



"Insight"

GWRRA News & Information
from the International Team

Volume 1, Issue 2

August 2010



Director GWRRA

Mike & Lori Stiger
(517) 769-4824

Director@gwrro.org

International Directors

Rider Education

Gene & Betty Knutson

Gene: 352-428-0785

Betty: 352-428-7599

fop4051@gmail.com

Leadership Training

David & Kathy Orr

David: 704-560-5446

Kathy: 704-560-0697

LTD4U@comporium.net

Membership Enhancement

Ed & Linda Johnson

Home: 276-628-5535

Cell: 276-492-5535

MED4U@comcast.net



**Congratulations to the new
2010 - 2011
International Couple of the Year**

**Fred & Mandy Mew
South Central (Region H)**

Read more on page 9



<http://www.gwrro.org>



<http://www.gwrro.org/oconnect/>

Building and Using an Effective Team

When Dave and Kathy Orr, International Directors of Leadership Training were charged with the responsibility to create the OCP, one of the first things they did was build an effective Team around them to accomplish the task. Time was short and if memory serves me right, they had 90 days to complete this. Being a part of their Team gave me a front row seat to watch them work with their Team. I have to say that they did an outstanding job selecting talented Team Members, understood the kind of contribution they could make, and assigning their Team Members tasks based on their skill set. Because of this it came together quickly, on time, and is one of the finest training programs GWRRA has produced. They built an **effective Team**.

When Dave and Kathy interviewed me regarding what I would like to develop for the OCP, I mentioned the fact that I would like to tackle Team Building. After some discussion regarding their ideas on the subject matter, they told me to run with it. As I developed the curriculum I would share with them my progress and what I had completed to that point. They would make suggestions but never micro managed the task, which allowed me to use my creative ideas to produce the work. When I completed the work we did a joint review with all of the Team Members tweaking the final product. Dave and Kathy effectively **delegated** the task and **managed** its completion.

Paul Brosher, Region D Trainer, was tasked with the responsibility to produce the financial section of the OCP. Dave and Kathy knew I had some unique knowledge regarding the 501c4 exemption and the IRS 990 filing requirements. He asked that I assist Paul in those areas of his financial section. Paul and I worked well together and through Synergy, the sum of our work was better than if we would of individually wrote it. Dave and Kathy understood our strengths and through **Synergy**, created a superior document.

When all of the Team Members completed their individual tasks, the OCP document was compiled and then distributed to all Team Members for their review and refinement. Once again they used Synergy, the collective efforts of all Team Members to produce a completed product. This also showed their ability to facilitate. Having neutral content, they allowed the Team to refine the product. As they received modifications they would post them for others to review. They knew this **facilitation process** is a necessary step in effectively using their Team.

Finally, they led the Team in implementing the program. Leading by example, they conducted the Summit in Phoenix, managed the field implementation, and conducted several of the OCPs. We followed their lead, and Members of the original Team and dozens of outstanding Leadership Trainers have trained over 2,200 Members in our Association. **Leading by example** is the key to any implementation of an idea or program. Even though I was the Director of Rider Education when all of this occurred, I was a **supporting Team Member** of their efforts and never tried to influence or compete in their efforts.

Continued on next page

Director of GWRRA

[Continue from previous page](#)

Directors, this example clearly defines how to create and effectively use your Team.

- o Select Members based on their abilities, not just those you are comfortable with. Effective Team Members will have abilities and opinions that differ from yours. You should embrace this and view it as Team strength.
- o Delegate and manage. Do not micro manage. Clearly define the objectives you want them to achieve. Periodically review their progress, but allow them the freedom to run with it.
- o Use Synergy. Understand your Team Members' strengths and then Team individual Members together to create a better outcome.
- o Correctly facilitate your Team efforts allowing them to come up with fresh ideas and explore new avenues. Use your Team to review and refine the final result.
- o Always lead by example. Walk the talk. Doing is always better than telling.
- o Be a supporting Team Member by supporting your Educator, Trainer, and Membership Enhancement Coordinator. Be a part of their Team and help them be successful in their efforts.

Teamwork is the key to our continued success.

Mike Stiger
Director of GWRRA



Rider Education Program



HEAT and Motorcycles

Hot summer days make a convection oven look positively chilly. Riding in hot weather presents its own challenges. However, rather than staying home and missing all the fun, with a little planning it is still possible to enjoy our favorite roads.

