



## July - August 2007 Gold Wing Road Riders

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

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### News from National...

**Phoenix, Arizona** —Wing Ding 30 in Greenville, South Carolina!"

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) is pleased to announce its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Wing Ding will be in Greenville, South Carolina, next year. The international convention opens Thursday, July 3, and runs through Sunday, July 6, 2008, at the Carolina First Center, formerly known as the Palmetto Expo Center. Much has changed in Greenville since GWRRA's last visit. Now owned by the City of Greenville, the Carolina First Center began a \$22 million enhancement plan in 2005 and, with completion scheduled by spring of 2008, is the largest convention center in the state, with 315,000 square feet of exhibition space and 88,000 square feet of meeting and conference space.

"GWRRA Members will really enjoy the Greenville area, especially with its citywide improvements since our last visit there," says GWRRA's Executive Director, Melissa Eason. "Greenville citizens are excited to have us back, and I'm certain they will welcome us with the same warm, Southern hospitality they have in years past. We're also pleased to be back on the East Coast and look forward to the opportunity for more Members from that area of the country to be able to join us. So be sure to come help us wrap up a yearlong celebration of GWRRA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Wing Ding 30 in Greenville, South Carolina!"

## **Some note worthy winners at Wing Ding 29...**

**Bike Show:** Airbrush - Gold Wings/Valkryie Trikes or Sidecars - 1st place Kenneth Trass, MD-B.

**Talent Contest:** Humorous 1<sup>st</sup> place - Hampton & Sharon Conway, MD-B.

## **News from the Executive Director...**

Hello to All,

I would like you to join me in a nice warm welcome to our new Region B Directors, Lorraine and Earl Knight.

Lorraine and Earl have been married for 38 years and have always enjoyed riding together. When they first got married Lorraine rode a Yamaha 100cc and Earl rode a Suzuki 250cc. Together they have ridden over 200,000 safe miles and participate in our Level IV program. In 1997 they bought their first Gold Wing and joined GWRRA. Since then, they have held many positions within the Association including Chapter Director from 2001 – 2004 and District Directors from 2005-2007. They have participated in the Horizon's program as well as the many Fun Shops offered by our Leadership Training people. They share GWRRA with their children, their family and even their grandchildren. They all enjoy participating in GWRRA activities. They are a great asset to GWRRA and will bring new enthusiasm to Region B. I look forward to working with them.

Good luck Lorraine and Earl!

Melissa Eason

## **From The Former Region Director**

### **WHAT A JOURNEY!!!**

Has it really been 15 years since Linda & I first walked into the Americana Diner in Bordentown, NJ to attend our first GWRRA Gathering with New Jersey Chapter D? For you “old-time” NJ folks, Charlie Koczan was the Area Representative.

Has it really been 14 years since I was appointed as the New Jersey Chapter D Assistant Area Representative (Assistant Chapter Director for all of you who may not have heard the term, Area Rep)?

Is it possible that Linda & I have served as Operational Officers for 14 years including NJD Chapter Directors, NJ District Directors, Northeast Region Directors and several Assistant assignments?

The answer is yes to all above!

When one starts to think back over so many years, it becomes mind-boggling. So many friends, so many adventures, so many good times and a few that were not so good. However, the positives during our past 15 year journey far out-weigh any negatives.

The time has come to modify the journey, take a break and re-charge our batteries. Effective July 16, 2007, our assignment as your Northeast Region Directors will conclude. As to your new Regional Directors, Lorraine & Earl Knight (Region Assistants & Rhode Island District Directors) will take over as your new Regional Directors. Lorraine & Earl will be tremendous assets to the Region, so kindly extend to them your well wishes and support.

Linda & I would like to thank a truly wonderful Region Staff including those past staff members who served during our term. To all the Operational Officers and the Chapter Participants who make up the 11 Districts in the Great Northeast Region, thank you for your support, friendship, camaraderie, and the memories.

Thank you past and present International Staff for your support throughout the years.

Please bear with me as Linda & I give a special thank you to our home State of New Jersey. To Chapters, A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, & J, thank you for being there for us for all of these years. And to all the other NJ Folks who moved down South or out West to retire in more favorable weather conditions, your support over the years has always been appreciated and we thank you!

