



# GWRRA Rider Education



## NATIONAL RIDER EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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This is the season to be jolly. We are only weeks from a new riding season. Yes before you know it, we can get our riding gear on and take a cruise on all the leftover salt and gravel.

If you happen to be a year round rider, which there are more of, then you must watch for all the road hazards that the winter season brings. The highways have more anti motorcycle friendly road hazards during the winter. There is less chance of a rainstorm to wash away the debris on the highways. In the areas of the cold, it brings out the white stuff (snow and salt), plus frozen parts of the roadways that are super anti friendly to motorcycles.

With all the electric clothing, gloves and handgrips, it is very inviting to take a ride on a 30-degree sunny day. Hypothermia can happen very quickly. Riding at 55 mph and 30-degree temperature has wind chill factors that can and will cool you quickly. The result of cooling your body can cause you to have slower reaction times. You never know when that electric may quite working. You must be prepared or of course, your ride will not be enjoyable.

When riding during the winter months, the gravel, sand, or what ever your area crew put on the road needs cleaned off the Gold Wing after your ride. If your get a chip from a stone you can always find a new piece of chrome to cover it up.

## Certified Seminar Instructors

By Jim & Donna Cox  
Asst. National Rider Ed



The process for certifying Seminar Instructors has been moving right along. As I write this article, there are 150 Certified Seminar Instructors. More will be coming along shortly as I know there has been some LTD training going on. This is good news!

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Holiday Wishes

## Certified Seminar Instructors Continued

There are still some members out there that were certified under the old process and have not yet been certified under the new process. If you wish to continue presenting GWRRA certified seminars, please see your District or Region Educator to have them help you with the new process. If you no longer wish to present seminars, please pass that information on to your Region Educator too. We will then make the adjustments in the Rider Ed Database. After the first of the year, the "old" numbers will no longer be valid. All valid certified seminar numbers will begin with **SI-\_-\_-**.

Renewals for Certified Seminar Instructors are due the beginning of the year. There are no fees attached, only filing a form. The original Seminar Instructor form may be used to renew. There is an area to mark for renewal and an area to put the courses presented.

Keep up the great work and let us get those members trained.

## MEDIC FIRST AID®



We are now in the season we dislike most as far as motorcycles are concerned. At least in a few states, it is becoming colder and snow is on its way. Others ride all year and yes, we do have some that ride in the North all year. Biggest thing right now is watching our turns and times we ride, with leaves on the road. Dew in the mornings, rain, all this combined with the leaves should make us more alert to what lays ahead.

In addition, it is time we can get our Chapter members the CPR & First Aid they need. We have good Chapter Educators that have records of every member so they know who needs what.

Someone emailed me a month ago asking if we have a GWRRA program in Rider Education, for CPR & First Aid. (**MEDIC FIRST AID®**). I thought we had this covered in the manual. It is there, but it is obvious that word has not gotten out.

We also have some very good instructors in other organizations like American Red Cross and American Heart. If we can give our members the instruction they need, that is all we are looking for. Some of the regions are not letting our members know this. We have some hard feelings out there because of this and that should never have happened. Please get the word out-- all we are hoping for is to get our members trained. We put MEDIC FIRST AID into our Organization for the areas that do not have the ability to get our members the training they need at a low cost.

We have excellent MFA, American Heart and American Red Cross Instructors throughout our organization. Our main and only purpose is to be sure our members have available the training and equipment they need. We have always strived to be sure we can give our members the best at the lowest cost, and we are doing that.

We also need the Region Educators and MFA Coordinators to check their files to be sure they are up to date. We do not want an instructor out there that has not taught a class or may need a class to meet their requirement. Remember, each MFA Instructor needs two classes a year for two years to keep their certification. If they are in need of a class to meet their requirement, it is the responsibility of the Regional Educator or MFA Coordinators to ensure the instructor get the classes they need.

