

Wing Wisdom

From the Director's Chair

A thought to ponder:

*It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man
can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.*

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

By now, all of you have had an opportunity to look at the new LTD Web Page. I hope you like it as much as we do. Bo & I were blown away by the job that John Bourg has done. It is not only fresh and readable, but it has style and punch. The most exciting thing to us is that he is just getting started. He will be adding our forms to the page and when the server upgrade is done, he will even add the capability of on-line updating. Now it's your turn, we are still looking for more ideas and information to add to the site and you are the source. Don't hold back, share your thoughts with John and he'll make them happen.

I want to send out a special thank you to all of you who got your 4th Quarter Activity Reports in. LTD had another great year and this time there were more regions than ever sending in reports. We started the year with only 6 regions reporting (same as 2004), but we ended with 7 reporting. Our goal for 2006 is to increase that to 8 regions reporting.

While I'm on the subject of reporting, let me also thank you for the improvement in the use of the form. All 7 reporting regions are now using the newly revised form and that makes my job of compiling a whole lot easier. I only have one request of you all, and that is that you breakdown any Fun Shops into the individual seminars that are delivered. That will give me more data on which seminars are being used and which are not as well as which are well attended and which are not. All of this information is crucial to good curriculum maintenance and growth. One reminder again about which seminars are to be reported: only LTD Curriculum seminars should be listed in the body of the report. Any MED, MAD or RED seminars, regardless of who delivers them, should be reported in the Other Activities section on line II-e. We can't add them into our LTD Training Hours, but I am happy to inform the International Office of how we are supporting our sister divisions. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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From the Director's Chair *(continued)*

I would also like to thank you for the many Training Activities that you have been arranging for 2006 and for getting those listed on the calendar. Based on the amount of activities being planned, we are certain that 2006 will be a banner year for LTD and it is all due to your hard work. By the way, I still have a few open seminar slots for Wing Ding so for any of you that are planning to attend the party in Nashville, drop me an e-mail and let's see if our schedules can be aligned.

We have received more information on how to step through the process of having the Horizon Student Workbooks printed locally. In an attempt to make things go smoother, quicker and easier, Diana McGuire has agreed to be an additional point of contact. Therefore, when you send the "quote" FAX from the Kinko's store to Phoenix (FAX Number 623-581-3844), be sure to put both Diana's and Don Brock's on the Deliver To line. Also, Diana said that if the person requesting the authorization would call her after the FAX has been sent, she will do her best to get the authorization immediately. This is a very important issue because it could potentially save you an extra trip to Kinko's.

I am happy to announce that Diana has negotiated an improvement on our behalf already. Instead of having to cut a check and sending it to Kinko's, she has asked for and received authority to use a corporate credit card. So be sure to place that call to her or to Don after you have the sales clerk FAX the quote/estimate to Phoenix, while you are still in the store. The toll free phone number for GWRRA is 1-800-843-9460, Don's extension is 212 and Diana's is 232. There is one more point that I'd like to make. Don Brock has confirmed to me that in the event that there is no Kinko's store within a convenient radius of the assigned Instructor, the Trainer or the Horizon Program coordinator, you may apply this process to one of the other office supply type of stores.

While I realize that this new process is still not perfect, I believe that we are making progress. One thing that all of you can do right now that will help us take further steps to improve the process is to schedule your Horizon Programs as far in advance as possible (and get them added to the LTD Calendar of Events). Having the programs on a firm schedule will allow for better budgeting at the International level, which in turn makes the authorization process go quicker and smoother. If we continue to do our part (forecast the number and size of all classes one year in advance, put all sessions on the LTD Calendar of Events, and request only the number of workbooks that we need), I'm certain that this process will continue to be streamlined.

Keep Safe and Keep Training,

CJ & Bo Karcanes
LTD Directors

One more thought to ponder:

One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency.