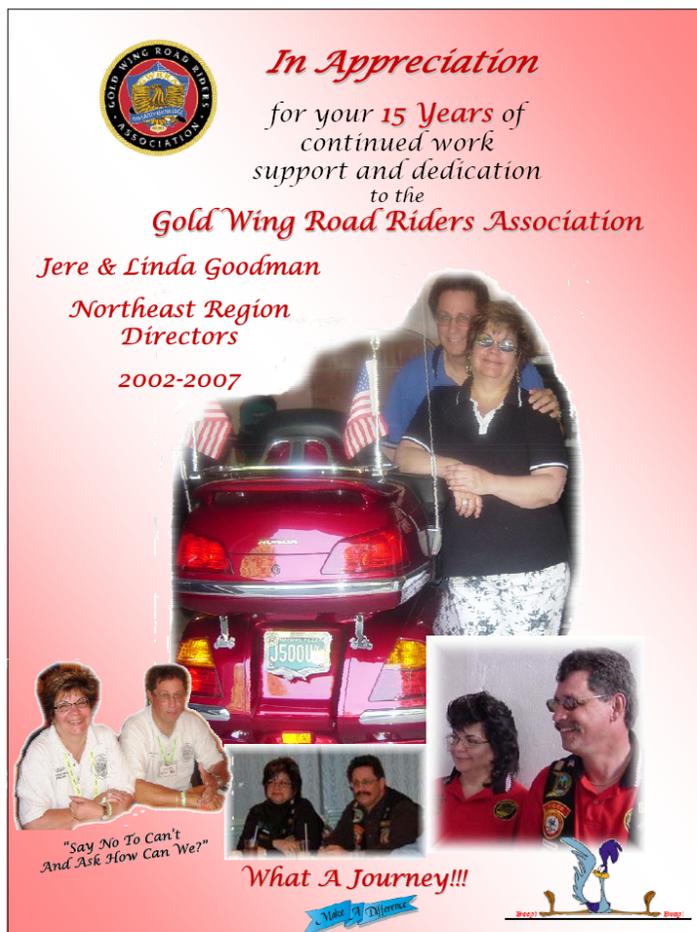
We often joke about the two best days in GWRRA as being the day you step up to an Officer Position and the day you step down. That is not true! There are far too many other wonderful days spent with the friends we make in this association.

As your outgoing Regional Director, I would like to leave you with a road-map should you desire to follow all or some of the routes:

- "SAY NO TO CAN'T AND ASK HOW WE CAN?"
- "MAKE A DIFFERNCE"
- "BEEP BEEP" (Be a Road Runner, not a Coyote)!!!

Thank you, be well, and ride safe!!!

Sincerely,  
*Jere & Linda Goodman*  
Northeast Region Directors



## **From The Region Director**

By now, the news should have reached everyone that Jere & Linda Goodman have retired from the Operations "Life" in GWRRA and have returned to active status as a JAM (just a member). Active Status seems like an oxymoron, as we don't know of many other couples who have been more ACTIVE over the years than Jere & Linda. They have devoted 15 years to promoting Fun, Safety and Knowledge as operations officers at all levels. That seems quite active to us. They have dedicated many hours of their valuable time so others can enjoy Fun, feel safe and receive bountiful knowledge as members of GWRRA. Everyone who has had the pleasure of getting to know this wonderful couple has been richer for it. We will miss their contagious smile and laughter. We wish them much happiness as they take time to "smell the roses" and relax and settle into their GWRRA retirement mode. But we won't let them rest for too long before we beg them to make a comeback and work with all of us once again.

And, of course, you may already know, we have accepted the position as your new **North East Region Directors**. Yes, as of Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:01 EDT we became the "new NERD'S" for Region B. We know that because Jere sent us emails counting down to that specific target date, then soon after, sent off his congratulatory message as "The Former NERD".

We just cannot express enough, the thanks and appreciation we feel for both Jere & Linda. They extended their NERD position until we gained enough experience and confidence to step up comfortably into our new position, a luxury many new appointees don't have offered to them. The experience we received during our tenure as their assistants was most valuable. A mere thank you just doesn't seem enough. But, thank you it is, for the support and invaluable knowledge you have given us. We really appreciate the confidence you have showed in us as your successors. We will do our utmost to stay steadfast and continue to make Region B a positive force within GWRRA

So, it is our pleasure to be your NERD'S and we really look forward to beginning this new journey and increasing the value of our GWRRA family and friends.

