

# WING WISDOM

**GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION  
LEADERSHIP TRAINING DIVISION**

## From the Director's Chair

Hello Team,

Wing Ding 28 is now in the record books, literally as well as figuratively. GWRRA set two records in Nashville. This was the largest total attendance of any Wing Ding ever held and, according to the folks at The Guinness Book of World Records, our Grand Parade was the largest Single Marque Motorcycle Parade ever. We had 1,248 Gold Wings in the parade and what a sight and sensation it was. I stood in the parking lot at the end of the parade and watched for a solid 45 minutes while the bikes filed in. We were all on pins and needles waiting for the "official" tally, and when it was announced there was a major cheer from all of us.

Leadership Training scored well with seminars too at Nashville. We delivered 17 seminars to 592 members, and we had 2 Trainers meetings attended by 45 members of the LTD staff from around the regions. Our first ever "LTD Directors Reunion" was a great success with 11 of our founding leaders taking the time to come and share their thoughts and ideas as we go forward with more and new training.

At the awards ceremony during our LTD Trainers and Instructors Annual Meeting Regions D,E,H and N each received a plaque recognizing "Excellence in Training" for their hard work over the past twelve months. Amy Peterson, Region E Trainer, received the Director's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Training. Her dedication to training and helping both members and officers led her to find new and innovative ways to meet the needs of very lightly populated districts by "load sharing" District Trainer duties across state lines. The folks in North and South Dakota receive training support from Minnesota just as the members from Nebraska appreciate the support from Iowa and Minnesota. It was this kind of "out of the box" thinking that helped Region E rack up some record training numbers. Keep up the good work, Amy.

*(continued on Page 2)*



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

And no award ceremony would be complete without recognizing the stellar individual efforts of members of the LTD Team. By now, I hope everyone has taken the time to log onto the LTD Web Site. For those of you who have, I'm sure you agree that John Bourg is to be congratulated for the fine job he has done. John received a plaque doing just that from Bo & I before he had to rush away to the Rider Education Masters Luncheon.

The final Service Award was given to one of our newest "Emeritus" Trainers, John Simonick. John has been helping with the development of new seminars for the Member Orientation and Life Skills Programs. His latest addition, Making Excel Work For You, was one of five new seminars to be delivered at this year's Wing Ding. He has stepped into a "new pair of shoes" in Texas as their District Director and we wish him all the success in the world at that job. And, oh yes, don't forget to keep supporting LTD!

We have a couple of new things to share with those of you that were not able to attend the meeting at Wing Ding. First, we are excited to announce that we now have a special patch that is to be awarded to each Trainer as the transition from the position of active Trainer to the very important position of "Trainer Emeritus." Unlike the title of *Former*, which is used by the rest of GWRRA, we have adopted the position/title of *Emeritus*. By definition, this title conveys to the bearer the honorary status of the position they have vacated. In other words, "once an LTD team member, always an LTD team member." We hope to always be able to call upon these loyal friends of LTD for advice and council and occasionally a seminar delivery or some other task that will let them keep their hearts and minds connected to us. Please keep them informed with the LTD information and curriculum changes.

The second thing that we'd like to pass on to everyone is a procedural change that has come down from our Director of Operations. In order to better serve the membership by being able to bridge Leadership Training, Member Enhancement and Rider Education expertise from one District or Region Staff to the next, Operations has decided to defer the appointment authority of District and Region Trainer positions to the next level of LTD authority. Put simply, that means that you District Trainers will appoint new Instructors (after appropriate training), Region Trainers will appoint new District Trainers (with the concurrence of the District Director) and the International Director of LTD will appoint new Region Trainers (with the concurrence of the Region Director). This is really exciting news because it really gives us an opportunity to maintain momentum in our programs that can only help us to serve the members. I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of each of you implementing this change properly. The Directors in Operations deserve to be treated with respect and candor when making any appointments. In most cases, a new appointment will be acceptable and agreeable to both parties; however, in those rare cases where there is not total agreement, I have committed to all levels of Operations that we (LTD) will work diligently with all parties involved to reach an understanding. Where we can't agree, we will reopen the search process. This is very important since the "concurring" officer must work with the new appointee just as much as the "appointing" officer. I have tested this process twice already since Wing Ding. I can assure you it does work and is not cumbersome.

