

# Wing Wisdom

## From the Director's Chair

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*A thought to ponder:*

*Knowledge kept, especially to one's self,  
is knowledge lost to everyone  
~ Author Unknown*

Hello Again Team,

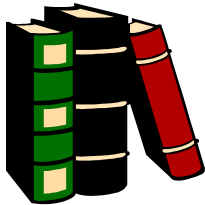
There are so many things happening within LTD, I hardly know where to begin. This has been a very busy month and a half indeed. It all started with finalizing the Classroom Instructor Development Module for our friends in the Rider Ed Division. Some of you may know that we were asked to lend our expertise in the creation of a "front end" module to the new Rider Course Instructor Certification Program. Since I knew how important that new program was to Rider Ed, after we worked our way through the preliminaries and the first draft, I gave it my undivided attention. The effort culminated in the delivery of the pilot class on the last Sunday in February. So far, the feedback has been very positive. Bob Berry (Assistant International Director-RED) and I have incorporated some changes based on that class and forwarded the final course material to Bob Lorenz for his approval. He has already indicated that he would like to see the next classes use this new material as soon as practicable.

Following right on the heels of that assignment, I got an e-mail from Don Brock asking LTD to come up with a program to communicate the resolution of issues or grievances in a timely manner to all of the officers in GWRRA. After some discussion, we decided to call this program the "Mentoring Minute." Our first one will be posted on our Web Site in the very near future, and it deals with a very timely topic – GWRRA and the IRS. The purpose is to get information into the hands of all of the officers so that everyone can learn from the experiences of others. I learned a very long time ago that it is perfectly all right to make mistakes (in fact it is natural), but there is no good reason not to learn from the mistakes of others. And it is really wrong to make the same mistake twice. With that in mind, we (LTD) will write up a "Mentoring Moment" every time we learn of an issue that has been resolved and we will share it via our Web Site and also post it on the GWRRA Officers Page.



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## From the Director's Chair *(continued)*



As if that weren't enough, I no sooner got those things done and I was handed another item that was just too good to pass up. The District Trainers in Tennessee, Ken & Julie Zahn, have just started something new on their Web Site called "LTD Training Tips". They shared it with me, and guess what, I stole their idea. Well, I didn't really steal it, I asked their permission to use it and you all know that nobody can refuse CJ when he begs, so they said OK. I am even using the very first LTD Training Tip that they posted as our first one. So be sure to check out the LTD Web Page and see what new and very cool stuff we have.

And there is one more new assignment for LTD that I would like to share with all of you. We have been given the on-going task of maintaining the Officers Guidebook (OGB). I have asked Bob Renner, Region N Trainer, to head up this very important task. He has taken his first cut at an update to the OGB with the primary thrust being to correct errors, inconsistencies and omission. At the moment, we are attempting to pare down the OGB to the bare essentials necessary for Directors to perform their duties. This will move many subjects from the OGB to Web Pages where the members can view them more readily (i.e., COY selection processes, Best Dressed Competition rules, Bike Show rules, etc.). Bob and I will keep you informed as this project moves forward.

One last item for now, I am in the process of making some updates, changes, and additions to the LTD Trainer's Handbook and several of the Leadership Training Bulletins that have been issued over the years. More about this next month, but in the meantime, if there is anything in either of those documents that you have questions about, please e-mail or phone me.

Keep Safe and Keep Training,

CJ & Bo Karcanes  
LTD Directors

***"To begin  
is the  
most important  
part of  
any quest,  
and by far  
the most  
courageous."***

***- Plato***

***Another thought to ponder:***

***Self-trust is the first secret of success.  
~ Anonymous***

## Good Working Habits

In Chapter 26 of Dale Carnegie's *How To Stop Worrying And Stop Living*, you will find the following good working habits to help prevent fatigue and worry:

1. Clear your desk of all papers except those relating to the immediate problem at hand.
2. Do things in the order of their importance.
3. When you face a problem, solve it then and there if you have the facts necessary to make a decision. Don't keep putting off decisions.
4. Learn to organize, deputize, and supervise.

## Curriculum Notes

A News Release from the GWRRA International Office earlier this month announced that the Motorist Awareness Division (MAD) will be integrated into the administration of the Rider Education Division (RED). Please keep this in mind as you prepare to present seminars from the Member Orientation and Knowledge Enhancements Programs.

Training materials should be updated to reflect that there are once again FOUR divisions (primary focus areas) within GWRRA. In alphabetical order, the divisions are:

1. Leadership Training
2. Member Enhancement
3. Operations
4. Rider Education

***“Sometimes you just have to take the leap, and build your wings on the way down.”***

**- Kobi Yamada**

## Take 5 - Member Orientation

*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.*

Are you taking full advantage of your GWRRA membership?