Dressing properly is very important. A T-shirt and shorts are not the answer. Exposed skin is not only dangerous in a crash, it's a major source of dehydration and sunburn. Add to that the long-term danger of skin cancer, covering up becomes the clear choice. Cover all exposed skin to reduce dehydration. A long-sleeve cotton shirt, cotton jeans, and gloves, all normal safety wear, are the clothing of choice. Modern riding jackets made of mesh, worn over a wick shirt that is dampened, can provide a cooling effect making the ride more enjoyable.

Start the ride well-hydrated, taking in at least a quart of liquid before departure. Contrary to logic, this will not necessitate extra pit stops. Take in at least a quart of liquid such as water or sports drinks every hour. If the temperature or heat index is very high, double that intake, since fluid loss can top a gallon an hour. Riders who do not need to make a pit stop every couple of hours are dehydrating and should sharply increase their fluid intake.

Break the ride into segments with extended cool-off periods every couple of hours. These can be refreshment stops, points of interest, or just spending 30 or 40 minutes in a cool gas station, sipping a sports drink. Caffeine tends to increase dehydration, as does alcohol.

Know the signs of heat exhaustion (profuse sweating, dizziness, flushed face, weakness, muscle cramps) and heat stroke (no sweating, pale face, shallow respiration, collapse). Riders and Co-riders should watch for them in themselves and in others. At the first signs, seek a cool place and cool the victim down as quickly as possible. In heat stroke, seek emergency medical help.

With a little preparation and common sense, beating the heat is a lot more fun than staying home.

My Thanks to Jackie Vaughan for the above information.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart!

Gene D. Knutson

International Director, Rider Education

<http://www.gwrra.org/regional/ridered/index.html>

Rider Education Program

The '-01' Point of View

There was a huge tractor-trailer on display at the West Virginia Convention to demonstrate the “No Zone”. I hope you all are familiar with this term, as it can be a life saver. Since I had never been in the cab, I climbed on up for a look-see. “Climbed” is a nice way of putting what I did. My short legs and “fluffy” body don’t really climb that well. However I pulled and tugged, and ultimately made it into the driver’s seat.

If you have not done this, please do so when you have the opportunity. I think we all know about the clearances we should maintain, but seeing it is really believing it. There were motorcycles and trikes to each side and behind this big rig. The only way I could see them was to stand on my toes and lean against the windshield. Worst of all was the motorcycle and trailer directly in front. I could see part of the motorcycle, but had no idea there was a trailer behind it until I got out of the cab and looked from the ground. Please keep this in mind when you are passing a big rig. Look for the whole front of the truck in your rear-view mirror before pulling in front, and then don't slow down! Don't risk getting run over. A blind spot is exactly that - BLIND! Co-Riders as well as Riders need to be aware of this, so they can gently remind their riders.

Thank you West Virginia for a great time, and we hope to see you all again soon!

Betty Knutson
Assistant International Director, Rider Education



Wing Ding 32 Amazing Team Challenge Winners

1st Place - Gold Angels (California)

Jerry Cowan
Steve Cobb
Robert Lebkuecher
Rick Henrichs
Val Tait

2nd Place - Buckeyes

Greg Hohlock
Tim Brandt
Janine Brandt
Steve McKenna

3rd Place - Crazy Canuks

Les Roylander
Ron Litwille
Michael Laudie
Jim Roney

Wing Ding 32 Seminar Statistics

Commercial Seminar hours	323
Leadership Training hours	682
Membership Enhancement hours	305.5
Specialty Seminar hours	300
Rider Ed Seminar hours	1119
ERC hours	512
Total Seminar Attendees	2369
Total Seminar Hours	3241.5

Rider Education Program

Time To Check Your Riding Skills?

From time to time, all of us get complacent when it comes to riding skills. For instance, the other night I was in a line of traffic when I got that deer in the headlights look as all of a sudden the traffic came from a speed of about 40mph to zero.

I have no idea where my mind was, but it sure wasn't where it needed to be! Fortunately, all of the training on the range came back instantly, and with a quick look to the rear view mirrors and fast downshifting, I was able to bring my ride to a safe stop.

This is the moment when you question what you were doing that the stoppage of traffic caught you off guard. First comes the feeling that you're a better rider than that, but then comes the realization that you came real close to making a huge mistake. Daydreaming about something that didn't amount to a hill of beans, but here we were grabbing gears and hoping that vehicle behind was also paying attention.

