

WING WISDOM

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

From the Director's Chair

By CJ & Bo Karcanes, Leadership Training Division Directors

By now, I'm sure all of you out there in "LTD Land" have heard about the change at the top of the Rider Ed ladder. Bob Lorenz has turned over the reigns of our "sister division" to one of his very able assistants, Mark Zingery. We have been working very closely with Mark & Mary for some time now, and I hope you will all join me in wishing them all the success possible as they step into the very big shoes of Bob & Sue Lorenz. Bo & I want to wish Bob & Sue all the best as they take a little rest from their labors. They have done wonderful things for GWRRA and the Rider Ed Division and we hope they enjoy their new found free time.

This month I'd like to talk to all of you about Training Plans. You know, that thing that each of us tries to put together about this time every year for next year, but too often don't find the time to quite complete. I want to ask each of you, and that includes all of you Instructors too, not just the Trainers. Yes, you Instructors have as much at stake in the success or failure of LTD as the Trainers do. Bo & I have been traveling around to as many regions as we can and talking to as many of you as possible. One thing that has struck us time and again is that most Instructors are just waiting to be asked to give a seminar. There is nothing written or implied that says you have to wait to be asked. You were interested enough to fill out the application and then take the required training, so why not put all that to good use. Sure, we have the Timeline For Training that lays out the road map of when and who should take the training that LTD has available, but that doesn't preclude any of you from giving additional opportunities for our members to come together and have fun while learning new things.

If you stop and think about what we in LTD are trying to do, you are bound to come up with several great ideas for how you can help. Our curriculum contains more than 80 seminars, and there are several more in various states of development (as well as some that are already out there and being delivered but not yet completely sanctioned). That is your "raw material. Now all you have to do is come up with a plan to help deliver that material to the folks that need and want it. Make it fun and easy, and they will come.



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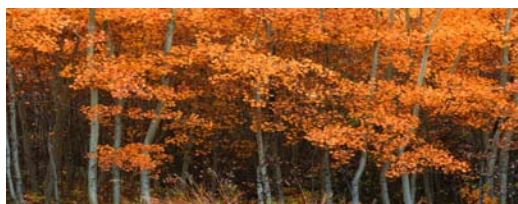
From the Director's Chair *(continued)*

Why not pick up your telephone and call the two or three closest Chapter Directors and offer to conduct a seminar or two on an upcoming Saturday or Sunday (or an evening, if that works better). Another course of action might be to contact the District Director (or Assistant District Director responsible for the area you participate in) and ask if he/she has any specific training needs. Are there any new officers in the area that could use some training? Is there a new chapter being started that has a new staff that might benefit from some training classes? You don't have to wait to be asked. It's OK to offer. In fact, it's more than OK; it's our duty and responsibility. You would be surprised to learn how many of our members and officers still don't know what LTD is and what our mission is. Yes, that's right, we are still not universally known and accepted.

We still have a lot of "PR" work to do, so make it your "personal mission" to draw up a 2008 Training Plan for yourself during the next 2-3 weeks. After you have done that, share it with your District Trainer, local Chapter Directors, and District Director/Assistant District Directors and ask for feedback. Once you have digested that feedback, adjust your plan to incorporate any enhancements as appropriate and then implement your plan. Remember what we teach in a couple of our seminars, "people don't plan to fail, they fail to plan". And before you even ask, the answer is yes. I would be happy to review any plans and offer suggestions. I only ask that you work through your District and Region Trainers first. They are in place to help and support you, and they can't do that if you don't give them the opportunity.

Just a reminder as September comes to a close; your 3rd quarter Training Activity Reports are due by the 10th of October. That means that you District Trainers should have them to your Region Trainers by the 5th. I have already started receiving some inputs, and that is a very encouraging sign. 2007 has been an exciting and fruitful year for LTD. I can't wait to put the year end report together because there is no doubt about the direction we are heading -- up, up, up. Thank you all for the great job that you are doing and for the support that you are giving to each other. You truly are a "High Performance Team," and Bo & I are very proud of all of you.

Take Care, Be Happy and Keep Training!



***"Leadership has
a harder job
than to
choose sides.
It must bring
sides together."***

~Jesse Jackson

The Life You Choose

By Amy Peterson, Newsletter Editor



I had the opportunity to hear speaker and author Andy Andrews deliver a presentation to a group of business professionals earlier this year. He has met with and read biographies about numerous successful people for many years looking for any common items among them.

Mr. Andrews has identified seven decisions that seem to be present with the thousands of people researched:

1. Take responsibility— Make choices that lead you to a place you like by taking responsibility for what got you to where you currently are.
2. Seek wisdom—Read and listen to books on tape, radio shows, etc. from which you can acquire knowledge (either actively or passively). Associate with people who make you a better person and hold you accountable.
3. Realize you are a person of action—Everything you do matters and affects everything else around you forever. It doesn't matter how big or small the action is. Sometimes the smallest action can engage your subconscious, and it may seem like things begin to fall into place.
4. Have a decided heart—The purpose of analysis is to come to a conclusion. Make decisions quickly and change your mind slowly to be successful. Don't second guess yourself (no "what if I had done ____" questions), as that just wastes energy and time. Learn from the outcome then correct your course as needed.
5. Choose to be happy—Write down the things that you are grateful for. People want to be around happy people. Opportunities and encouragement come from other people. If people want to be around you, you will have more opportunities. Short term you can practice smiling while you talk until it becomes more comfortable. Be excited to see people and greet them with a smile. It will help you feel better even if you're having a bad day.
6. Strive for anger resolution (not management) and forgiveness—Forgiveness has more to do with the forgiver than with the person being forgiven. It is a decision. You must always forgive yourself and move on. Forgiveness is about the past, and trust is about the future.
7. Persist without exception—You must find a way over, under or through your obstacles and never quit. In order to reach your goals, you may only be lacking one idea or piece of the puzzle so pretend if necessary (fake it 'til you make it). There may also be a time when it looks like the battle is over, or you may be tired of persisting. Don't give yourself an excuse to quit. Dig deep and focus on what motivated you to begin the journey in the first place.

