

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



Rider Education Program

National Newsletter...



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The REP Database is up and running...

First let me apologize for not sending out a newsletter last month. I didn't want to send out one until the Rider Education Database was completed and fully implemented. Unfortunately, it took a few weeks longer than expected and we missed our target of April 1st. The good news is that we were able to complete it on May 1st and it is proving to be a very useful tool for our education program.

I appreciate the hard work and dedication of the National Education Team and Region Educators throughout this Association. With the March release of the 9th Edition of the Rider Education Handbook and now the release of the REP Database, together we have put our program on a firm footing and can move forward with continued growth. Chapter Educators can gain access to the REP Database by contacting their District Educators for username and password information.

REP Instructors, Presenters and Facilitators

During the final launch of the REP Database we took the opportunity to update all of the REP Instructor, Presenter and Facilitator information. For those that were not current we requested a renewal form to be sent to Jim Hall before April 1st. For those that failed to send in renewal form, we left their certification credentials blank on the database. The reason we did this is because we only wanted to show our active REP Instructor, Presenter and Facilitator. It makes no sense to list those who no longer wish to participate as an Instructor, Presenter or Facilitator. This way District Educators can find out who they have in their District to conduct their District Rider Education training. If you are an Instructor, Presenter and Facilitator and don't find your certification credentials listed, it is because you were not current. To correct this, Instructors and Presenters need to send their renewal information to Jim Hall, Assistant Director- Rider Education. Facilitators need to send their renewal information to Ron Lantz, Assistant Director- Rider Education.

Using the Online Rider Education Database

One of the main questions I've received is, "Whose responsibility is it to keep the Membership data updated in the Database?"

The short answer is all Education Officers are. Let me share with you how I see this Database being maintained. Starting at the National Level through the Chapter Level.

National Educators Database Responsibilities:

- Enter and maintain all Rider Course Instructor, Seminar Presenter, and Facilitator certification records.
 - Jim Hall is taking care of Rider Course Instructor and Seminar Presenter records.
 - Ron Lantz is taking care of Facilitator records.
- Correct any membership number entry error.

Region/District Educators Database Responsibilities:

- All class rosters (Rider Courses, Seminars, Sanctioned Facilitated PLP, and a copy of MEDIC FIRST AID) should be sent to the District/Region Educator for data entry. This will ensure that Membership data for GWRRA Rider Education classes within a District are being updated.
- All Level Program applications will be entered at the District/Region Level.
- All N.10 Update Forms will be entered at the District/Region Level.
- The Region Educator is responsible for ensuring that this data is being entered in a timely basis. Working with their District Educators, the Region Educators will delegate and assist their Districts with this task. It is up to each Region regarding the specifics of how this is done. Teamwork is essential to ensure the Database is properly maintained.

Chapter Educators Database Responsibilities:

- Should export to excel their Membership data and bring it to their Chapter meeting for review.
- Should poll the Membership to see if anyone has take a course (Rider Course, CPR/First Aid) from an outside source and submit an N.10 Form to their District Educator.
- Should encourage the Membership to enroll or advance in the Levels Program and submit the appropriate N.7 or N.9 Forms to their District Educator.
- Monitor the Database to ensure that updates are occurring in a timely basis and report any issues to their District/Region Educators.

The REP Database is a great tool and will improve our program significantly. Abel, at the National office, deserves a hardy "Thank You" from all of us for the outstanding job he has done in creating this tool for us. Also, I would like to recognize Jim and Nan Hall and Ron and Pam Lantz for their outstanding work in organizing and updating the Rider Course Instructor, Seminar Presenter, and Facilitator certification records.

Mike and Lori Stiger
Directors- Rider Education

Updates to the Road Captain Course and Motorcycling for Mature Riders...

Version 5.09 of the GWRRA Road Captain Course and Motorcycling for Mature Riders Seminar is now available on line. Road Captain updates include grammar corrections, answer sheet for the quiz, and all of the appropriate forms required for the course. Go to the Seminar Presenter section to download the latest versions. I would like to personally thank Tony Van Schaick for working on these updates for our program.
Mike

Instructors Needed for Wing Ding...

We have had a fair response to the request for Rider Course Instructors for Wing Ding and wish to thank each and everyone who has replied, and stepped up to help. Without you volunteers, it would be impossible to offer all of these Courses to the members.

This is great! However, we are still in need of many more Instructors, so if you are going to attend Wing Ding this year and can donate some of your time to benefit our members and teach a Course, it would be very much appreciated, by those of us who will be teaching and those members who will be taking these courses. The more Rider Course instructors we have the less double or even triple Ranges some will have to teach. Our goal is to have enough so no one will have to spend all of Wing Ding on the ranges.

Pam and I will be sending the schedule to all that have volunteered as soon as we get receive the latest update. We still have many openings for ERC's two up and one up and very few volunteers for Saturday, and a couple of spots for TRC on Saturday. If you can help, contact us (or Mike) and let us know. We will be more than happy to add you to the list.

Thank all of you again,
Ride Safe Ride Often, Safety is for life,
Ron and Pam Lantz
Assistant Directors- Rider Education

Information regarding the New REP Database...

Hello to all Educators,

Data Base part 1:

First I would like to thank each of you that have gotten your database information turned in on time. We really appreciate all the effort that has gone in to this portion of the Rider Education Program. We are asking for your patience and understanding as we continue to improve this working tool for each of you. One of the areas we will be working to improve is the reporting process and batch entries. The database is a work in progress. Even though much refinement has gone into it, we realize that more can be done to improve its ease of use. Please continue to send us your ideas on how we can improve it.

