



May 2007 Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge- <http://www.gwrri-northeastregion.org>

<p>Melissa Eason GWRRA Executive Director (800) 843-9460 mnordeoff@gwrri.org</p>	<p>Jere & Linda Goodman NE Region Director (908) 874-5698 (voice) (908) 874-4126 (fax) jeregood@aol.com</p>	<p>Lorraine & Earl Knight NE Region Assistants Ph: 401-723-5959 lknight33@cox.net</p>
<p>Dottie & Ed Bahrenburg NE Region Trainer 607-648-4351 wingin-it@stny.rr.com</p>	<p>Dick (Richard) Norton NE Region Rider Educator 518-692-2239 safewing@nycap.rr.com</p>	<p>Mort & Ruth Smith NE Region Public Relations coolmort@msn.com</p>
<p>Roy & Chris Bill NE Region Membership Coord. 732-615-9312 ribil@comcast.net</p>	<p>Frank Geramo NE Reg. Asst. Rider Educator 607-751-3193 fgeramo@netzero.net</p>	<p>Cathie Ketenheim Medic First Aid CPR/FA Coord. (814) 255-3032 gwingn@pennswoods.net</p>
<p>Keith & Kathleen Eddy NE Region MAD 724-253-3194 96purplewing@hughes.net</p>	<p>Robert Corriveau NE Reg. Asst. Rider Educator 401-934-2429 cuddysoc@msn.com</p>	<p>Mike & Julie Walters NE Reg. COY Coordinators (856) 461-0388 Roadrebel99@aol.com</p>
<p>Tom Evans NE Reg. Web Master 732 291-2355 evans@att.net</p>	<p>Lori Goens NE Region Treasurer (973) 875-8070 glg@warwick.net</p>	<p>Steve & Carol Daley NE Region COY 2006-2007 (814) 438-2401 sd002@cs.com</p>



M A K E - A - D I F F E R E N C E

From The Region Director

You may not have noticed what has been happening in Connecticut lately. Carol & Bruce MacCullum took over as Connecticut District Directors August, 2006.

Connecticut E under the excellent guidance of Barry & Suzanne Goldstein was the only active Chapter. Connecticut B had gone inactive. The challenge of revitalizing Connecticut looked over-whelming. Maybe some folks behind the scenes were thinking that Carol & Bruce are in for a rough road. On the surface, the road looked very rough.

So, what have the MacCallums accomplished in less than a year? Glad you asked! Connecticut Chapter Q has been started under the direction of Michael & Linda Olson. Connecticut Chapter B has started up again under the direction of Linda Hahn. Oh, and another new Chapter-Connecticut W, will start with Arnold & Maritza Hogaboom as the Chapter Directors. In less than one year, we have seen two new Chapters and one come back from near-closure.

So, I would like to take a moment and thank Carol & Bruce for their hard work, effort, & perseverance. I would also like to thank Mike & Linda Olson, Linda Hahn, Arnold & Maritza Hogaboom for stepping up to help Connecticut grow. Last but not least, I can't forget to thank my Assistants, Lorraine & Earl Knight for working closely with Carol & Bruce.

Thinking back to my days as the New Jersey District Director, our philosophy was "Say no to can't, and ask how can we"? If you want to know "how can we", just ask Carol & Bruce!!!

Here is a note of special interest to all GWRRA RV enthusiasts from June Agee, International Membership Enhancement Division Director (med@gwrro.org).

As of April 20, 2007 the International RV SIG is returning. We hope to offer our RV enthusiasts the opportunity to become active with this SIG and enjoy what we will be offering you in the near future. If you have an interest in this SIG and would like to participate in activities or would like to be considered for a Region or District Coordinator please contact the International RV SIG Coordinators, Bill and CB Burgess, at wingrider@sbcglobal.net for more information. We have some great plans for the SIG, but would like to hear from all of you as to what activities you would like to see the SIG promote. We would appreciate all your ideas, suggestions, and wants/needs. We are listening, what is your solution?

In between all the rain & flooding in the Northeast, the weekend of April 21-22 was spectacular. I had several projects to complete outside around the house and even managed to get out on the bike for a few hours. Of course, the rain is back, so let's look forward to better weather in May.