While that situation ended well, except for some personal embarrassment, it could have been much worse. I like to play the "what if" game while riding and it generally has made me more aware of the hazards that lurk from all sources. The vehicle pulling from a driveway, stopped traffic. Impatient drivers who just love your rear fender, and of course those wonderful pieces of blown tires commonly called "gators". The list is endless, but seems to always present me with new and not so exciting challenges. By thinking ahead, and staying focused, our ability to deal with the unexpected is greatly improved.

Had I not let my mind drift, that "what if" game would have asked me, what if these cars stop quickly? I can tell you that my reactions would have been sharper and the stop would have been smoother. Oh, and that vehicle behind me, well I would have known where he was, and he would have not had to lock his brakes to stay off of my bike.

Having ridden for more than 45 years, I still realize that there are times to revisit the ranges, and sharpen those riding skills. Whether it is a sanctioned PLP, (Parking Lot Practice) or formal Riding Course, we all should take the opportunity to keep our riding skills crisp and stay alert.

Until next time, Ride with Pride, You're a GOLDWINGER!

Gene D. Knutson
International Director, Rider Education

<http://www.gwrra.org/regional/ridered/index.html>

Rider Education Program

Rider Education Merit Awards 2009-2010

Annually, the Rider Education Program recognizes and honors outstanding Educators who have distinguished themselves through performance and dedication above and beyond their peers. These awards are announced and presented during the Masters Breakfast held at Wing Ding.

While all of our Educators are hardworking and exhibit dedication throughout the year, the following were singled out for going the extra distance for the Members in the performance of their duties.

GWRRA Educator of the YEAR

Don Henrey
Sr. District Educator
West Virginia

Rider Educator Merit Awards

Jerry Hill - Chapter Educator SC-E
Roy Degler - Chapter Educator GA-A
Al Stahl - District Educator, New York
Larry Broome - Chapter Educator, OH P-2
John Olenick - Sr. Chapter Educator IA-E
Michael Mischker - Region E Educator
Marty Hall - Missouri District Educator
Rodd Polk - Chapter Educator LA-J
John & Lydia Bourg - Region H Educators
Alex Zerbinos - Alaska District Educator
Steve Brighton - Ontario District Educator
Rick McCalla - Region K Educator
Tom Fitzgerald - Chapter Educator NC-B2
Dave & Edna Gibson - Sr. Chapter Educators TN-M

Motorist Awareness Coordinator of the Year

Ray & Cindy Erickson
Salem, Alabama

Motorist Awareness Merit Awards

Dan & Billye Dulyea - Chapter MI-G2
Wayne & Elva Grant - Chapter NC-F
Nate & Danelle Kinion - District of Florida

Medic First Instructor of the Year

Steven Gates
White Pigeon, MI

Medic First Merit Awards

Region D - Most Classes Taught
Region N - Most Improved in Classes/Students Taught
Tina Prince - Most Classes Taught

Membership Enhancement Program



Have You Ever Been Wrong?

Another one of our interests, outside GWRRA, is attending Estate and Auction Sales. As part of this pastime, we subscribe to the Antique Week Newspaper which list Estate and Auction Sales along the East coast. In the June 14, 2010 issue of the Antique Week, we read an interesting article entitled, The Mind Can Be a Tricky Thing, by Steve Proffitt. In the article, Mr. Proffitt outlines several instances where people think they are correct on a subject when in fact they are wrong. Mr. Proffitt made the following statement: "My Daddy taught me an important lesson when I was a boy. He said that when you think you're right and the other fellow is wrong, before you go out on a limb and accuse someone of something, or take a position that will be uncomfortable to retreat from, think about everything very carefully because the chance exist that you're wrong." Mr. Proffitt's article continues; "That's an important lesson for all of us - we all make mistakes. Recognizing our fallibility should open our eyes to the possibility that we're wrong even when we feel strongest that we're right. Most of us work in an environment that allows us time to reflect on our decisions and try to catch and right the ones we make incorrectly. We should take full advantage of that time for reflection whenever an important matter is at stake."

Have you ever been in a situation like this? Have you found you were wrong when you thought you were right? This situation can occur very easily by repeating gossip or rumors. We should all remember this when dealing with anyone.