Next year at Wing Ding, we are doing something different and this should allow many of the instructors a way to get their class requirement. We will have one day of full classes for those members that have never taken a class. The other three days will have two classes a day, which will be half-day Care Initiator program. If we have two rooms then we will have four classes a

day. As you see, this will allow our instructors to have the classes they need and our members will be able to have more time to enjoy Wing Ding. I need all Regional Educator's to get the word out about the available classes at Wing Ding. Also to our MFA Instructors who are willing to help at Wing Ding. Please have their names sent to me as soon as possible.

We are doing well in our MFA program, we only have three regions still not in the program but they are working at getting it into their operation.

I want to thank all of you Educators and Instructors for making this all happen. Our members are benefiting because of this.

For those who do not have my new address:

Larry Stiles  
32 Wellesley Drive  
Somerset, MA 02726  
508-567-1307

**Have a wonderful holiday**

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## **THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN**

**By Jim & Donna Cox  
Asst. National Rider Ed**

That time of year is just around the corner...you know what we are talking about, **RENEWAL TIME!** Remember, when January rolls around, all Level 2, 3, and 4's need renewed at their highest level. Renewals have been on the rise the past couple of years. We would like to see this trend continue. 100% renewals? It is possible. The more important we make it, the more important it will become to the members.

Now that winter is upon us, indoor courses can be encouraged and set up. What a perfect time of year to hold a first aid/CPR class. How about taking care of the Co-riders by holding a Co-Rider Seminars. Taking care of some of the required courses will go far in encouraging REP renewals.



(Renewals continued)

Start now reminding members that it IS that time of year. Encourage the Chapter Educators to make sure forms are available at Chapter meetings. The easier we can make the renewal process for the members, the more renewals we will get. We challenge you to make this the highest renewal year ever!



## Senior Educators

“Senior” rocker, who gets that? Have you ever wonder how someone becomes a Senior? It is not because of their gray hair.

The following is from Rider Education handbook.



## Purpose

1. To assist with communication in the existing network and to recognize and encourage officers who are industrious, dedicated and worthy of consideration for advancement.
2. To increase the number of qualified prospects who are capable of advancing to the next level of responsibility, thereby increasing the likelihood of selecting the best-qualified candidate.
3. To unitize the pool of talent available in the Senior Positions for improved coverage of responsibilities and visibility that is reserved for Assistants
4. To support Regions and Districts with large areas or budget constraints that may not allow for

Assistants to adequately staff their personnel needs.

5. To increase the opportunities within the Association for qualified officers who, for lack of a Senior Program, might not get an opportunity to continue to grow within themselves or to continue to provide their skills to their chapter, District or Region and perhaps, advance to the next level.
6. To offer a competitive environment that will encourage our Educators to be the best they can be and provide a reward system for those who achieve this level of accomplishment.
7. To provide a means for Educators who are deemed by their superiors to excel in their performance of their duties, an opportunity to continue to serve in the same position for an additional term even though a tenure limitation may have been established for that position.



## Who

Officers who hold the position of Chapter Educator, District Educator or Region Educator are eligible providing, when compared to their peers, they are ABOVE AVERAGE in the performance of their position’s expectations.

This program is designed for those who excel and no exception should be made to this premise. If Educators are rewarded with this title and are not deserving, it will discredit the program to a point where it will be “expected” and any Educator who has a couple of years in tenure will count on being promoted to what should be considered a distinguished level of accomplishment. Friendships should not be given the least bit of consideration when making these appointments. Performance is the only criteria. The promotion to Senior Educator should be reserved for those Educators who would be measured at least an eight on a scale of one to ten. In most cases, Educators will have

served in their current position for a period to ascertain their worthiness for the Senior position. It would appear that at least two years in position would be necessary to have enough experience with the candidate to make an educated decision with respect to the appointment. The candidate for the Senior position should have the following attributes:

Be Member oriented with a minimal disgruntled members or member complaints.

Be considered Well Above Average within current position.

Possess good communications skills.

Must be a current Level IV in the GWRRA Rider Education Program.

Be a role model for others in the same position.