Had a conference call the other evening on the Grand Parade & Light Show. As a reminder, this years Light Show will not be a parade as we have a conflict with the concert ending. However, Wing Ding Bike Lights on display, will shine bright! The Grand Parade will take us to downtown Billings for an evening of fun & frolic! Please let me know if you are available to assist the Region with either event. Linda & I are really looking forward to "Big Sky country and hope to see many of you.

Ride safe and be well!!!

Sincerely,

Jere & Linda Goodman
Northeast Region
Directors
BEEP! BEEP!

GWRRRA's 29th Annual Wing Ding CELEBRATION!



July 4-7, 2007
Billings, Montana
Metrapark

Join us at the world's largest
Gold Wing Trade Show!
Big name entertainment, games,
vendors, bike shows, parades, music,
food, dances and much more!

*Win a
2008 Gold Wing!*



For more information, please visit our web site at: www.wing-ding.org
or call 1-800-843-9460 or 623-581-2500 to register.

From The Region Assistants

May we say that we are most excited that the month of May is finally here and April is behind us? April sure FOOLED US. Who would have thought, we had a better chance for a White Easter, than a White Christmas. And if the snow, rain, wind or tornado warnings weren't enough to keep everyone wondering just what season this is; the temperatures do a complete 60 degree turn, and the sun comes out, dries up all the rain, melts the snow, brings on mud season and suddenly we are complaining because it's so hot. Yes, Mother Nature sure fooled us.

With the hope that we are finally in a warm, sunny weather pattern, our minds can now turn to the 2007 riding season ahead of us. The price of gas alone should spark new interest and enthusiasm in motorcycling. This should give all us members the opportunity to find new riders and introduce them the GWRRRA lifestyle.

Wow it started! The phone just rang. It was a new Gold Wing owner who had just come home from the dealer and was told about GWRRRA. He was given our number and wants to join us for a ride on Sunday. So, this afternoon we will send him a membership packet, (chosen especially for him) with an application form and a ride schedule. See how simple it is! Really, this really, really just happened, honest! ...*this is freaky.*

Now is a great time for making your vacation plans. Many great adventures have been planned and enjoyed around rally events. Last year's Wing Ding in Nashville is a prime example. Let's face it, if you want to experience an outstanding ride over some sensational roads, why not see the area through the eyes of your local GWRRRA members? After all, they know the terrain, the hot spots, the best eating establishments and all those hidden fun places. You will also be *supporting your GWRRRA family* at the same time.

What exactly does it mean to *support your GWRRRA family*? The word "*support*" can be defined in various ways; ie: **1.** To bear the weight of, especially from below. **2.** To hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking, or slipping. **3.** To keep from weakening or failing; strengthen: **4.** To provide for or maintain, by supplying with money or necessities. **5.** To aid the cause, policy, or interests of:

Does this mean that one person has to do all the above to show their support? Yes it does. Yes, we all have the power. We can do it in one easy step. It's the easiest thing to do. How can we do it? One simple way; **"Pre-register = Support"**.

Most everyone has planned a party, dinner, or event sometime in their lives. Remember how it felt when no one replied, and then suddenly everyone showed up on your doorstep and was expecting a good time. Your first thought was, "How am I going to feed (seat or entertain) all these people? Most never sent in their RSVP. Should I turn them away? What about those who did reply?" Then you begin to panic: "How am I going to handle this? (Enter: stress, stress, stress...and perhaps failure.) If only I had known, I could have been prepared. If only they would have showed their *support sooner*."

Any National, Regional, District or Chapter GWRRA event that is announced is an open invitation to all members to join in the fun. The hosts just want to know is, "Are you coming? If so, let us know." The ads in Wing World, the information on websites, the emails with flyers attached, the flyer handouts, the personal announcements of future GWRRA events are all invitations to come and join the family for some *Fun, Safety, and Knowledge*. How do they know you are coming?

By your pre-registration!!!

