



Volume: 1

Edition: 11

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November

INSIGHT

focus

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF OUR VOLUNTEER OFFICERS
WORLD WIDE.

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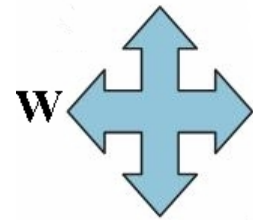
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This Month's Guest Contributors:

I hope everyone had a great and safe Thanksgiving holiday with their family and friends.

It is now time to start thinking about all the Region and District Officer meetings to get the latest GWRRA news and information from their leadership teams.

Ed Porter



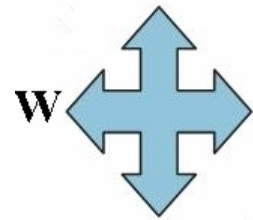
**Colors and Membership Enhancement
By Mike Hottinger
CO-L Assistant Membership Enhancement**

Recently, I went on a “Color Ride” with a bunch of GWRRA friends and on the way back home I started thinking. Yep, that’s right, I was thinking. I never ride solo and on Sunday, without my lovely Rhonda, there was plenty of time to contemplate things that just came to mind. I began to compare the clusters of Aspen trees to the GWRRA Chapters and the brilliant colors in these clusters to that of Chapter Members. You might be wondering, “Where is he going with this?” Well let’s see where my mind wanders.

In general terms, people refer to visiting the mountains this time of the year as “going to see the colors.” When you spend a moment looking at the mountain-side you notice how many shades there are mixed together. This is like our membership, varied levels of participation, skills and levels. Without these shades it is not as beautiful or attractive to the people looking. Think of it as this is how we appear to prospective, new, inactive or even active members. Every Chapter has Members at different stages of participation or skills. In these stages we find people of different shades of OOOO’s and AAAHHH’s.

What attracts people to membership? It is being around people that make them feel comfortable and welcome; a warm fuzzy is what I like to call it. We need these new Members to ensure the strength and endurance of our Chapters. Once a Member, we need to enhance each other and make our colors bright. We need our bright golden yellows, the brilliant oranges and changing greens, as it takes the entire spectrum to grow and enhance others. Use your bursts of brilliant color to make each day special for someone and then they will be driven to come back for more, maybe even a little anxious for the next opportunity to be together and share their colors.

Now that we are all being brilliant, are we working as a family to help the others look brilliant too? Let me refer back to the clusters of trees I mentioned in the beginning. Did you know the Aspen tree shares a root system with the others around them? You can say that each cluster is a family. The clusters are all different sizes with different intensities of different colors within them. It is our responsibility to enhance our family and Chapter, prospective Members and community. But it is essential that it goes so much further.



We need to be there for the other Chapters, also. By supporting the other Chapters we help their colors explode and then you and your own Chapter will cultivate new shades as well. I personally feel this in my life. I look forward to going everywhere we can and meeting others as we grow and mature in GWRRA and feel a little down when we are unable to make it to things we would like to attend. There are always certain people that can be relied on to be present at gatherings, rides, and fundraisers. With the efforts of these people, new friendships are made and new shades of colors added. A healthy group of Chapters makes for a healthy District and a group of healthy Districts make a healthy Region and so on.

To close, I would like to say, “Thank you to all the different people Rhonda and I have met through our time with GWRRA. Everyone is their own tree, with a unique color that has enhanced Rhonda and me in their own special and unique way. This provides us with a broader exposure to the GWRRA world enhancing our membership for the years to come. Share your brilliant colors today.”

Share the passion and hug someone!

Anita & JR

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Drill Teams and Top Gun and Amazing Team Challenge, Oh my!

At Wing Ding in Wisconsin this year we asked for folks that might be interested in learning how to be on a drill team get-together with some experienced drill team members for three days. After some techniques were shared and a few practice sessions, they fielded two teams that participated in the Drill Team exhibition at Madison. We were amazed how quickly these folks picked it up. They did a great job! The crowd was talking about how far these new drill team participants had come in such a short time. Some may not be aware that Rider Education has been organizing the Drill Team, Top Gun, and Amazing Team Challenge events at Wing Ding over the years. We also have a web site dedicated to Drill Teams, Top Gun, and Amazing Team Challenge field activities. The site is located at <http://www.gwrro.org/regional/ridered/DrillTeams/index.html>

The Drill Team web page contains drill team information such as how to start a drill team, routine maneuvers, and training routines; as well as access to the Top Gun manual, Amazing Team Challenge course layouts, a novice challenge course layout, and even a trike challenge course layout.

We are looking for someone who has experience with drill teams, organizing Top Gun, and Amazing Team Challenge events to join us in Huntsville, AL for Wing Ding next September. Rider Education takes care of getting the awards (medallions, plaques, etc.) and ready for the event. We just need an organizer to join TEAM GWRRA as the Drill Team Director. The ideal person would have the following qualifications:

- Is responsible for promoting and supporting the implementation of drill teams throughout GWRRA.
- Submits an article for the "Insight" newsletter on a quarterly basis, or as requested by the Director - Rider Education.
- Monitors the Drill Team program to ensure quality results and to see that goals and objectives are achieved.
- Attends Wing Ding annually to provide full and complete Drill Team, Top Gun, and Amazing Team Challenge support and programs for the benefit of the Members.