Keep Safe and Keep Training,

*CJ & Bo Karcanes*  
LTD Directors



## Take 5 - Let It Be You

By Amy Peterson, Region E Trainer

*"Your goal should be out of reach, but not out of sight."*

*~ Anita Frank*

Each and every day, someone is going to schedule some meaningful time with their friends. Someone is going to enjoy an enriching experience with family. Someone is going to decide to improve their relationships. So why not let it be you?

Someone is going to set a goal to read each day for the next year. Someone is going to become a lifelong learner. Someone is going to go back to school to improve their life. So why not let it be you?

Someone is going to decide to eat smarter to improve their health. Someone will join an aerobics class or make a commitment to walk every morning with a neighbor. So why not let it be you?

I think that by now you can get the point: every day people are improving their lives. Whether you do or not doesn't matter to those who do. They are going to do it regardless. It is simply a matter of a decision being made. Let that person be you!

You may be asking "How?" Let's cover the very simple actions.

The first and most important action is to make a commitment to yourself. Do you want to improve or stay the same? The decision about what you will become is made each and every day. The choice is yours.



The second action is to make a plan. It doesn't have to be a long, intricate plan. It can be simple: save a dollar a day, walk a mile a day, read a page of a book a day. These are all examples of simple plans with achievable goals.

The third action is to begin to act. All of the great ideas become stale and useless without action. People who act on their dreams and ideas are the select few who gain better health, wealth and wisdom.

Someone has made the decision to improve a part of their life. Someone is going to develop a plan that will take them into the future. Someone will act today. Let it be you!

## By The Book

By Dave Barham, Region H Trainer

*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.*

### **In addition to: "FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE" What does being a member of our Association mean to you?**

This basic information will give you a general "mood and spirit" of our Association. It will help set the stage for you to understand what a well-organized, yet flexible, Association we have in GWRRA.

GWRRA provides a culture that fosters Members with shared values, team concepts and camaraderie. This culture also provides its Members with opportunities for personal development and achievement.

First and foremost, GWRRA is a social organization of friends. Teamwork, Communications, Rider Education, and Leadership Training provide the groundwork for the moral and ethical means by which our Association exists.

### **THE IDEALS OF OUR ASSOCIATION [Officers Guidebook B1]**

The most important ingredient for a successful Association is the Member. Where do we find them and how do we make these people interested enough to become one of us? Before anyone can be successful in "selling" GWRRA, they must first sit for a moment and determine the reason they joined. Each of us had our own reasons, but a primary reason to join is to support the ideals of GWRRA. Let's take a closer look at these ideals:

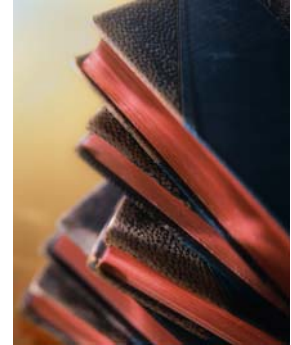
**PROMOTE SAFETY** - This will help us continue to enjoy our hobby. We can also enjoy the fact that we are doing something to protect others by teaching them safe riding practices. We are saving lives!

**PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP** - Among ALL of the biking public. What better way to enjoy our way of life than to make friends and share with them?

**PROMOTE THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE MOTORCYCLE RIDER** - We have come a long way, but we have a long way to go. We must always keep "our best foot forward."

**PROMOTE FUN** - This is the glue that holds all our ideals together!

**PROVIDE A MONEY BACK GUARANTEE** - GWRRA will provide a money back guarantee to any Member that is of the opinion the Association has failed to live up to their expectations. *(continued on Page 5)*



*"Goals are  
dreams with  
deadlines."*

*~ Diana Scharf  
Hunt*

## By The Book *(continued)*

### THE PURPOSES OF OUR ASSOCIATION [Officers Guidebook B2]

GWRRA is an International Association of Gold Wing and Valkyrie motorcycle riders.

GWRRA is a social organization formed for the pleasure, recreation, safety, exchange of information, coordination of common motorcycle efforts, promotion of camaraderie and friendship of its Members and chapters, without political or religious affiliations or influence.