Pre-registration = Support. When you pre-register you define the word "support". **1.** To bear the weight of, especially from below. This is a "bottom up" organization. The support from each member supports the top. When others know you have pre-registered, it encourages them to do the same and lend their support. **2.** To hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking, or slipping. When you pre-register, you support the event and help keep that chapter from falling; you keep it solid, sound, strong. **3.** To keep from weakening or failing; strengthen: When you pre-register, you help keep the event from failing. You are part of the success. **4.** To provide for or maintain, by supplying with money or necessities. When you pre-register, you are supporting the costs involved in providing the fun (and sometimes food). **5.** To aid the cause, policy, or interests of: When you pre-register, you are contributing to a worthy cause; some local charity or to support the GWRRA motto.

What happens if you pre-register and cannot attend? Just as in any event, party or dinner, your place is reserved and it is noticed that you are absent. Others show concern for you, (Hope they're okay.) Others miss you. (It won't be the same without them.) Others realize your good intentions. (Something must have come up.) Others acknowledge your support. (Maybe their plans changed, so they sent a "token" registration to show their support.)

None of us can predict our future. We all have busy lives. Things happen. But, again, when planning your bike riding vacations, be it a month, week, weekend, day trip; why not plan around some GWRRA events and show your support to your GWRRA family. But, remember, pre-register and let them know you are coming. If your plans change early enough, most times, a call to the organizers in advance will accommodate you with a refund, minus a small fee.

So, check out the events calendar in Wing World; the region, district or chapter website, pick up those flyers on the tables at your next gathering and be ready to support your family. You will be very glad you did...and you may even have fun!

*Lorraine & Earl Knight
Northeast Region Assistants
RI District Directors*



Membership

MOTOR CYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

One of the major benefits of GWRRA membership is the training available to enhance your understanding of specialized hazards we face while on our Wings. Insurance companies have already classified us partially responsible for any mishaps because we choose to ride a motorcycle instead of a protective four-walled vehicle. So, before you get on your bike, it's partially your fault before you turn the key. Unfortunately, riding our comfortable Gold Wings, sitting on that couch of a seat, we sometimes tend to relax a little too much and temporarily "zone out". This is not to mention all the distractive amenities we have like CB's, stereos, cell phones, intercoms, etc, that we juggle at 65 MPH.

But as much as we have, the four wheelers have more; together with their false security of being in an enclosure. I passed a guy driving on Rt. 9 in Lakewood who had a cup of coffee in one hand, a sandwich in the other, the newspaper draped over the steering wheel and steering with his knees. No lie! Another genius, with his wife next to him, had their infant child "riding" on the steering wheel. I am not ordinarily confrontational, but that time I got his wife to roll down the window so I could "politely" voice my concern for the welfare of their child. Surprisingly enough, they completely agreed (kind of like the V8 commercials) and even thanked me for the suggestions I made.

All this illustrates the absolute need for awareness in both directions. Our GWRRA training makes us keenly aware of the inattention given to us by four-wheelers and the importance of defensive driving. If you haven't taken advantage of what your Chapter's Educator has to offer, or if you haven't taken an Experienced Rider Course more than once, you are at a dangerous disadvantage. Aside from making you a better biker, it also makes you a better four-wheeler. The more you become aware of the driving hazards of both vehicles, the more you recognize how many unaware drivers there are out there. That, in itself, makes you safer.

I know it's hard to tell by the attendance at our GWRRA gatherings, but on the open road we are definitely the minority. A good number of drivers think motorcycles are not very different than bicycles and do not treat us as roadway equals. Some just don't see us because they're not looking for a "bike", they're looking for cars and trucks. How many times has a driver looked right at you and then pulled out in front of you? After I see their eyes, I normally focus on their wheels to see if they begin to rotate; and I always assume they will. The one most important thing we can do to protect ourselves is to make all other drivers on the road aware that we are there. Get them to THINK about the existence of motorcycles and to recognize one when they see one. Sounds stupidly basic, but is absolutely necessary. Recognition is the first step to interaction.

So, make it a habit to mention to everyone you encounter to "watch out for motorcycles". Put a sign on your desk at work. Stick a bumper sticker on your car or put it in the window. Make it a Chapter project. The next time you leave a group, don't just say "good-bye", say "good-bye, and WATCH OUT FOR MOTORCYCLES!"

