

February 2006



# **GWRRA** **INTERNATIONAL** **Rider Education** **Newsletter**



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## CANADIAN

### INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

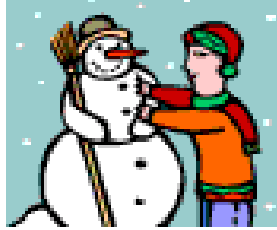
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### CANADA

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Well, it was fun while it lasted. Motorcycles were out for most of the year up until today. Weather was great as if you were in a Southern state, then it hit. The blizzard of 2006, 20" of the white stuff fell today, so after shoveling the driveway and walkways, I had to come in get back to work and do a newsletter for all of you who are enjoying what ever weather you are having.

Sorry for not having a newsletter last month. I work for H&R Block in the winter and I have six offices to oversee. We had a particularly hard start up and it took most of my time to get the offices operational.

I have been getting a few MFA class rosters coming in from a few regions and that is good. It shows our membership is getting the training that they need. Good job.

I am waiting for the MEDIC FIRST AID® version 6.0 to come out in early spring before we go into the new updates that were sent out a month ago. Every instructor will still use the old version with Basic 5.0, and CarePlus CPR.

So until further notice, NO MFA Instructor is to use the new updates until I give the word to your Region Educator or trainer.

A survey was sent to each and every Region Educator and Trainer to fill out and send back to me by the end of January. This survey was very important as I explained so that Bob Lorenz and I could discuss how to improve our CPR/First Aid department. Bob and I felt it was important to get all the regions input so you would have a part in improving this program. I am disappointed that so far I have received only ONE reply from one Trainer. I ask you again now to please send me your survey. If you not interested in helping to improve our program then say so. I need a reply from every region ASAP.

#### **WHAT'S INSIDE**

- **MFA UPDATE**
- **HELP AT WING DING**

Hello GWRRA Friends,

This message is being sent to all National/International Rider Ed Staff, Region Directors, Region Educators, and as many Riding Course instructors as we have contact information on. You may hear of more that were not included (for any number of unintentional reasons) and we ask that you forward this message if possible.

We have been asked to help Bob & Althea Berry this year by organizing the Riding courses at Wing Ding in Nashville. They have worked very hard over the years and we look forward to giving them a well deserved break! We know that we will need your help to deliver the best training our Members could possibly receive at GWRRA's prestigious international event.

Many of you have been wondering if there would be an invitation to teach for Wing Ding. Today we received the critical information that allowed us to develop the first draft of a schedule for the conduct of GWRRA Trike Rider Courses, GWRRA Trailing Courses, MSF ERCs and a GWRRA Sidecar Rider Course. The format will be similar to Ft. Wayne's schedule in 2005. If you are planning a trip to Wing Ding this year, we ask that you consider teaching a riding course for the Membership. (It is Rider Education's special way of retaining members!)

Using this e-mail blast, we are informing GWRRA leadership and inviting currently GWRRA Certified Rider Course volunteers who wish to contribute by teaching our Members at this coming year's Wing Ding in Nashville, Tennessee. The more we have, the better the distribution of "work" and ultimate enjoyment of the Wing Ding experience for all. We would love to have to deal with the problem

of having too many to choose from!

Please let us know

- 1) if you can teach, and
- 2) your desired day(s) or class(es) to teach.

We need to know what your

- 3) primary choice of a course (or courses) to teach is(are) and
- 4) a secondary list of courses you want to be considered to teach.

If you can teach multiple courses, let us know that as well. Note that we have already asked and currently there is no plan to have instructor preparation (IP) courses to teach new instructors at Nashville.

We would also appreciate if you could let us know both your

- 5) shirt size and your
- 6) hat size as well.

This will allow us to plan ahead to order a gift as our thanks for your contribution, should that be in the form of a shirt or hat. For now, the decision has not been made as to what form our appreciation will take, and of course approval of any such expense must also be gained. We are simply planning ahead just in case!

One thing that we have been asked to ensure this year is that any instructor teaching a riding course at Wing Ding be

**7) currently certified as a GWRRA Rider Course instructor.**

This certification has an annual renewal under current guidance (this will eventually be every two years as you will see on the form). Renewals are due on January 1st of each year currently, so if you have not yet done so, this is an excellent opportunity to get this taken care of. If you have already done this for 2006, thank you! Note that MSF instructors teaching only the ERC must still complete the GWRRA Rider Course

Application. We have taken the liberty of attaching the new Application/Renewal form which is due to be released shortly (which has the new correct address information on it).

Once Mark & Mary or Gordon receive it and we know you are a currently certified GWRRA Rider Course Instructor for 2006, we will make every effort to accommodate your wishes. Those that reply earlier rather than later will stand the best chance of being placed in the slot they want as a first choice, so don't procrastinate.

We hope to hear from you soon! Make sure you let us know the answer to each of the 7 items listed above. Thanks again for making a much appreciated contribution of your time - one that can save lives - at Wing Ding XXVIII in Nashville, Tennessee in 2006.

Ride with Less Risk & B+,  
Tony & Michelle Van Schaick  
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GWRRA Master Instructor - Trike and Trailing

MFA Instructor Trainer



We had a lot of great things happening in Rider Education this past year and a lot of hard work by all the staff and Regions to make education a top priority to all our members. We thank you for all your hard efforts. We will continue to work hard in 2006 to bring to you an outstanding program. Working together, we can make big things small, and small things big. What ever it takes to help our membership learn, all of you the educators have made it possible.



As Tony, we are also looking for Instructors to help out at Wing Ding. We will need help for three days. There will be scheduled three days of basic and two days of CarePlus CPR one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Then, if needed, one on the last day in the morning only. Last year we didn't need it. Those interested in helping out, please let us know ASAP. We will also need your shirt size and day and time you would like to train.

We will also have a meeting with all MFA Trainers attending Wing Ding so we can chat and answer any questions you may have. If there are any updates I will train you at Wing Ding to allow you to go back to your region and train your instructors. As Bob Lorenz has done in the past with all the educators, I would like to do the same with all MFA Instructors.

MEDIC FIRST AID® has now joined with American Heart Association to work together hand in hand in helping others learn and train. With MFA and AHA working together we will make our program even better.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart

Larry & Rhonda

1. My first job was working in an orange juice factory, but I got canned...couldn't concentrate.
2. Then I worked in the woods as a lumberjack, but I just couldn't hack it, so they gave me the ax
3. After that I tried to be a tailor, but I just wasn't suited for it ---mainly because it was a so-so job.
4. Next I tried working in a muffler factory but that was too exhausting.
5. Then I tried to be a chef, figured it would add a little spice to my life but I just didn't have the thyme.
6. I attempted to be a deli worker, but any way I sliced it I couldn't cut the mustard

7. My best job was being a musician, but eventually I found I wasn't noteworthy

8. I studied a long time to become a doctor, but I didn't have any patience.
9. Next was a job in a shoe factory; I tried but I just didn't fit in.
10. I became a professional fisherman, but discovered that I couldn't live on my net income.
11. I managed to get a good job working for a pool maintenance company, but the work was just too draining.
12. So then I got a job in a workout center, but they said I wasn't fit for the job.
13. After many years of trying to find steady work I finally got a job as a historian, until I realized there was no future in it.
14. My last job was working at Starbucks, but I had to quit, because it was always the same old grind.
15. And last but not least.... I tried to work in a boat factory but it gave me a sinking feeling!

**SO I RETIRED AND I FOUND I AM PERFECT FOR THE JOB!**

**Have a wonderful rest of the winter. Riding season is almost upon us. Get ourselves ready, not just the Wing.**