- Arnold Glasgow

***The art of being wise
is the art of knowing
what to overlook.***

- William James



The Curriculum Corner

Hi everybody,

I have just finished a re-write of the Instructor Development/Certification Program. I'm very excited about it because it is something that has been long overdue. When I put out the 2004 Curriculum Update, I meant to have this program scrubbed and ready but somehow that didn't happen. I just knew I'd have it done for the 2005 Update, but again, it didn't happen. Well, a request from our friends in Rider Ed finally got me into gear. That and being asked to deliver the program in Tennessee in early December really got me off the dime. Everything that we needed was in the old program, its just that it was rather disjointed and didn't flow well. To make matters worse, what I put out in 2004 had a couple of options that the program instructor had to choose from at the very last minute and that never makes for a good situation. So I spent some serious time and developed a package of pre-course material containing some of the stuff I was not covering in the class and also some of the quizzes that I kept skipping for lack of time. The other big change is in the tool-box. I have re-inserted some of the slides that I had taken out and made each of the three sub-sections much more understandable. Along with that, I made the exercise (Building A Presentation) much clearer. I hope you all find this version of the program clearer and easier to follow and implement.

I had hoped to put a couple of additional seminars into the '05-1 update but they just didn't get to me in time. I would really appreciate any comments and/or suggestions about this update, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Nashville in July for Wing Ding. The '06 Update will be made available to each Region Director at the Trainers Meeting. All Trainers (Region and District) are invited to attend, as are all Certified Instructors. As an additional incentive to attend, I will have additional copies of the '06 Update available at the meeting. I'll give one to each District Trainer and Certified Instructor **who attends**. (no attendance – no disc)

Also, please give some thought to attending a ½ day workshop during Wing Ding for all Certified Instructors (includes Senior and Master Instructors). The purpose of this workshop is to share experiences and identify weaknesses in the curriculum. I am looking for input about the best time and day to hold this workshop. As I am also the Wing Ding Seminar Schedule Coordinator, I have some flexibility with this so make your wishes known soon.

Regards to all and remember “Keep Training,”

CJ Karcanes
LTD Curriculum Coordinator

*And the
trouble is,
if you don't
risk anything,
you risk
even more.*

- Erica Jong



Short Topics For Leadership

*Remember,
where there is
no solution,
there is
no problem.*

-Shimon Peres

Self Development

Have you ever determined something you wanted to improve in, such as controlling your temper, speaking more clearly, listening more effectively? Have you made an effort, but the improvement never materialized, or it temporarily improved but then faded away? If you are serious about self-improvement, determine 1 thing that you want to improve. More than 1 thing at a time will reduce the possibility of any of them being successfully accomplished. Write down a 21 day plan for improvement. Consciously **PRACTICE** this item for 21 days. Why 21 days? It takes 21 days to establish a habit. After 21 days, have occasional follow-ups for 6 months. After 6 months, a conscious habit becomes 2nd nature, and you will no longer even have to think about the improvement, as it will be part of your sub-conscious behavior. This works well in a “buddy system” where you have external assistance and oversight.

Improved Relationships

Sometimes we interact with many people, and the relationships are extremely superficial. We would like to improve our relationships, but other than spending significant amounts of time with each and every person, we do not know how we can do this. The time constraint prevents us from making any progress. Any quick fix to relationship building appears superficial, and may do more damage than good. Consider applying the **30 Second Rule**. This amounts to spending 30 seconds with an individual (please do not time this by looking at your watch!). In those 30 seconds, give this person your complete and undivided **attention**. Give them **affirmation**., The definition of *affirm* is:

1. To declare positively or firmly; maintain to be true.
2. To support or uphold the validity of; confirm.

Let them know how they are important to you, the chapter, etc. Be sincere! Everybody has good qualities, and brings some value to the world. If there appears to be nothing about a person that is good, or there is no perceived value, either you are missing something, or you would ask yourself why you want to improve your relationship with him/her. Finally, let the person know that you **appreciate** them, and be as specific as possible. So to summarize the **30 second rule**, simply remember to give the individual about 30 seconds of undivided attention and address each of the three A’s; **Attention**, **Affirmation**, and **Appreciation**.

Sincerely and Regards,

John & Bonnie Simonick
Texas District Trainers



By The Book – Newsletters

The “By The Book” articles are intended to help familiarize Volunteer Leaders and GWRRA Members with the guidelines, policies, procedures, and information contained in the GWRRA Officer’s Guidebook. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District and Chapter newsletters.



Communication, What does it mean and why do we care?