Be willing to assist their superior whenever needed.

Be willing and able to provide coaching and mentoring skills to their peer group.

Be positive in attitude and supportive in administration.

Be successful in achieving low expirations within the Rider Education levels and achieving goals established for their current position including growth of the Level IV participants.



## How

The approval process would be as follows:

1. Chapter Educators would require the recommendation of their Assistant District Educator and the concurrence of the District Educator. In the event an Assistant District Educator is not the next level in the reporting structure, then the appointment would require the recommendation of the District Educator with the concurrence of the Regional Educator.

2. The appointment of a District Educator to Senior District Educator would require the recommendation of the Region Educator with the concurrence of the National Director of Education.
3. The appointment of a Region Educator to Senior Region Educator would require the recommendation of the National Rider Education Director with the concurrence of the Executive Director.
4. Educators appointed to the position of Senior will receive a rocker with the designation "Senior" to be worn over the Rider Education Rocker or over the 4" Officers Logo patch.
5. Tenure of position shall not extend beyond that of the equivalent Operations Officer without reapplication.



## What

The primary expectation of a Senior Educator will embody their willingness and ability to assist their appointing Director with task-oriented assignments, while continuing to satisfy the demands of their present responsibilities. The Senior Educator will function much the same as an Assistant Educator. The Senior Educator should be capable of other expectations such as:

1. Assist with mentoring and coaching of other Educators and Staff.
2. Assist with the planning of safety seminars as well as riding events of District and Regional rallies.
3. Assist with the planning of safety events and activities within a District or Region.
4. Assist new Chapter Educators with advice, expertise and coaching to develop a strong foundation built around the Rider Education program and

- setup the needed safety courses for their perspective members.
5. Assist other Chapter or District Educator that may require support of experience in planning topics for meetings or activities.
6. Assist with the betterment of the Association in areas such as image, visibility, growth and retention within the Rider Education Program.
7. Assist with targeting and cultivating new Educator prospects.
8. Assist in the communications flow.
9. Be a role model for others to follow by always demonstrating safe riding habits. (A Must)



## Senior Nomination Form

1. Updated Form- Jan 2001
2. Print Clearly
3. Sign appropriate boxes
4. Indicate where you would like certificate sent back to on separate sheet of paper.
5. Check box for Black/Gold or Traditional Rockers



## Travel and Weather

Rider education has many seminars on how to plan a trip and check all the important things, one of which is weather. Recently many districts had storms go through their area.

In our truck, we have a CB with the weather alert built in. A couple of weeks ago we left for a trip down South. I looked briefly at the weather channel prior to our pulling out for South Carolina. Weather showed some rain, nothing too bad for the truck. As we were approaching a tunnel on Rt. 77, the

weather alert went off. To our surprise, the cell phone went off around the same time. Our daughter told us about invading bad weather and the damaged happening at home. I know better than to try and out run tornados. We listen to NOAA and found out where the storms were. We also called one of the GWRRA members and asked them to check the weather channel. This would give us some thoughts for a game plan. We found that we were not in the path or near any watch boxes. We were able to continue to our planned motel stop.

I checked the weather channel but things can change and will. If you must alter your trip, do to adverse weather then take the time and plan a new path of least risk.

If you would like FREE handouts for the Chapter members on Family Disaster Plan, write to:

FEMA  
P.O. Box 70274  
Washington, DC 20024

While I am writing on family safety, this is the season to watch for home safety and protect the home from fire and the overloaded electric plugs for all the lights and Christmas items. I think I counted 1,000 lights just on our roof.

Christmas trees dry out very fast, especially while they are in doors. I heard the trees are harvest starting in October. The only water they get is from rain. To check a tree for how dry it may be, pick it up and drop it on its trunk. Watch for how many needles fall off.

Fireplaces need to be check before roasting those chestnuts. Also, remember fireplaces are for wood and not to reduce the trash from all the wrappings, The danger is due to print additives and plastics.

**Wishing you and your family the best and safest holiday season.**

**Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year**