The cooperation, confidence and support from our Rhode Island family are the main reasons we have this opportunity today. It is thanks to everyone in Rhode Island who helped make us look good as their Chapter and District Directors. Had it not been for all of you, we would not have persevered and even considered this position. As we continually said month after month, "It is because of all of you that we look good." Again, thank you all for your faith and trust in us. We will do our best to make you proud!

We would also like to acknowledge the tremendous work, dedication and efforts of the former Region B staff, under Jere & Linda's tenure. Your endless time and service to them has made it possible to transition into a new period of change within the region without any degree of difficulty. You have all been most instrumental in setting down the ground work for those coming on board. We would also like to thank those who have agreed to continue and remain in their positions.

But, with new directors often comes some new appointments. We have added a couple of new positions and have also appointed some new staff members in other positions as well. The new recent Region Staff appointments are as follows:

Region Treasurer: J. (Joel) Johnson (You can call him J) of Attleboro, MA  
Region Newsletter Editor: Debbie Casale of North Providence, RI  
Region Chapter of the Year Coordinator: Claudette Cyr of Sabattus, ME  
Region Trainer: Pat & Donald Hoffman of Stayton, PA

You may remember some previous mention regarding the Chapter of the Year Program, (CHOY) Claudette Cyr has graciously accepted the position of Region CHOY Coordinator to implement this very important recognition program. Details regarding this program will be forthcoming and we encourage all DD's to embrace this important program as a way to honor those chapters who are dedicated, active and stand out for their hard work and efforts.

Congratulations go out to the New England DD's for hosting another extremely successful rally again this year. Word is –there was an endless flow of ice cream and an abundance of delicious toppings; and the chocolate fountain was the focal point in the hospitality room. You have unlocked the secret to a successful rally by offering these two great combinations. On another note, we understand the tours, cruises and people games were outstanding as well. But it was the people games that gave a new use and meaning to cheese and crackers. Your rally next year will be in Rutland, VT and it will bring forth a new cycle of adventure throughout New England. Congratulations to everyone who worked on this rally over the last 6 years. It presented a new concept that carried many new challenges. But you conquered all of them and proved to everyone that it can be done. Certainly, it was not an easy fete to work with 6 different directors and turn out a fun filled rally each year. You have been a pioneer in a new rally concept. GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

We wish to thank those of you who came out to support Region B at Wing Ding and volunteered their time for the Grand Parade on Thursday and the Light Show, Friday Night. It is great to know that, not even 100+ degree temperatures, can suppress the continued support and dedication that Region B delegates provide each year at Wing Ding.

Over the past few weeks, we have had the opportunity to meet several of you while attending Wing Ding in Billings, and the All New England Districts Rally in Springfield, MA. And we are most anxious to get acquainted with all the others upon our visits to the New York Rally, Pennsylvania Rally and the New Jersey rallies coming up within the next two months.

Regards  
*Lorraine & Earl Knight*  
Northeast Region Directors



## **ALL NEW ENGLAND DISTRICTS RALLY OUTSHINES WING DING'S LIGHT SHOW**

You can't fight Mother Nature. Someone's misfortune is another person's gain. When opportunity knocks, open the door.

We have heard these wise sayings many times in our lives and they have much truth to them all. They all seem so appropriate when describing the challenges that faced this year's Light Show at Wing Ding 29 in Billings, MO and the Light show at the All New England Districts Rally in West Springfield, MA a few weeks later. Allow us to explain.

Wing Ding's Light Show and Light Parade typically has about between 175+ participants each year. The New England Rally has typically about 15+ entries. However this year's Wing Ding 29 and the 2007 New England Rally was nothing close to typical.

Wing Ding had the misfortune of scheduling the Light Show on Friday evening, which of its self is not a problem. However, Mother Nature chose to deliver 103+ degree temperatures that same day and evening. Needless to say, it was difficult (and actually dangerous) for the delegates to leave the air conditioned areas and ride out to the parking lot to be classified for the evening light show. So, because...you can't fight Mother Nature....and...Wing Ding's misfortune....there were only 27 entries this year.

This meant that... opportunity knocked for the All New England Districts Rally...and they opened the door. If they could have 28 or more entries in their Light Show, then they could boast that they had more than those at Wing Ding. Thus a challenge was made and an opportunity was created.

For a small cozy and friendly rally of about 275+ to be able to compete with the likes of a Wing Ding in any capacity under any circumstances is a challenge in and of itself and in no way diminishes the grandeur and greatness of a Wing Ding. It is something no one has ever thought possible. It would take an act of fate or Mother Nature to make it happen. So, they heard opportunity knocking and they opened the door.