When talking to new or potential members (or perhaps helping existing members consider the value of renewing their membership), many people will consider things like the Gold Book, *Wing World*, their GWRRA family and other benefits. For some, the education and training received through courses on and off the motorcycle may be one of the deciding factors.

Member Orientation is a Leadership Training Division (LTD) program designed for all GWRRA members. The seminars provide opportunities for members to become familiar with the basic structure, concepts, methods of operations, and culture of GWRRA. The information presented is intended to increase the comfort level, level of enjoyment, and return on investment for each member.

Here are some of the seminars currently available as part of the Member Orientation program:

- \* History of GWRRA
- \* Structure of GWRRA
- \* Member Benefits Overview
- \* Training the Members
- \* How to Participate in GWRRA
- \* How to Show or Judge a Bike
- \* Helpful Information for New Members
- \* How to Pack Your Bike
- \* Flyers for Fun and Profit
- \* How to Have Fun at a Rally

Amy Peterson  
Region E Trainer



## By The Book – Rally Season

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.



### Rally season is here, are you ready?

The rally season is here again, thank goodness. I have been waiting on this all winter. If you are about to have your kickoff event or hold a rally for the first time, you may be wondering just where to start. There are many resources to help get you oriented or headed in the right direction. One of the most important things to accomplish is to successfully acquire adequate help for all of the many tasks that must be done. Communication among the Chapter participants, assignment of responsibilities, and follow-up will be items of prime concern. Our Officers Guide Book (OGB) offers some excellent guidelines for the uninitiated or rally newbie.

Excerpt from OGB – H-3 & H-4: *Rallies and Events*

**Rallies and events are held for two primary purposes:** 1) to provide a fun, social environment for the participants; 2) to provide funding for the sponsoring office. Moderation is the key word to consider when planning activities that require the support and volunteer efforts of the Membership. The sincere desire of offering “Fun and Friendship” is quickly overshadowed when, the “Bigger is Better” syndromes are adopted. Competition is a stimulant. Our competitive nature has the potential of “bringing out the best” in all of us. Unfortunately, it also has the potential of bringing out the worst. When the intent is to display pride, to have fun, to organize activities that allow for individual creativity, that intent is to be commended. When someone perceives that “the end justifies the means dilutes the intent” the intent has changed. When competitive levels reach heights that become difficult for the average participant to attain, or have the effect of reducing participation, or cause discrimination, or cause great monetary expenditures; those levels should be lowered, drastically. Great care must be exercised in establishing competitive activities. Whether these activities are between Members, chapters, districts or regions, a lot of thought must be given to the potential outcomes.

***“All things come to those who go after them.”***

***- Rob Estes***

**Let’s spend a few moments** considering the aspects of various events, keeping in mind their purposes. The primary purpose is providing a fun, social environment. Secondly, the funding of an officer’s office should be considered. With these goals in mind, let’s proceed to some obstacles. What would you do in these examples?

1) Chapter “X” has a successful event that you feel compelled to “beat.” You find a suitable site, contact vendors, caterers and all the peripherals necessary. You then solicit volunteers to perform the needed tasks. Lo and behold, the chapter participants are slow in volunteering.

2) How about, you just finished a financially successful event, the proceeds of which are being donated to a worthwhile charity. The donation is made, and the chapter receives a good deal of positive publicity, all is well. However, your treasurer informs you that the newsletter fund is a bit low and another fundraiser is needed to bolster the “kitty.”

*(Continued on Page 5)*

## By The Book *(continued)*

3) Chapter T-shirts or vests seem “old hat.” You think it would be a good idea to have matching boots, slacks, shirts, vests, hats, scarves or ties; you know, full dress. The idea receives enough positive feedback that you plunge full speed ahead. A few of the Members buy and proudly display the “uniform.” In the ensuing months, attendance at your meetings begins to fall off.

**In the first example, BIGGER is not necessarily BETTER.** The fun comes from a relaxed environment, not from the pressure to work. Think of picnics, softball games, outdoor activities at a nearby park. If you want to demonstrate the “superiority” of a particular chapter, host field events at no charge and offer the other chapters a challenge to demonstrate their riding skills. How about hosting a MSF Experienced Rider Course as a chapter event?

**In the second example, we can see confusion in priorities.** THE MEMBERSHIP COMES FIRST. Never forget that important point. Before sponsoring an event to fund a cause other than the chapter, make sure the needs of the Members are taken care of. A few elements that may require attention—a suitable meeting place, door prizes and gifts, the newsletter printing and mailing costs, a special fund for flowers, cards, etc. Once these financial requirements are accounted for, you can then direct your resources towards other avenues. Charity begins at home. The third example denotes the over exuberance of a few that may prove to be a distraction to the majority. You must take into consideration the wants and resources of the majority when adopting chapter “colors.” If the costs become prohibitive, you run the risk of inadvertently offending a number of people. Use caution and common sense when endorsing an endeavor that: A) does not appeal to the majority or; B) is not within financial consideration of the majority or; C) smacks of “Club” activities.

