

WING WISDOM

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

From the Director's Chair

Bo & I are pleased to announce the appointment of David & Kathy Orr to the position of Region N Trainers. They are former District Trainers of North Carolina and long standing Instructors. David is a Master Instructor and Kathy is about to earn her Senior Instructor promotion. Please join us in welcoming them back to the active LTD Team, as we are certain to see and hear much from these two dynamic Trainers. Their e-mail address is win-griderdo@carolina.rr.com, and I'm sure they would love to hear from you. Bob & Sandy Renner had told us early in 2006 that they would be stepping down when their Directors, Mike & Angie Mitchell, did. The original timetable was for October of this year, but when the time seems right, why wait? That is pretty much how Mike & Angie and Bob & Sandy felt. They had served long and well and decided that it was time to switch from a "rowing seat" to a "viewing seat" (to quote the parable of the big row boat). So let's all wish them many happy miles of traveling and playing with all of their GWRRA friends and family.

This is really shaping up to be a banner year for Leadership Training. If the preliminary reports we have been receiving from many of you are on the mark, and I have no doubt that they are, we should set another record for the delivery of Horizon Programs, and the "out of riding season" training appears to be catching hold across most of the country. This is fabulous news because it means that we are moving toward the day when all new Chapter Directors will have received approximately 20 hours of training before they even take office. Our new officers will feel better about doing the jobs that they volunteered for. Our members will be served better and have more fun. And it will have happened because of YOU. That's right, because of you— not Bo & me. We can only plan, ask, and suggest. For this to happen, you folks have had to act, and ACT you have. Bo & I can't thank you enough for getting the ball rolling in your respective Regions and Districts. Your actions are making a difference, and we just wanted you to know that.

(Continued on Page 2)



Inside this issue:

Wing Ding Updates	3
1st Quarter Reports Due	3
By The Book	4
Problem Solving	5
Member Participation	6
Additional Thoughts	6
Training Connection	7
Name Correction	8
LTD International Staff	8

From the Director's Chair *(Continued)*

And now for a brief commercial break about communications. While many of you are doing a wonderful job of staying in touch with your teams and talking to the officers within your regions and districts, I have noticed an awful lot of District web sites (and some Region web sites) without a District Trainer page. Some have a District Trainer section, but there was nothing posted on it. For those of you who have been meaning to write a message, now would be a perfect time to do just that. Please keep in mind that even though you may have written an article for your District or Region Newsletter, those vehicles don't always get distributed to the general members. One of the best ways to "sell" our training to the members is through brief articles in Chapter Newsletters. Having been a Chapter Newsletter Editor, I can assure you that every editor out there would be happy to receive an article from you and they will gladly put it in their next issue. Why not use that as a vehicle to build support directly with the members for the cluster training that you are already planning for. You are planning some, aren't you?

Here are some interesting statistics on the make up of our division. We have a total of 31 districts and 3 regions throughout the United States and Canada without Trainers. If we look into those numbers a bit more carefully and make an arbitrary decision to only staff the District Trainer position in districts with 5 or more chapters, that figure of missing trainers drops to only 14. Now that puts the problem into a whole new perspective. If the Trainers in districts adjacent to those without trainers are willing to reach out across a State Line here and there, we could easily cover the "stranded" territories. Then we could concentrate on manning the remaining 14 slots and the division would be up to full strength. This is just an early thought about a 2008 Goal that I would like some feedback on.

If I can, I would like to make one more plea about paperwork. I am still receiving a lot of LTD Applications on old/outdated forms. I just did another update to the form to try to make it more user friendly. The "control date" of this new form is Feb '07 and it should be used effective immediately. I will send it out using the Region Trainer Mailing List and it will also be available on the LTD Web Page. Please be sure to destroy all copies you have of previous versions so that you don't inadvertently use the wrong version. I am not requiring actual signatures or hand written initials on the form so that we can process these applications electronically. That way, penmanship and scanner quality will not be a factor as they have in the past. If any of you encounters a problem opening, downloading or forwarding the new form, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm not the most PC literate person, but we have a team that is and I'll put them to work as soon as I hear from you.