Thus, what would normally be a simple Light Show with a limited number of entries and crowd support, turned into a gala event where by almost everyone showed up to offer their support to try to “Outshine Wing Ding’s Light Show”.

So, did it happen? You bet it did. They boasted 38 entries and a record crowd who turned out to support the event.

And it broke the record for largest Light Show at any All New England Districts Rally. Everyone felt proud. They met another challenge and did it all as one happy family.

We are so very sorry that Wing Ding had the misfortune of baring the wrath of Mother Nature at their Light Show, but we used it as an opportunity to stimulate interest and work together as a family for a common cause. We feel it was a win-win for everyone.

Thanks Wing Ding 29,



## **Leadership Training**

Hi Everyone,

Since this is my first newsletter as Region Trainer and I haven’t had a chance to meet all of the District Trainers and Certified Instructors yet, I would appreciate it very much if all of you would please take just a few minutes to email me with your contact information so that I can update my records. I will soon have copies made of the new LTD Curriculum and I would like to mail them out to everyone.

Please bear with me for the next two to three weeks. My better-half, also known as a workaholic is having surgery on August 4<sup>th</sup>, so it will not be fun in our household until he gets back on his feet and can drive to the jobsites. I will reply to all emails, faxes and snail mail as quickly as possible.

I would also appreciate it if all of the District Newsletter Editors would add me to their email distribution list so that I will be able to find out what activities are going on in the Districts. I would like to meet and visit with as many of you as I possibly can, starting with the Pennsylvania Rally in Lancaster, PA in August.

Patty Hoffman  
Northeast Region “B” Trainer  
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Email: phofoman@verizon.net

## RESPECT

A change in leadership will soon be upon us. We have already begun to see the changes at the National and Regional level. Soon it will be time for new District and Assistant District Directors and new Chapter and Assistant Chapter Directors to come on board. We all have to remember that we are here to promote the mission and goals of our great organization. With this in mind, we all need to remember that it only takes a minute to be courteous and respectful to those new members joining our organization, the officers that will be stepping down and the new officers and their staff that will soon be assuming their “volunteer” duties. It is now time to put aside any petty jealousies, so that the me and I become we and us. Each of us is volunteers in this organization and each of us has the right to be involved in all activities.

I believe that RESPECT is a wonderful way to show to all of those around us, not just our officers and their staff, but everyone that we come in contact with. Therefore, I will finish this article with what I believe RESPECT entails:

- R - Represents reporting, recruiting and retaining our members
- E - Is for the excitement and fun that we have at our monthly gatherings and Chapter activities
- S - Is the smile that we show when we greet old and new friends
- P - Represents the politeness that we use toward our “volunteer” leaders and fellow membership
- E - Is for the excitement and fun that we have with our fellow members
- C - Represents the caring attitude that we show toward one another
- T - Is for telling anyone who will listen how great GWRRA is

*Patty Hoffman  
Northeast Region Trainer*



## MAD-Motorist Awareness Division

We would like to send out a big Thank you to Jere and Linda Goodman for all their years of service and for putting up with us as our “bosses.” Just think Lorraine and Earl, to what you have to look forward! Welcome, aboard!

There haven't been a lot of updates on the Motorist Awareness Division front lately. We're waiting to hear when the new brochures will be available at the National headquarters.

At this point we have MAD Coordinators in the following districts: Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New York, and Maryland. These coordinators are working very hard in these districts to ensure the word about “Look Twice, Save a Life” is getting out. For every one person they speak to, there is a chance they have saved a motorcyclist's life. This is why we would like to see more people involved and getting out the MAD information.

If anyone would like more information about the program, please let us know.

*Keith & Kathleen Eddy  
Northeast Motorist Awareness Division Coordinators*



## **MED-Membership Enhancement Division**

We wish to thank Roy & Chris Bill for serving as the Region Membership Enhancement Coordinators under Jere & Linda Goodman's tenure. We understand they did a fine job in this key position. Their insightful newsletter articles and contribution to the region was most valuable. We would have liked them to remain on staff while we are in office, however they have decided to accept another position within the Association. We wish them well as they pursue their new venture.

Currently this is an open position and a very integral part of recruiting and retaining the core of our region membership. It is a position we need to fill with the right person. We are searching for that right person. We are accepting recommendations and suggestions of candidates for consideration.