In our Chapter Life, situations sometimes arise when a Member feels they are right only to find out that they are wrong. How should we handle these situations when they arise in our Chapter Life? First, we need to be sure that they are wrong so we can handle the situation in the right manner. We should always consider the feelings of the other Member/Members involved. Always remember GWRRA's Motto: "Friends for FUN, Safety and Knowledge". The first word is "Friends". Don't let an issue come between you and a friend. None of us want to be wrong, but as volunteers in our Association, we have to be careful to look at things in a correct and positive way. Let's all work together to promote a "FUN" environment within GWRRA.

Reprinted in part from: Antique Week Newspaper, June 14, 2010, "The Mind Can Be A Tricky Thing", by Steve Proffitt

Ed & Linda Johnson
Director, Membership Enhancement Program

<http://med.gwrra.org/>

Membership Enhancement Program

2010 - 2011 International Couple of the Year



Fred & Mandy Mew South Central (Region H)

Fred and Mandy Mew are the new International Couple of the Year. They live in Euless, Texas which is located between Dallas and Fort Worth.

In January, 2000, they surprised friends and family and eloped to be married on a beach in Hawaii. After that life-changing event, Mandy moved from North Carolina to Texas, and they settled in Euless, near the DFW airport.

Fred is a Technical Crew Chief/Aircraft Maintenance Instructor, teaching Boeing 737, MD-80, 757, 767, 777 aircraft and safety for American Airlines. He has worked for a major airline for 24 years and is a graduate of Dallas Baptist University.

Mandy is the Budget Analyst for Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District and has worked in Texas public schools for 10 years. Prior to moving to Texas, she worked for the North Carolina State Department of Public Schools for 12 years. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University.

Fred has been a Member of GWRRA since 1998 and in 2001, they began riding with GWRRA Texas, Chapter R. Fred rides a white GL1800 and Mandy rides a blue GL1800. They have held numerous positions in GWRRA including Couple of the Year (Region H, Texas District, and Texas Chapter R), Assistant Texas District Directors, Chapter Directors, Assistant Chapter Directors, Chapter Educator, Chapter Newsletter Editor, and, most importantly, Texas Chapter R Participants. They are both Senior Master Tour Riders (Level IV). Fred is a Rider Education Seminar Instructor, and both have taken numerous Leadership Training Courses.

In addition to riding their wings, they enjoy scuba diving, traveling, cruises, music, movies, and meeting new friends with GWRRA.

<http://med.gwrra.org/coupleoftheyear.html>

Membership Enhancement Program

2nd Quarter 2010 June Agee Memorial National Chapter Newsletter Winner

Chapter VA-Y, Leesburg, Virginia

Chapter Directors
Bill and Susan Rogers

Newsletter Editor
Susan Rogers

<http://www.gwrravay.org/site2/>

Wing Ding 32 Statistical Award Winners

<u>Category</u>	<u>Name / Location</u>	<u>Age</u>
Oldest Rider (Female)	Betty A. Thornton, IA	76
Oldest Rider (Male)	Marion Kouns, IA	91
Oldest Co-Rider	Ginger Elrod, IA	74
Oldest Sidecar Passenger	Yolanda Chiavola, KA	69
Youngest Sidecar Passenger	Carolyn Goldblatt, OH	64
Youngest Rider (Male)	Ross Herring, IA	14
Youngest Rider (Female)	Linda Huppenbauer, IA	50
Youngest Co-Rider	Chance Miller, MO	3

<u>Category</u>	<u>Name / Location</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Long Distance Rider (Female)	Susan Edwards, WA	1,461
Long Distance Rider (Male)	Ted Moore, WA	1,484
Long Distance Rider Two-Up	David & Loretta Champion, NL	2,038
International Long Distance - Couple	James And Elizabeth Cameron, NZ	7,907
International Long Distance - Individual	Stan Weir, NZ	8,367

Pre-registration Attendance

Largest District by Percentage (%) - Iowa
Largest District by Number (Total) - Illinois

Leadership Training Program

Trainers Update

When we brought out all the Trainers and select Master Instructors to Phoenix back in January, we brought the best of the best in Leadership Training in GWRRA. This group left Phoenix as Certified Officer Trainers and designated as "Officers" in the Association. The tremendous work you have done over the last 6 months is unparalleled in GWRRA history. We are approaching the August 31st deadline and there are several action items on the schedule for District and Region Trainers.