"The activity of communicating; the activity of conveying communication; Interpersonal rapport; the art and technique of using words effectively to impart information or ideas." How important is communication? Communication is the key to a successful organization. Personal success is dependant on the ability to communicate effectively. A primary method used within GWRRA is the Newsletter. The information below can be found in our Officer Guidebook (OGB) on page D-7. While you're reading, check out the requirements for newsletters on page I-8, paragraph 6 of our OGB.

- ◆ Newsletters let Members and officers know what's going on. Newsletters range from a few paragraphs on a single sheet of paper, to hefty little booklets, complete with advertisements, put out by a newsletter staff. But, no matter how plain or fancy, the central purpose of its existence is to be a communications medium for and to, the Members.
- ◆ Chapter participants cannot be charged an additional fee to receive a newsletter; nor should Members be solicited for a contribution to receive a newsletter. Newsletter costs should be charged off as an operating expense to the chapter, and paid for from the chapter operating funds. It should be available to all interested Members. Chapter participants who cannot attend chapter meetings but are able to attend other chapter activities should still be considered “active” members. Work schedules and other factors can determine whether or not a chapter participant is able to attend a chapter meeting and therefore, a chapter participant should not be dropped from the mailing list just because they do not attend a chapter meeting. If a chapter participant does not attend a meeting or “activity” for a period of ninety (90) days, the participant should be contacted to see if there is a problem or if they have become dissatisfied. If after a period of 120 days a participant is still inactive, it is permissible to drop that participant from the newsletter mailing list.
- ◆ The format you choose will probably undergo some experimenting if you follow the typical pattern, but the “heading” of the newsletter, whether it's at the top of a page or on the front cover, must have the chapter name, or initials and the GWRRA logo of our Association on it to indicate that it is a GWRRA newsletter. Your region, district and chapter letter designation should also be visible, along with the month and year. Other graphics and information can be used to “pretty it up” and individualize it.
- ◆ Ads may be sold with proceeds deposited into the chapter operating fund and earmarked for the newsletter's publication. A charge of \$5.00 per issue for a reproduction of a business card is not unreasonable, but this can be worked out according to your local “market.”

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*The great end
of life is
not knowledge,
but action.*

- T.H. Huxley

By The Book *(continued)*

What matters in today's world is not the difference between those who believe and those who do not believe, but the difference between those who care and those who don't.

- Abbe Pire

- ◆ The Newsletter will provide you an opportunity to “talk” with the Members on a one-to-one basis. Information from national, region and district should be included for the edification of the Members, and to assist them in understanding the concept, goals and workings of GWRRA. Other contributions will come from folks like your Rider Educator, with items on safety. Members and/or staff may submit interesting items about trips, experiences, anniversaries, etc.
- ◆ Newsletters will Not be used as platforms for personal tirades or “politicking” for, or against, a particular “cause.” All chapters within a district are encouraged to exchange complimentary newsletters with copies sent to your District, Regional and the Home Office in Phoenix.
- ◆ Newsletters should be distributed at least monthly to all chapter participants. Sometimes, chapters “piggy-back” their information with a “sister-chapter” or participate in a district publication for more efficient use of resources. This is acceptable, as long as it is done monthly.
- ◆ As use of the Internet continues to grow, so will the prospect of sending newsletters over the Internet. While we encourage the use of this medium, we must also remember there are those Members who do not have access to the Internet. Therefore, hard copies of newsletters should be mailed to those Members.

Dave Barham
Region H Trainer

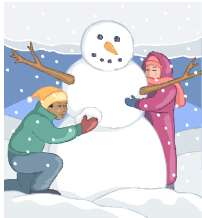
Take 5 – Life Skills Program Review

These “Take 5” articles are intended to provide information that can be presented by chapter members at monthly meetings or social events to help promote the Leadership Training Division and its programs. The hope is that chapters will enlist the help of members to share the information to make it a FUN and interesting new experience.

The Life Skills Program is designed to provide GWRRA leaders and members with opportunities to improve some of the basic skills that apply to all aspects of their lives – GWRRA, family, career, etc. Many of the modules include “hands-on” activities and self-assessment tools. By learning the techniques and practices presented in this program, members can provide themselves with increased opportunities for enjoying the best that life and GWRRA have to offer.