If you were able to identify the problems above, you are well on your way to resolving them. KEEP YOUR PRIORITIES IN MIND when conducting chapter “business.” A good “rule” to use is **KEEP TO THE BASICS**. Don’t allow the pressures of responsibility to pervade the atmosphere of relaxation. Think quality not quantity. Seek out activities that are fun and cheap.

**CHAPTER EVENTS**...should be restricted to single day or overnight activities. A registration fee, if any, should be held to 7 dollars or less.

**DISTRICT EVENTS**...should be restricted to two-day events with a registration ceiling of 25 dollars.

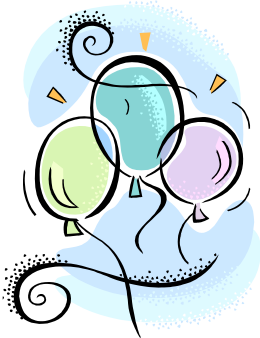
**REGIONAL EVENTS**...should not exceed three days in length and the registration fee should be limited to 30 dollars.

**THESE ARE NOT RULES**, they are suggestions that will result in the Members having more time (and money) and acceptance to pursue activities that may otherwise be prohibitive to them. When in doubt, consider the long term effect on the Members—their time, money and effort. We, the officers, have an obligation of providing a social outlet for the free time of the Membership. We do this by enticing and making them “an offer they can’t refuse.” We do **not** do this by intimidating or obligating. **Relax! Have fun!**

*(Continued on Page 6)*

**“Remember that yesterday’s answer may have nothing to do with today’s problem.”**

**- Don Ward**



## By The Book *(continued)*

Another thing to consider when organizing an event that will have a registration fee, is **the difference between a Member and a non-member**. While it is occasionally recommended that the general motorcycling public be invited to our activities, there should be a benefit shown, in the form of reduced fees, for GWRRA Members.

The “day pass” is another subject that creates controversy when events are being planned. Do not embarrass yourself by establishing a day pass fee that cannot be justified. Consider that the individual visiting the event for one day, in all likelihood, doesn’t cost you anything. By arranging a day pass that is nominal, the attendee may well be impressed enough to make plans to pre-register next year. Try not to offend ANYONE.

**Below are some typical fees to stimulate thought** - - - they are not “etched in granite,” but should be viewed as guidelines. Obviously, there are a number of factors that must be considered when establishing fees.

EVENT FEES (MEMBER)	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	DAY-PASS
CHAPTER	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50	\$ 3.00
POKER RUN	\$ 7.00	\$ 9.00	N/A
DISTRICT	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$ 17.00
REGIONAL	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$ 18.00

If your office has sufficient funds that you DON’T HAVE to charge a fee for an event, DON’T!! KEEP IT SIMPLE...MAKE IT FUN!!

David Barham  
Region H Trainer

## The Reversal Principal

Reversing your perspective on ideas may open up your thinking in a problem solving situation. Sometimes when you look at opposites, you’ll see things you normally miss.

According to Michael Michalko in *Thinkertoys*, questions to ask when using the reversal principle are:

- ◆ Can I transpose positive and negative?
- ◆ What are the opposites?
- ◆ What are the negatives?
- ◆ Should I turn it around? Up instead of down? Down instead of up?
- ◆ Consider it backwards?
- ◆ Reverse roles?
- ◆ Do the unexpected?

“A journey  
of a  
thousand miles  
must begin  
with a  
single step.”

- Lao Tzu



## 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](mailto:amysescape@aol.com). (This list is forwarded to update the Events link in the Leadership Training portion of the GWRRA website.)

### APRIL 2006

4/22-4/23: Horizon Program in Watertown, WI . Contact Michael and Lynne Mischker at 920-779-6779 or wingman915@sbcglobal.net.

4/27-4/29: Tennessee Spring Fling in Pigeon Forge, TN (Region N). How to Have Fun at a Rally, Remembering Names, Basic Computer Maintenance, Listening & Communicating, Newsletters, Flyers for Fun & Profit, Basic Web Use & Site Design, Make MS Word Work For You. Contact Ken and Julie Zahn at Ken.Zahn@smokymtnit.com.

### 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

11/10-11/11: Horizon Program in Warrenton, MO (Region E). Contact Tom and Beverly Richardson at 314-606-4498 or hawk252@centurytel.net.



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*"There is no more purpose or meaning in the world than you put into it."*

- Hans Reichenbach