Data Base part 2:

We have the Seminar Presenter data portion up to date. If there are any Region Educators that have not received the updated version as of 31 March please let me know and I will send it to you. You will find there is no one on the present list that has an expired date. Please break down your Districts and send each District a copy of the active seminar presenters.

Please do not panic if you think someone is missing. I have the original listing. If someone is not current, and has not sent in the required N-15, I am putting them in an inactive file. Once the member sends their electronic renewal to me I will activate them on the active roster. Remember only Renewals can be sent electronically. First time N-15 applications must be mailed to me with the original signature and signed by your District Educator and Region Educator.

If the N-15 is missing an approving signature the form will not be processed and the Region Educator will be notified. All seminar presenters must renew every two years. It is the seminar presenter's responsibility to renew his or her application.

Data Base part 3:

The Rider Coach Database is completed. If for some reason you have not received it please let me know and I will send it to you. Please remember that the same process is in effect for the N-13 Rider Course Instructor Application. First time applications must contain original signatures and be mailed. Renewals may be sent electronically.

If any Chapter Educator has a question, and he or she cannot find the answer in the new handbook, the next step is to ask for help from the District Educator. If the District Educator cannot find the answer, then they should ask the Region Educator. The Region Educator will get you an answer or tell you where to find the answer. If all else fails at this point please ask us. We will get you an answer as soon as possible. Now let me explain my reasoning for saying what I just said. Much of the information and policies in the new Handbook have been updated from the previous edition. If a Chapter Educator calls directly to let's say the Region Educator, bypassing the District Educator who may or not have known the correct answer, then a learning opportunity for the District Educator has been missed. Likewise the same could be true for the Region Educator by coming directly to us for the answer. It is better to follow the Officer Chain so all parties are well informed. Also, District/Region Educators don't assume you have the correct answer. Be sure to quantify your answer by referencing the Handbook and giving the location of where the answer can be found. Let all stay on the same page and ensure that we're disseminating the same information to our Membership.

Thank you for accepting your positions as Rider Educators and setting the example in everything you do. Always remember you are one of the elite and our Membership looks to you for setting the example by leading the way. Regardless of what Level you are, be a good example and always wear appropriate riding gear when on your motorcycle. We also would like to personally "Thank" all the Seminar presenters and Educators that have volunteered to help at Wing Ding this year.

On a closing note, PLEASE have all your Educators THROW AWAY ALL outdated Rider Education forms. Please link all your Chapter, District & Region web sites to the National web page. All the updated forms may be found and downloaded from the National web page. Please have all your Educators download the New Rider Education manual and read and become familiar with it. A good Educator will always have it near in case someone asks a question and he/she needs to look up the answer on the spot.

Hopefully everyone is scheduling their Chapters, Districts and Regions for all types of Rider Courses and Medic First classes as we are preparing for another great year of safe riding.

Until Next Time,
Never Ride Faster Than Your Guardian Angel Can Fly

Jim & Nan Hall
Assistant Directors- Rider Education

MFA Instructors needed at Wing Ding...

We are getting ready to ride, weather looks good, and some MFA classes have been done so we are looking forward to more members taking the life saving programs we offer.

Wing Ding is two months away and we are looking for MFA instructors to who love to teach. We have two days to cover unless we have an overflow of students. We will be training Friday, July 3rd, and Saturday, July 4th, with Thursday as the overflow if needed. We will be having a Basic Class both days and two Re-certification classes each day, morning and

afternoon. With enough instructors to cover, no one has to miss anything. We need two instructors for each class. We may need a few more for Child/Infant "IF" there is a need for it. The past three years no one has requested Child/Infant so this will be the last year we will offer it. It will be up to the Regions and Districts to give our members this training.

I know several Regions have put out a request for instructors and I appreciate that, if we could have all regions do this it would be very helpful. This is a great opportunity for instructors to see other members from different parts of the country and Canada and can be very rewarding.

Send all interested instructors names to me, along with two requests for which day and type of class they would like to teach. I will try my best to work it so they will get the class they want to teach on a first come basis.

Thank you and ride safe,

Larry and Rhonda Stiles
Director- CPR/First Aid

Communications- the Vital Link...

During the past six-months the Motorist Awareness Division has gained some momentum. We would like to keep this momentum going and build on what has been put into motion. In some areas of our association there are motorist awareness initiatives developing where previously there were none.

As with any organization or program, communications is the vital link to success. Communications is a two-way street and must flow top to bottom and vice versa. Without proper communications at all levels, in time, this will result in an organization or program to become ineffective.

In an effort to stay up to speed about what is taking place in our association, or not, I spend several hours each day reading. I visit GWRRA websites at all levels and read their articles from both the site and their newsletters. Over the course of a month, I pretty much cover almost every article (Don't ask if I remember it all – Not!). You see these articles are communications to the members. I am truly amazed at how information gets filtered out, and how little "meat & potatoes" information actually reaches members at the Chapter levels.

With regards to motorist awareness, *Gloom & Doom* articles written about bad experiences of other riders does not, and will not promote members interest or participation in motorist awareness programs. What might spike their interest and spawn participation would be articles written about the changes that have taken place within the division. Articles written about the new seminar presentations available to the members, those containing M.A.D. goals and objectives, and information pertaining to potential projects would all be a good start.

May is Motorcycle Awareness month. As we kick off the 2009 awareness initiative, I request each and every one to remember we are all a vital link in the communications chain. Information must be passed to the members. For without member participation, we will falter. "Every Member Matters."

Charles Mallett
Director – Motorist Awareness