Other purposes include: assisting all motorcyclists in achieving and/or improving public acceptance of motorcyclists; member support of civic, local, police, charity, and government organizations; education of non-motorcycling public concerning motorcycling problems; dissemination of safety information relating to motorcycling and motorcyclists; supporting the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF); being a family oriented organization.

Promoting and enlarging the Association's Membership.

To publish and distribute *Wing World* and other media that will inform, entertain, educate and enlighten our Members and officers.

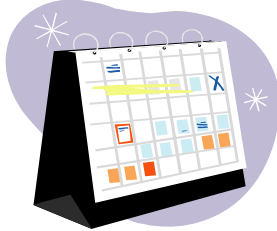
## Short Topic for Leadership: Persuasion

By John Simonick, Texas District Director

Have you ever had a good idea, and had to persuade another to accept or support your idea? In trying to persuade, you list the logic of the idea, the benefits, implementation strategy, and even examples of others that have implemented this idea successfully. After all this effort, the other person still does not show much interest in your idea. The answer is actually very simple, and can be summarized in the words of Benjamin Franklin. "You do not persuade by logic, but rather by interest."

Another way of stating this is that if the person has no interest in what you are trying to "sell" them, all the logic, examples, or benefits in the world will not have any impact. The key is to understand what the interests are of this individual, and to find a link between his/her interests and your idea. For example, if a person is interested in safety, how will your idea positively impact safety? Telling him/her how much fun the idea will be will not have a favorable effect. If an individual is interested in their personal legacy, convey your idea in a way that will relate to how s/he will be associated with the idea and remembered. Understand the interests of your audiences, and relate your ideas to their interest. Persuasion under these conditions is accomplished much more easily.

## Training Calendar



Here is the list of training being forwarded for posting on the GWRRA website. Keep in mind that some members will cross district and region borders as we continue to work toward bringing training to the members. So keep sending your upcoming training opportunities to [amyses-cape@aol.com](mailto:amyses-cape@aol.com)!

### SEPTEMBER 2006

**9/30-10/1:** Knowledge Enhancement Program, Lebanon, TN (Region N). Contact Ken & Julie Zahn at 865-774-7740 or [Ken.Zahn@smokymtnit.com](mailto:Ken.Zahn@smokymtnit.com).

### OCTOBER 2006

**10/5-10/8:** Rally in the Valley, Salem, VA (Region N). "How to Show or Judge a Bike," "Financial Reporting and the IRS," "Managing Change," and "Time Management" will be presented. Contact John & Peggy Bebb at [firedog937@aol.com](mailto:firedog937@aol.com) or [pegesue2@aol.com](mailto:pegesue2@aol.com).

**10/7-10/8:** Horizon Program in Plover, WI. Contact Michael & Lynne Mischker at 920-779-6779 or [wingman915@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wingman915@sbcglobal.net).

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

**10/21-10/22:** Horizon Program in North Mankato, MN (Region E). Contact Jerry & Ann Rigney at 507-449-2682 or [jerry1@iw.net](mailto:jerry1@iw.net).

### NOVEMBER 2006

**11/10-11/12:** Fun Shop in Vernon, CT (Region B). Keynote Speaker Fred Rau, variety of seminars, Seminar Presenter and Instructor Certification Courses to be presented. Contact Ed & Dottie Bahrenburg at [wingin-it@stny.rr.net](mailto:wingin-it@stny.rr.net).

**11/11:** Knowledge Enhancement Program in [location TBD], MO (Region E). Contact Tom and Beverly Richardson at 314-606-4498 or [hawk252@centurytel.net](mailto:hawk252@centurytel.net).

*"Give of  
your hands  
to serve  
and your  
hearts  
to love."*

*~ Mother Teresa*

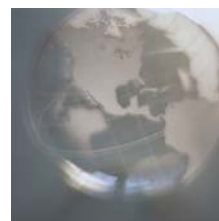
## 3rd Quarter Reports Due



Just a friendly reminder that training reports are due to CJ Karcanes by October 10, 2006. This quarter's report covers training activities between July and September 2006. Reference the forms section of the *Trainer's Handbook*. (An electronic copy is available on the curriculum CD.)

[District Trainers: Please forward your district reports to your Region Trainer by October 5th at the latest to ensure that all of the training hours can be compiled and forwarded in a time manner.]

## Your International LTD Staff



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