the Wind Chapter. From that first group, WITW has grown into an international organization with more than 1300 members and over 100 chapters across the US, Canada, Great Britain, and Portugal.

WITW-LOCAL Chapter was founded in January 1999 by Dee Norman, who researched a number of women's riding groups before settling on WITW. The first meeting was attended by 33 women, and LOCAL became the largest WITW chapter at that time almost overnight.

I

International WITW Ride Day

International WITW Ride Day is on the first Sunday in June of every year. Chapters across the nation participate in a day of riding and fellowship.

J

Jewelry and Other Logo Items

Official WITW logo items are available for purchase on the WITW website in the *Members Only* section. Various chapters are authorized to sell clothing and accessories, decals, license plate holders, and other logo items to raise money. (LOCAL sells chapter nametags.)

K

KSU (Kick Stands Up)

This means that at the appointed time you are on your bike and ready to roll!! Have a full tank of gas, appropriate tire pressures, proper fluid levels and all electrical components in working order.

L

Logo

The WITW logo is a front view of a woman riding a motorcycle, trademarked in 2004; the organization name is spelled out above the logo in a circular style. Any use of the official logo must be approved by the WITW Executive Board.



M

Membership Fees

Your membership fees are divided and distributed between the International Organization and your LOCAL chapter. For your fees you will receive a small WITW patch, a bimonthly Shootin' the Breeze International newsletter, your monthly LOCAL newsletter and a yearly membership card. Membership milestone pins (5, 10, 20 year, etc.) are also awarded by WITW. Please remember that all WITW Board Members, International and LOCAL, are all volunteers. 100% of your fees go back into running the organization.

N

"Nationals"

Nickname for WITW International Conferences. Nationals are held two times per year (Winter and Summer) and are hosted by various WITW chapters.

Newsletter

Every month, you will receive a LOCAL newsletter by email from our Newsletter Editor. The newsletter is also available under "Files" on the closed LOCAL facebook page.

O

Organization

Women in the Wind is a Motorcycle Organization, not a Motorcycle Club. This is a legal distinction and the terms are not interchangeable.

Open Rides

LOCAL Chapter also enjoys occasional "open" rides. These rides are, as the name suggests, open to your riding guests regardless of gender, providing they have a valid motorcycle license and proof of current insurance. (Female guests are welcome at all rides).

P

Patches

Upon joining, you will receive a small patch (2" x 2") patch signifying your international membership. The large LOCAL patch that you see on the back of many members' vests, is available to purchase after you become a member. You can order one from our Treasurer.

Q

Questions?

Contact any board member via email if you have any questions or concerns. We will point you in the right direction. Always go to your LOCAL board before contacting the International officers and if the LOCAL board can't answer the question, they will contact the International board.

R

Ride Guidelines

Because our Chapter rides as a group, we have developed Ride Guidelines that cover staggered formation, hand signals, and various riding and traffic situations requiring uniform and safe riding actions. The Ride Guidelines can be found on LOCAL's website and also are posted in Files on our closed (Members

Only) facebook page. Contact the Road Captain or Safety Officer if you have any questions about the guidelines.

Rosters

A roster containing all member's names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are emailed to each member by the Chapter Secretary. These are confidential and may not be used for soliciting or sales. If you do not want your information included in the roster, please let the secretary know.

S

Shootin' The Breeze

Shootin' the Breeze is WITW International's newsletter, published six times a year to the entire WITW membership. It will be mailed to you unless you opt out and prefer electronic publication. You can also access it on the WITW website.

Safe Mileage Contest

Each year hundreds of WITW members participate in the Safe Mileage Contest. For each year, if your odometer mileage has been verified at the beginning and end of the year and you have not been involved in a traffic accident throughout the year, you will receive a Safe Mileage pin and year rocker. Please contact the Safety Officer if you have any questions regarding this contest.

T

T-CLOCK

A motorcycle inspection checklist where the acronym stands for Tires and Wheels, Controls, Lights, Oil, Chassis and Kickstand

U

Unite

One of the three purposes of WITW - to Unite women motorcyclists with friends of common interest. The other two are: Promote a positive image to the public of women on motorcycles, and Educate our members on motorcycle safety and maintenance.

Upcoming WITW events

Information about upcoming WITW events, e.g., Internationals and regional meetups, etc., can be found in the Shootin' The Breeze and on the WITW website.

V

Volunteer

We need you! There are many ways in which you can become an active participant in the Chapter. We always need members to host parties, submit ride ideas, act as committee members, party organizers and the list goes on and on. Please contact any board member to see where you are needed most!

W

Websites

You will find out all you need to know about WITW on the International Website: <http://www.womeninthewind.org>. You will find the member password in your Shootin' The Breeze newsletter or you can ask any LOCAL board member. The LOCAL Chapter website can be found at www.ladiesofchromeandleather.com.

X

X-Mas and other parties

LOCAL's annual Christmas party is held on a Saturday in December at one of our members' homes. We also have a pool party in August of election years.

Y

You and your body

For the safety of yourself and all your sisters riding around you, please refrain from riding in any WITW/LOCAL ride if you are: over-tired, seriously ill, under the influence of medications that could affect your ability to ride safely, and/or, of course, under the influence of alcohol.

Z

Z-zzzzzz . . . before you doze off, that's about it!