



**Mike and Dean Stokes  
Region N 2011 – 2012 Couple of the Year**

**Email Mike: [mikeastokes@gmail.com](mailto:mikeastokes@gmail.com)  
Email Dean: [deanstones@earthlink.net](mailto:deanstones@earthlink.net)  
Residence: (704) 827-8986  
Fax: (415) 920-3207**

Mike & Dean cherish the honor of being selected as the 2011-2012 Region N Couple of the year among so many couples. We know we can continue to be as energetic as those we have met before us because of the enthusiasm and support of GWRRA members and couples. This GWRRA family continues to motivate us as we carry on the honor, commitment and responsibility as ambassadors for Region N and GWRRA in the Couples program. We pray that our experience will continue to be an enjoyable fun filled event we will never forget. We are looking forward to 2012 in being in the International Couples Selection process at Wing Ding 34, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

We have known each other since June 2005 and were married in June 2007. We have in our family two daughters, one son, three grandchildren and 72,000 plus GWRRA members. We include GWRRA members as family we have met during this exciting journey and look forward to adding more as we continue this story in GWRRA. We are ordained Deacons/Deaconess in our church and love to serve our church family. We've been riding together as a GWRRA couple since meeting each other in 2005. Mike has had many different motorcycles since he began riding at the age of 16 and has been active as a GWRRA member since 1999. Dean soon followed in joining GWRRA once we met and married. We own a 1984 Goldwing and 2001 Yamaha Venture that we both enjoy riding.

We live in Mount Holly, NC and serve in the Gastonia NC-L Chapter. We've served in GWRRA as Assistant Chapter Directors, Motor Awareness Coordinators, Chapter Couple Of the Year, North Carolina Couple of the Year, Certified LTP Instructors, Webmasters and are very active members in Membership Enhancement Program, Leadership Training Program, Motor Awareness Division and Riders Education Program.

We both have enjoyed many GWRRA sponsored Chapter, District, Region and Wing Ding bike rally gatherings and believe in the GWRRA motto "Fun; Safety & Knowledge. The Fun is what we enjoy with spending time and rides with all our GWRRA members, the Safety is where we are active in being our chapter Motorist Awareness Coordinators and assist in Riders Education to share safety among all motorcyclist and the Knowledge is in being Certified LTP instructors to share that wealth of training with all GWRRA members.

Mike currently works for the Bank of America as a Vice President, Senior Technology Project Manager / Systems Engineer residing in Charlotte, North Carolina. Mike's career began in 1979 where he proudly served in the U.S. Army and later transitioned to the U.S. Department of Defense for a total of 22 plus years. He later joined the Bank of America in 2002 that has given him a span of 30 plus years in the Engineering Technology industry. During this span of work, Mike has traveled to 22 countries and hopes to re-visit them all with his wife.

Dean currently works for the Cleveland County School System as an Exceptional Children's School Teacher. Dean's career began in the school system in 1996 for a total of 15 plus years. She has taught students in all grade levels of kindergarten through high school. The highlight of Dean's career is in taking the direct approach of a handicap student from middle school through high school. She was so successful with the student's academics, the parents wanted her to continue on with him through college.

Mike and Dean are at a point in life where sharing our GWRRA experience with others and with each other as a couple is important. Our life's journey is an experience and is very important as we learn more about GWRRA and our life together.