Oh, and by the way, we still have some slots available for manning the LTD Booth at Wing Ding. (See page 3 for the updated schedule.) If we get enough volunteers, maybe no one will have to help out at the booth for more than one hour. Please contact us at karcanes@surry.net or call 336-374-6455 and chat with the new "Booth Coordinator", Bo, I'm sure she'd love to hear from you. And please remember, any member of the LTD Team (Trainer or Instructor) is welcome to volunteer.

Well folks, I guess that's about it for this time. We look forward to seeing many of you over the next few months as we travel through several of the regions.

Take Care, Be Happy and Keep Training,

CJ and Bo Karcanes



Wing Ding Division Meeting Change

To avoid a conflict with the Master Tour Rider Luncheon on Saturday 7/7/07, the LTD Division Meeting is being moved to Friday 7/6/07 10am—12noon. We hope that all Trainers and Instructors in attendance at Wing Ding will join us for introductions, awards, division updates and discussions, and networking with other LTD volunteer leaders.



Wing Ding Booth Schedule

Below is the updated schedule for the LTD booth at Wing Ding. Remember to contact Bo if you would like to volunteer for a time slot.

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am-11am	CJ & Bo	Bill and Barbara Ellis Reg I-	Dave Aikens Reg A-GA DT LTD Staff	Region E Amy Peterson
11am-1pm	CJ & Bo	Steve & Sandy Henicksman Reg I-Instr		
1pm-3pm	Region D Paul & Cheryl Brosher	Jim & Judy Linger Reg N DT-WV		Booth Closed
3pm-5pm	Region I Mike and Lynn Briggs RT			Booth Closed

“Leadership is an active, living process. It is rooted in character, forged by experience, and communicated by example.”

~ John Baldoni

Quarterly Reports Due by April 10th

There are a lot of exciting activities already taking place in 2007. It’s important that we know about them! Reports from each region for training activities January 2007—March 2007 are due to CJ Karcanes at karcanes@surry.net by April 10th. (District Trainers: Please forward your report to your Region Trainer by April 5th so they can meet this deadline.)

See the Forms section of the *Trainer’s Handbook* for a copy of the report. An electronic copy of the *Trainer’s Handbook* can be found on the curriculum CD.

By The Book— Newsletters

By: Dale Wingrove, Region H Trainer

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 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."

The Newsletter will provide you an opportunity to "talk" with the Members on a one-to-one basis. Information from international, 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.

*"The speed
of the
leader is
the speed
of the gang."*

~Mary Kay Ash



Steps To Problem Solving

By Amy Peterson, Region E Trainer



In *The Team Coach*, author Donna Deeprise discusses a business approach that seems applicable for a volunteer organization like GWRRA. We need to listen to members and treat them with respect. We need to incorporate the experience and knowledge of the members to continue improving as an association. We need to simplify what we do to the basics necessary to meet members' needs.

So how do we let members know that they matter and play a valuable role in our chapters? How do we encourage members to get involved?

Remember the T-E-A-M slogan of "Together Everyone Accomplishes More?" The team concept can also be applied to problem solving. Team problem solving pits the collective knowledge of all team members against the problems the team confronts. When teams solve their own problems, the result is often a better solution and more buy-in than if a leader had dictated the way to go.

Deeprise suggests the following steps in problem solving:

1. Identify the problem.
2. Identify the causes.
3. Determine the criteria for a solution.
4. Generate options.
5. Determine the solution(s).
6. Develop implementation plans.
7. Review results regularly.

Problems we encounter may include a decreasing membership at social gathering, for example, or we can apply the same technique to planning a chapter fundraiser. When organizing an event, the team or planning committee is exploring various opportunities, identifying the challenges, determining the variables and the "to do" list, etc. in preparation for the event.

Remember to recognize those involved in the process whenever possible too. Positive feedback and thank yous are always appreciated so volunteers will be more willing to help out the next time.