Rider Education Director

*A continuous guide for the Rider Education
Program Leadership*



This will include:

- Staffing and organizing the drill team practices, demonstrations, and any competitions being held.
- Scheduling and staffing of Amazing Team Challenge and Top Gun activities.
- Upgrades and expands the Drill Team Program as necessary, or as requested by the GWRRRA Director and/or by the Director of Rider Education.
- Ensures that qualified personnel are utilized at appropriate levels to provide quality education and information to all Members.
- Effectively teaches and communicates all aspects of Drill Teams, Top Gun, and the Amazing Team Challenge programs to all levels of educators and Members.
- Maintains such records as deemed necessary or as requested, and to assist all involved personnel in accomplishing their duties in a timely fashion.
- Compiles and distributes, at least on a quarterly basis, a report of the Drill Team, Top Gun, and Amazing Team Challenge activities.

New for Huntsville:

Organizing and staffing staged demonstrations (some indoors) of how to:

- pick up a Gold Wing or Valkyrie
- do a U-turn
- place a Gold Wing on its center stand
- other ideas as they come!

If you are interested or know someone who may be, contact the TEAM GWRRRA Rider Education Director at avanschaick@nc.rr.com

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tony & Michelle

Membership Enhancement Program

*A continuous guide for the Membership
Enhancement Program*



Changes to the 2015 GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award Program

Changes to the GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award Program Guide were made because of questions and suggestions received during the several newsletter seminar presentations during 2014. Most of the items are clarification. A paragraph was added to bring the Newsletter Award Program in line with the Couple of the Year and Chapter of the Year Programs. There is one critical score sheet change. Since the newsletter seminar presents an overview of the GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award Program, the newsletter seminar and instructor guide were updated so all seminar attendees can be presented the same information. I will identify each of the changes in the following paragraphs.

Program Guide

1. Purpose A paragraph was added to the end of this section. It reads: “All newsletters will be translated into English. The same Chapter will not be eligible to win the GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award in two consecutive years.” This change was to bring the newsletter program in line with the other MEP “ of the year programs” where resumes must be submitted in English and a couple or chapter cannot receive the International Couple or Chapter of the Year award in two consecutive years. The consecutive year requirement takes effect for the 2015 year (1 Jan 2015 – 31 Dec 2015). What this means is the same Chapter is eligible to win the 2014 Newsletter Award as won the 2013 GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award. But the 2014 newsletter winner will not be eligible for the 2015 GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award.
2. Judging Guidelines
 - a. Format – A note was added that reads: “Note: A hyperlink in a printed newsletter does not provide the recipient any information.” Reason for this change is that the Officers Handbook states that all participants should receive a copy of the newsletter at no charge. The Newsletter Program guide states: “The Newsletter submitted for consideration must be the same as the Chapter participants receive.” Therefore, a participant who receives a printed newsletter with a hyper link has no idea what information is there.
 - b. Required Content Front Page – There were several minor changes made here and one major change.
 - i. The major change is the addition of the following: “Time and location of monthly gathering (this may include date or frequency of the gathering)”. This requirement was moved from the recommended section of the Program Guide to a page one requirement. Reason is if participants but especially new or potential Members do not know where or when your next meeting is they cannot participate. If it’s

Membership Enhancement Program

A continuous guide for the Membership Enhancement Program



not on the first page it could be anywhere in the newsletter. By putting this information along with all the other “required” first page information they will know who we are, where we meet, when we meet, and if they are reading the most current Chapter newsletter.

- ii. The minor changes were the requirement to use the “trademarked” GWRRA logo on the first page and the word “distributed” was added to the end the month and year requirement.
3. **Recommended Content** – An attempt to clarify the paragraph on Articles - Chapter Members and other Team members by adding: “(maximum five articles will be scored if submitted by five different Chapter Members or Other Team members).” Reason for this change was to maximize Chapter participation and eliminate the same person from writing all the newsletter articles for maximum number of points. However, if a person holds more than one position in the Chapter and can be verified by the team listing their articles will be considered to be submitted by a different person if the subject of their article pertains to their position.
4. **Responsibilities** – One clarification was made to this section. The one Region GWRRA Chapter Newsletter winner should be submitted via email to: denniswgreer@att.net with a subject line “Region ___ GWRRA Chapter Newsletter of the Year Winner. This is to minimize the probability that the GWRRA Chapter newsletter coordinator does not delete it as junk mail.
5. **Score Sheet** – the score sheet was cleaned up to remove some duplicate scores, remove the points available the major change identified above (time and location of the gathering) since it is now required on the first page, and clarify those areas where a variable score may be attained (0-xx).

The Newsletter Seminar and Instructors Guide were updated to correct some spelling errors, clarify some of the statements, and most importantly to be consistent with the GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Program Guide.

Thanks to all who attended my newsletter seminars in 2014. As you can see several of your questions and comments were not only considered but implemented. Good luck to all those who will have newsletters evaluated for the 2014 calendar year. I encourage all Regions to submit a Chapter newsletter.

Dennis Greer
GWRRA Chapter Newsletter Award Program Coordinator

Bob & Karla