"Learning is defined as a change in behavior. You haven't learned a thing until you can take action and use it."

~ Don Shula and Ken Blanchard



By The Book — Freeloaders

By Dale Wingrove, 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 (OGB). Any quotes or references to topics contained in our OGB should not be taken “out of context.” A copy of the Officers Guidebook can be found at www.gwrro.org and click on the Info Exchange tab then click on Officers Guidebook.



This article was submitted by Harry Dollarhide in February of 2004, and I felt it appropriate to re-run.

WHAT IS A CHAPTER DIRECTOR TO DO WITH “FREELoadERS”?

During a recent training event the discussion turned to Members who do not routinely participate, yet show up for Chapter events that are “free”, i.e., a meal or party that is paid for with Chapter funds.

The discussion was NOT talking about Phantom Members; rather dues paying Members in good standing that only showed up for the freebies. This was a point of contention for other Members who did routinely participate in Chapter events. They felt the Members who only showed up for freebies had not contributed to 50/50 and other Chapter fundraisers all year long yet reaped the benefits. After some discussion, we determined that the Chapter Officers had contacted the “freeloaders” and eliminated personal and/or work related reasons why those Members did not attend functions all year long. The Chapter officers were satisfied that there was no apparent reason why the “freeloaders” did not routinely participate.

The discussion continued and centered on how the Chapter Officers should deal with these “freeloaders.” Some at the training event took a hard line approach and wanted to somehow stop these “freeloaders” from participating in the freebies. However the group consensus was that they take no action that would further drive these Members away from the Chapter. Rather their attendance at freebie events should be viewed as an opportunity to bring these Members into active participation with the Chapter. Numerous ideas surfaced to that end and were discussed in detail. The “freeloaders” should not be viewed as such, rather as Members who for their own reasons chose not to routinely participate. It is the officer’s responsibility to meet the Members needs and encourage participation in Chapter events. Remember we are all Members of GWRRA and choose to participate in a Chapter. As GWRRA Members, we may legitimately participate in more than one Chapter.

This question arose from the discussion; “If the Chapter has a limited budget and numerous “freeloaders,” should we charge only the “freeloaders” to attend while not charging other Chapter Members who routinely participate?” The general consensus was that if the Chapter had funding problems it should not be putting on a free event in the first place. While you might limit participation at freebies to Chapter Members, the “freeloaders” had indicated their desire to be participants in that Chapter and should be considered as part of the Chapter.

Bottom line, do not think of Members who do not actively participate as “freeloaders,” rather as Members who have indicated they consider your Chapter as their home Chapter. Their lack of participation is your challenge. If after your best efforts, they choose to continue only limited participation in the Chapter that is their “right” as Members of GWRRA. After all Members do not have to participate in a Chapter. Being positive and pro-active achieves more than a negative, confrontational approach.

Training Calendar

Please send the details of your upcoming events to Editor Amy Peterson at amysescape@aol.com. This information is also published on our division's site, so let us help you spread the word!

October 2007

10/6: LTD Workshop with Knowledge Enhancement Program and other seminars available in Buckley, WA (Region I). Contact Mike Briggs at mlbriggs60@msn.com or 360-459-1530.

November 2007

11/3: Intermediate Leadership Skills Program in Boise, ID (Region I). Contact Mike Briggs at mlbriggs60@msn.com or 360-459-1530.



The Visual Evidence

By Amy Peterson, Newsletter Editor

You've heard that presenting information with visuals is more effective than someone just hearing the talk alone. The Wharton School of Business conducted some tests between two groups (one with visuals and one without) to gain statistical evidence to support this belief. Here are their results as published in Volume XVII Number IV of the *Communication Briefings*:

- 79% of the audience that saw the visual presentation reached consensus, compared to 58% of people in the nonvisual group.
- 67% of the visuals group members found the presenter convincing, versus 50% of the nonvisual group.
- 64% of the visuals group were able to make decisions right after the presentation. Those in the nonvisual group lagged in decision making.
- The study also concluded that using visuals cut the meeting time by 24%

***“Enduring
character
is built
with adversity
and builds
over time.
It isn't something
you just acquire.”***

~ Neil Livingston



Third Quarter Reports Due

This quarter's report should include training activity completed between July 1, 2007 - September 30, 2007.

Region Trainers: Third quarter training reports are due to CJ Karcanes at karcanes@surry.net by October 10th.

District Trainers: Please forward your training activities to your Region Trainer by October 5th so they can compile the details in a timely manner.

Contact your Region Trainer (or Amy Peterson at amysescape@aol.com) if you would like a Microsoft Word version of this report e-mailed to you.



Leadership Training Division Staff

Leadership Training 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



Webmasters:

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