*Roy & Chris Bill
Northeast Region Membership Coordinators*



Rider Education

Hi everyone

One of the most important parts of our motorcycles is the tires. They also get overlooked a lot also. The following article was taken from Rider Education of New Jersey. Pay particular attention to the "old tires" section. It's easy to check the front tire but not so easy for the rear one. So, get down on your hands & knees or lay on the ground and really give that rear tire a good look.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR TIRES©

They are all there is between you and the road. Do not skimp on tires. Don't ride on bad tires or even questionable ones. What keeps the motorcycle from sliding out from under you are what is known as friction. Firestone tires used the ad campaign "Where The Rubber Meets The Road". They were referring to that magical element known as traction. Traction is the friction that exists between the road surface and the tire. The greater the amount of friction, the more traction. When you run out of traction, sliding is the result.

New Tires must be broken-in. They break-in between 50-100 miles. Breaking them in means traveling at reduced speeds, using great care to gradually increase speed and thereby increasing lean angle. The new tires come out of the tire molds by the use of a releasing agent. This agent is sometimes silicone based and very slippery. It is not usually water soluble and the only way it can be removed is by wear. New agents are being used by some manufacturers with the hope of reducing the time it takes to wear off the releasing agent.

Old tires sometimes need to be replaced even if they look new. As they age they lose their elasticity and get dry and hard. This has an effect on the braking and handling of your motorcycle. Tires are now date coded by the manufacturer so that it can be determined how long the tires sat on the shelf before being installed. Ask about the dates of manufacture of the tires you are about to buy. Sitting on a shelf for three years gives a dealer good reason too want to sell them cheap, and gives you a good reason to look elsewhere for that extra margin of safety.

Cold tires have less traction. Warm the tires gradually by riding at reduced speeds. In cold weather this could take a few miles. Better safe than sorry.

Under inflated tires wear off the part of the tire that you need for leaning. Always check you air pressure and tread. Check you air pressure when the tires get cold and then again when they are heated up. There shouldn't be more than a 10% difference between the readings. Then you know if the tire pressure is correct.

The mileage you get on your bike tires are a lot less than you get on a car tire. A hard tire gets more mileage, but less traction, than a softer tire. All tires are not created equal. The composition of the tires make a big difference. Generally speaking, you will get twice the mileage from a front tire than a rear. Some manufacturers sell tires in sets of three for this reason.

Clean tires as per manufactures directions. Never use an oily substance like Armor All.

Ask your dealer or knowledgeable friends about the differences in tire brands and manufacturers. Select tires to meet your needs and riding style. Many riders sacrifice long wear for added traction. Conservative distance riders alter their riding style for mileage. Know your tires and remember, "Traction is like money in the bank, you can never have enough".

*Northeast Region Educator
Dick Norton*



Public Relations

“ Membership Enhancement”

As many of you are aware the Membership Enhancement Division or MED for short, contains five divisions. These divisions are: Communications, Couple of the Year, Public Relations, Recruiting & Retention and Special Interest Groups. These divisions are very important in GWRRA and have been in place for many , many years.

We as members receive many benefits from these divisions, along with other programs offered , these are what help to keep GWRRA the number one motorcycle association. All the programs in GWRRA , old and new, are there for our members. We benefit from every one of them and should be very proud that we can be a active part . Each Chapter is responsible to see that these programs are in place and are giving our members the ability to receive the information and the benefits they offer. We are very proud to be involved in the Membership Enhancement Division. All the programs in GWRRA are there to benefit our members.

Friends for FUN , SAFETY, and KNOWLEDGE , what more can be said other then , all of us working together, is what makes it full of FUN, SAFETY and KNOWLEDGE.

Ride safe and God Bless.

*Mort & Ruth Smith
Northeast Region, PA. District PR Coordinators*



NE Region & District Web Pages

Northeast Region B at <http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org>
Connecticut at <http://www.gwrra-ct.org>
Maine at <http://www.geocities.com/gwrramaine/index.html>
Maryland at <http://www.gwrra-md-district.org>
Massachusetts at <http://www.gwrrama.org>
Delaware..... <http://www.gwrradedist.org>
New Hampshire at..... <http://www.orgsites.com/nh/gwrra>
New Jersey at <http://www.gwrranj.org>
Pennsylvania at <http://www.gwrrapadist.org>
New York at <http://www.gwrra-ny.org>
Vermont at <http://users.adelphia.net/~trikeinvt/index.html>