1. Reconcile the International OCP database records against your records
2. Notify District Directors of all Officers/Members who are OCP certified as of 8/31/10.
3. District Directors notify Region Directors of Chapters still not OCP certified; include action plan for Chapters in jeopardy.
4. District Directors and District Trainers consult on dates for OCPs for new Officers appointed after 8/31/10.

If you encounter any circumstances that require special consideration, contact us now. We can work together to come up with a solution and still accomplish the goals of the OCP training.

The Officer Certification Program has been a success, thanks to the Officer Trainers, especially the District Trainers and Region Trainers. None of this could have been accomplished without District Directors and Region Directors coming together, working with the Training Teams, and keeping the Members and Officers concerns at the forefront while accomplishing this huge task. The OCP will continue to be improved on as GWRRA moves forward. Both are a work in progress. We will see the results of the training in the coming year, even beyond what we see now.

We are starting to write OCP2, which will also allow for us to tweak the OCP some too. OCP2 is a half day of training, consisting of 4-5 modules designed specifically for Region Teams and District Teams. If any of Master Instructors are interested in writing a module for OCP2, we want to hear from you. We are especially interested in hearing from Master Instructors who have served as a Director at the District or Region Level.

In case you missed it, we have a new LTP Position Application form on the website. Please use this form going forward, and notice that there is only one name per application. In the signature box, fill in your name and send it to us by email.

Please continue to let us know what you think and ideas for solutions to make GWRRA and Leadership Training better. Let us know how we can make your jobs easier, where you need assistance or guidance. Thank you for everything you do.

David & Kathy Orr
International Directors, Leadership Training

<http://www.gwrroa.org/regional/Training/Training.htm>

Leadership Training Program

Are the Teambuilding Exercises in Your OCP Having the Maximum Impact?

We have personally taught in eight (8) OCPs since January, and it has been interesting to witness the different ways the Team Building Exercises are executed. Some have been pretty good, but there have been a few we have witnessed, and others we hear about from participants, that the Team Building Exercises were fun and silly and broke up the day, but they could have done without them. Not much was gained and the day would have been a bit shorter had there been none.

If this is the case with the OCPs you are delivering to your Members and Officers, then a major opportunity is missed. The Team Building activities should be fun, light hearted, and maybe even a little entertaining, but they should always conclude as a learning moment with reflections about Teamwork and Networking and encouraging the participants to share ideas and resources. We recommend that you utilize inspiring and motivational quotes or short stories to illustrate Teamwork in action, using the Team Building activity as an example. The themes of “Core Team” and “Networking” included in the OCP will have the maximum impact when we include effective Team Building Activities.

From the OCP Instructor Guide:

“Plan to have fun and work with the attendees to insure the highest impact of the program. Your attitude and commitment to the OCP will determine the success of the presentation. Your energy, drive and enthusiasm are a major factor. Your commitment to work with our leaders makes you a leader also. Conduct yourself as a leader by being an example to our Membership, and making yourself available to our Officers and Members.”

We will post a few new activities on the LTP website. Share ideas with one another. Having inspiring moments during the OCP can be a highly motivational way to bring people together and still break up the day.

Let us hear your ideas. Email us at LTD4U@comporium.net.

David & Kathy Orr
International Directors, Leadership Training

Leadership Training Awards 2009 - 2010

LTD Director's Award - Paul Brosher, Region D Trainer; Master Instructor

"The Most Improved Region"- John & Sharon Simonick, Region F

Excellence in Training Award - Dave Aikens, Region A

Excellence in Training Award - Dale Wingrove, Region H

Excellence in Training Award - Pam & Tommy Meador, Region N

Excellence in Training Award - Paul Brosher, Region D

2010 / 2011 Events



Wing Ding 33 "Rollin on Rocky Top"

July 6 - 9, 2011

<http://www.wing-ding.org/>

Region L	July 29 - August 1
Region I	August 26 - 28
Region E	September 3 - 5
Region A	September 16 - 18
Region D	September 16 - 18

New York/New Jersey District	August 5 - 7
Kansas District	August 26 - 28
Colorado District	August 27 - 28
Idaho District	September 3 - 5
California District	September 3 - 5
New Jersey District	September 12
New Mexico District	September 17 - 18
North Carolina District	September 23 - 25
Virginia District	October 7 - 9

Don't see your Region or District event listed?

Contact the Newsletter Editors
Rick & Madalena Buck

Email: Rmbuck@tampabay.rr.com