The modules/seminars included in this program include:

Time Management	Remembering Names
Stress Management	Make MS Word Work For You
Managing Change	Make MS Excel Work For You
Listening and Communicating	Basic Computer Maintenance
Public Speaking – 101	Basic Web use and Site Design



Training Calendar

There is always room for more events to be listed here so please continue to e-mail details of upcoming training events to amysescape@aol.com. (This list is forwarded to update the Events link in the Leadership Training portion of the GWRRA website.)

FEBRUARY 2006

2/18: Saturday Seminars in Hickory, NC (Region N). Coaching and Mentoring, Problem Solving, Chapter Communications Plan and Leadership-A Self Portrait to be presented. Contact Paul Granger at 910-433-2663 or PDGran34@aol.com.

2/18-2/19: Horizon Program in Fitchburg, MA (Region B). Contact Dottie and Ed Bahrenburg at 607-648-4351 or wingin-it@stny.rr.com.

2/19: Sunday Seminars in Paintsville, KY (Region N). Contact Jerry and Marilyn Elam at elams23@adelphia.net.

2/25-2/26: Horizon Program in Nicholasville, KY (Region N). Contact Jerry and Marilyn Elam at elams23@adelphia.net.

2/25: Saturday Seminars in Goldsboro, NC (Region N). Leadership Survival Skills, the Write Stuff, Problem Solving and Chapter Communications Plan to be presented. Contact Paul Granger at 910-433-2663 or PDGran34@aol.com.

MARCH 2006

3/4: Horizon Program in Indianapolis, IN (Region D). Contact Mike and Susan Jennings at 260-356-6103 or smjennings@skynet.net.

3/11-3/12: Horizon Program in Montage, TN (Region N). Contact Ken and Julie Zahn at Ken.Zahn@smokymtnit.com.

3/11-3/12: Horizon Program in Sheldon, IA (Region E). Contact Jerry Rigney at 507-449-2682 or jerry1@iw.net.

3/11: Horizon Program in Obetz, OH (Region D). Contact Joe and Stormee Lupo at 513-779-2812 or wolf52@fuse.net.

3/18-3/19: Horizon Program in St. Louis, MO (Region E). Contact Tom and Beverly Richardson at 314-606-4498 or hawk252@centurytel.net.

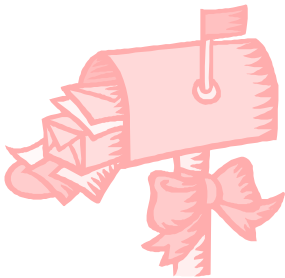
3/24-3/26: Fun Shop in Binghamton, NY (Region B). Contact Dottie & Ed Bahrenburg at wingin-it@stny.rr.com.

3/25-3/26: Horizon Program in Lynchburg, VA (Region N). Contact John and Peggy Bebb at firedog937@aol.com or pegesue2@aol.com.

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*One thorn of
experience is
worth a whole
wilderness
of warning.*

*- James Russell
Lowell*



Training Calendar *(continued)*

APRIL 2006

4/1-4/2: Horizon Program in Bedford, PA (Region B). Contact John & Bonnie McAllen at 717-733-1870 or jmcclun@dejazzd.com.

4/8-4/9: Horizon Program and Intermediate Leadership Skills Programs in Bloomington, IL (Region E). Contact George and Ketra Wanamaker at 309-221-2744.

JUNE 2006

6/9-6/10: Advanced Leadership Skills and Life Skills Programs in Pontiac, IL (Region E). Contact George Wanamaker at 309-221-2744 or george@macomb.com.

AUGUST 2006

8/12-8/13: Horizon Program in Morrilton, AR (Region H). Contact Larry and Brenda Penepent at 479-858-7188 or pilot-1@cox.net.

OCTOBER 2006

10/21: Knowledge Enhancement Program in Springfield, MO (Region E). Contact Tom and Beverly Richardson at 314-606-4498 or hawk252@centurytel.net.

NOVEMBER 2006

11/11: Knowledge Enhancement Program in St. Louis, MO (Region E). Contact Tom and Beverly Richardson at 314-606-4498 or hawk252@centurytel.net.

International LTD Staff Listing

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Newsletter Editor:	Amy Peterson 763-783-1851 amysescape@aol.com
Webmaster:	John Bourg jbourg@omsi.net



The heart has arguments with which the logic of the mind is not acquainted.

- Blaise Pascal