*"Believe in yourself.
Have faith in
your abilities!
Without a humble
but reasonable
confidence in your
own powers,
you cannot be
successful
or happy."*

*~ Norman Vincent
Peale*

Member Participation Matters

By Denis and Sue Tasker, Iowa District Trainers

How can you participate in GWRRA? The chapter is made up of members. Without the members we wouldn't exist. We would like to see members being recognized for what they do. Below are a few suggestions to get more involved.

The first is "*Newsletter Contributor.*" This can be done more than once and only whenever time allows. Note here that Chapter Newsletters are rated higher in Rally competitions when there are articles in it from non-staff.

"*Share knowledge of interesting roads*" is a contribution from members sharing an interesting trip that others may also enjoy.

"*Present a positive attitude and chapter pride*" are easy ways for members to be noticed and recognized. One friendly smile and hello can multiply into many smiles, hellos and even hugs.

Remember, little things **DO** count. Participation = FUN!

"The doors of opportunity are marked "push" and "pull."

~ Ethel Watts Mumford

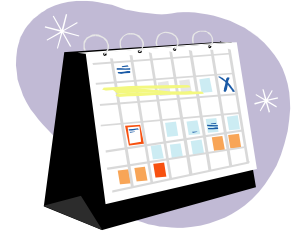


Additional Thoughts...

"You have control over three things—
what you think, what you know and how you behave.

To make a change in your life,
you must recognize that these gifts
are the most powerful tools you possess
in shaping the form of your life."

~ Sonya Friedman



Training Calendar

MARCH 2007

3/10-3/11: Horizon Program in North Syracuse, NY (Region B). Contact Dottie Bahrenburg at 607-648-4351 or wingin-it@stny.rr.com.

3/10: Life Skills Program in Olney, IL (Region E). Contact Jim and Joyce Hunsley at 217-877-7615 or jjhunsley@hotmail.com.

3/17: Life Skills Program in Edwardsville, IL (Region E). Contact Jean Stout at 618-656-1228 or stouts70@sbcglobal.net.

3/24-3/25: Horizon Program in Lebanon, TN (Region N). Contact Ken & Julie Zahn at 865-774-7740 or register online at www.tngwrratraining.org.

3/24: Knowledge Enhancement Program in Marshalltown, IA (Region E). Contact Denis & Sue Tasker at district_trainers@gwrra-iowa.us.

3/25: Intermediate Leadership Program in Marshalltown, IA (Region E). Contact Denis & Sue Tasker at district_trainers@gwrra-iowa.us.

3/31: Intermediate Skills Program in Olney, IL (Region E). Contact Jim and Joyce Hunsley at 217-877-7615 or jjhunsley@hotmail.com.

3/31-4/1: Horizon Program in Plover, WI (Region E). Contact Michael and Lynne Mischker at 920-779-6779 or wingman915@sbcglobal.net.

APRIL 2007

4/7: Intermediate Leadership Skills Program in Olney, IL (Region E). Contact Jim and Joyce Hunsley at 217-877-7615 or jjhunsley@hotmail.com.

4/14-4/15: Horizon Program in Edwardsville, IL (Region E). Contact Jean Stout at 618-656-1228 or stouts70@sbcglobal.net.

4/21-4/22: Horizon Program in Cranbury, NJ (Region B). Contact Mike and Nancy Mandell at 732-656-1284 or Michael@MandellPlumbing.com.

Editor's Correction

Julie Zahn's "Season of Change" article in the last newsletter mistakenly referenced Paula Zahn as the author. My apologies to Julie for the error!

International LTD Staff

International Directors:

CJ and Bo Karcanes
336-374-6455
karcanes@surry.net



Curriculum Coordinators:

Dave and Sharon Aikens
478-953-4886
aikensdl@cox.net

Newsletter Editor:

Amy Peterson
763-783-1851
amysescape@aol.com



Webmaster:

John Bourg
281-242-5125
jbourg@omsi.net