Please forward your choices for Region MED, along with a reason and short bio of the person you feel would do an outstanding job in this position. You may email or snail mail your recommendations to us directly.

*Lorraine & Earl Knight*  
Northeast Region Directors  
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## **Public Relations**

First off we would like to welcome Lorraine & Earl Knight as the new Northeast Region Directors. We look forward to working with you both. Public Relations is an awesome field to be in. GWRRA gives us the opportunity not only to promote our great association, but it also gives us the opportunity to promote the Region, District and Chapters. We do so many good and interesting things within our own Chapters, District and Region that so many of our own members do not realize, let alone the potential members, what a fun and educational experience it is. Webster Dictionary description: the actions of individual in promoting goodwill with the public. Now who does not like to promote goodwill? Use your Public Relations Coordinators and get that important information out there. Take advantage of the newsletters, newspapers, radio, etc., to keep your members and the public informed.

Until next time, Ride Safe and God Bless,

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



## Region Couple of the Year

My goodness, here it is August already. It really is true how they say that time flies. It has been a busy summer for us. Our local chapter thinks that we have deserted them and I'm not sure that I blame them. What we really miss is the Wednesday ice cream get together that we have during the summer. We haven't been able to attend one of them since May.

What we have been doing is traveling. We started with some short rides of one to two hundred miles in order to get some time on the bike and prepare for our trip out west. Then came the big day when we left for Billings. Wouldn't you know that on the very first day, about 15 miles from our motel, we would run into a hail storm. It not only hailed but the fog set in so bad that I could barely see the tail lights of the rider in front of me. We saw how dark it was getting but we were only 15 miles from the motel ( you all know how it is on the first day out) we didn't have anything on that couldn't get wet. Boy, did we learn. That was the longest 15 miles that I ever rode. After that, if the air felt damp, we pulled over and put on our rain suits.

We stopped in Sturgis, S.D. and used it as a base for three days to ride around the area. We drove into North Dakota for lunch one day ( a round trip of about 380 miles). At one time we didn't see another car for over 20 miles. But you know how it is..... now we can say that we have been to North Dakota.

When we arrived at Wing Ding our time was mostly taken up with the Couple of the Year selection. We met the other couples, had a briefing, did a tour of the facility, and drew a number to tell us in what order we would present our oral presentations on the following day. There were eight other couples from all over the United States and Canada. As we expected, all of the couples were great and any one of them would do a super job representing us all as the international couple of the year. As you have most likely heard, we were not selected. The couple selected is from Region A and hail from Florida. They will make us all proud. We were disappointed that we weren't selected because we have made so many friends from Region B and felt that we let you all down. We feel that our Region deserves to have an international couple. Who knows, there might still be one in our future. If so, we will be there to support them and give them all the help that we can.

After the couple of the year selection, we were asked to stick around and help out. On Wednesday, we worked at the information booth and sold 50/50 tickets on Thursday. Friday morning we got up early and left for Glacier National Park. From there we went through Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, and stopped in Missouri to visit our grand daughter, her husband and our great grand son. They put up with us for a couple of days and then we headed home.

We were only home for 2 days before leaving for the New England rally in Springfield, Massachusetts. We had a really good time there. If you haven't been to a New England rally for a while, you should go. It was a fun time with great games and lots of friends. Next, we will be going to the New York rally where we will step down as your Region Couple of the Year. After that we are planning on attending the Pennsylvania rally where we are the Couple of the Year coordinators. We have 11 amazing couples participating in the Couple of the Year selection. If you can make it, take the time to sit in on the selection process. It is a very worth while experience and something you will truly enjoy. Next, we will be attending the New Jersey rally. We attended last year and had a terrific time.

As you can see, it has been a busy summer for us. We would like to thank all of you who have encouraged and supported us in our year as the Region Couple of the Year. It was an experience that we will never forget. Whenever we are asked "What is the most memorable part of being the Region couple?" We always reply the same. "It is all of the people that we have met and the friends that we have made. If you are asked to become involved in the Couple of the Year program, do yourself a favor and do it." Anyone who has been involved will tell you the same thing; it is an experience that you will never forget.

Thank you all again and God Bless,

*Steve and Carol Daley  
2006-07 Northeast Region Couple of the Year  
Pa. District Couple of the Year 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.gwrradist.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>