



November, 2007 Gold Wing Road Riders Association



## News from National...

### Some Reminders from National...

**Office Hours:** The Phoenix office hours have changed. They are now open from 6:30 A.M – 5:30 P.M. MST, Monday – Thursday. Remember, they are closed on Fridays.

**District and Chapter Newsletters:** Please remember that they can be e-mailed directly to me, or you can e-mail me letting me know it's up on the website. You don't need to mail me the hard copies. But, please put your e-mail address in the second field, and everybody that the e-mail is going out to in the BCC field. People are getting e-mail addresses of the Members, and they're getting solicitations that way.

**Chapter's Charter Fees are due Dec.1<sup>st</sup>** New this year: Fees can come directly through the District Director. They don't have to come through the Region Director, but make sure you have a complete list of the chapters whose fees are being submitted. And don't forget to let your Region Directors know which chapter fees you have paid so they do not have to contact you or me for the information.

Regards,  
*Melissa Eason*  
Executive Director



## From our Region Directors...



**You too** can become famous while having **FUN!**  
How, when, where and why you ask? Well, we're "gonna tell ya".

**How?** You can go down in history (just like Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer.) You can help set a record in The FAMOUS Guinness Book of Records for the Worlds Largest Gold Wing Motorcycle Parade ever to be established.

**When and where?** Wing Ding 30, on July 3-6, 2008, in Greensboro, South Carolina we will be the first to establish this new record category. The Event Management Staff of Wing Ding 30 has made contact with Guinness, filed all the proper applications and have received back their confirmations. They have been working directly with the City of Greenville CVB, as well as media coverage for the record attempt. To make the event worthy of consideration, we must provide 4 independent counts as well as a video or DVD of the attempt and the proper paperwork, which the Event Staff will provide.

**Why? Because we can, after all...We are Gold Wing Road Riders!**

**The headline could read, “Northeast Region of GWRRA plays major roll in Guinness Book!”** Yes, we could even see an \* next to our names. Once again our region has the dubious honor of organizing and hosting the Grand Parade at Wing Ding again this year. Considering the fact that the region staff is made up mostly of new officers, this makes it doubly interesting and challenging. But, fortunately for everyone, we are all up to the task and with everyone’s help and cooperation; we **WILL CREATE** a memorable event. Because, we know that **“Hope is not a strategy”**.

Please pass the word that **EVERYONE’s** assistance will be needed in working together to organize the Grand Parade and helping us spread the word to get as many Gold Wings in the parade as possible. Our goal is to get at least 1100-1200 Gold Wings in the parade.

So, are you up to the task? Please start compiling a worker’s volunteer list, and then continually send us updates. Please ask everyone within your district, who plans to attend Wing Ding, to consider helping out for a few hours. NOTE: Don’t be afraid to delegate this task, as this would be a great job for an ADD, PR or MED coordinator.

Oh, by the way, the Northeast Region is also responsible for the Grand Light Parade as well. So we will be looking for volunteer help then as well.

We all know that “when one door closes, another one opens”. When the Northeast region finally thought we had secured a complete staff, we suddenly find ourselves with another open position. Region B’s loss, will be Region A’s gain as we sadly announce that Mike and Julie Walters or Region Couple of the Year Coordinators have decided that, effective immediately, they are relocating to the Sunshine State.

As we have continually preached and learned in GWRRA, family is everything. Family is first, last and always. But when people have two families they love, it becomes difficult to be everything to everyone. Such is the case with Mike and Julie. They are moving south to be closer to their immediate family members. So Florida’s gain will be New Jersey’s loss. Those of us who have had the privilege of having Mike & Julie touch our lives know how much we will miss their warm smiles, contagious laughter and sincere words of concern and encouragement, not to mention all the support and dedication they have given to GWRRA in the numerous positions they have held within the association.

Mike and Julie, on behalf of all of us in the Northeast Region, we will miss you deeply and find it very difficult to fill the void you will leave in our hearts. Thank you just does not justify enough, the appreciation we have for the legacy and positive impact, you have brought to every position you have held at all the levels you have supported. Please know that we wish you much peace, joy and happiness with your family and your new venture in Florida. Oh, by the way, we still need your help at Wing Ding 30, and we hope to see you then.

Speaking of thank you, turning the calendar to November always reminds us that this is the month to give thanks. So, at this time, we would like to thank everyone within the region for taking us under your “wings” and showing us so much support in taking on, what we felt was the overwhelming position of Region Directors. But you have all made it easy, great and most of all FUN. So, finally, we would like to say...

We truly appreciate a dedicated staff like you,  
All the helpfulness, the “giving-ness” and the thoughtful things you do,  
We thank you for your kindness, and will not soon forget,  
That you are some of the nicest people we have ever met.



*Lorraine & Earl Knight*



**From Pam & Denny Milford.....  
North West PA-Assistant District Directors**

**HOW BAD IS IT?**

Every day we hear about how bad it is for someone, and don't get me wrong, some people really do have it bad, but compared to what?

I was starting to suck my thumb and feel kinda sorry for myself, as the last 30 days, I have been laid up and not working, not able to ride till just the other day and, in general, kinda depressed, as all of this beautiful fall weather was simply passing me by. About a month ago, I developed a bad infection in my left leg, which basically, spread to the entire leg and even beyond. The remedy was 5 days in the hospital and rest and keeping it elevated, along with all kinds of medication.

I was feeling so bad about it and, of course, it hurt too, that it was a major pity party; when all of a sudden it happened. In the middle of my situation, I was asked to do, not one, but two funerals, for people I had come to know over the years and then I realized I had it pretty good. I was still alive, able to enjoy fine foods, a loving family, great weather with sunsets from out of a dream book, fantastic friends and best of all, a God that allowed me to realize that I had it pretty good, to say the least.

Isn't it amazing how, if we just open our eyes, we see how we have been blessed. To the best of my knowledge, none of us went to bed last night hungry or afraid for our safety from bad people, possibly in the community. Sure you locked your doors, and that sort of thing, but did you sleep with a gun for protection, or armed guards protecting your safety? How about your jobs? Come on folks; don't tell me how bad you have it. We ride Gold Wings, don't we? We can't be that poor! There isn't a one of you that, if asked, wouldn't and, more importantly, couldn't lend me a \$20 bill, if I asked (and I am NOT asking). We have surpluses; just look at my waistline and some of yours too.

Yes, we complain about \$3.00 a gallon for gas and pay more than that for bottled water. We eat \$5.00 hamburgers. Instead of grumbling, we should be happy we can afford to pay the prices for these and other items in life.

What does all of this have to do with GWRRA and the wonderful sport of motorcycling? It probably has almost nothing, and then again, almost everything.

Be thankful for the company we enjoy and the wonderful memories we share. I have yet to get around a group of Wingers, but what it hasn't given me a smile to walk away with. I am thankful I can afford to go with this great group of people, but even more so, that they never ask what size my back account is, or put me down if all I order is a burger instead of a t-bone to be washed down with my ice cream.

Even though they haven't made a 1500 Gold Wing for a few years, nobody puts down my, soon to be 10 year old steed, with just short of 100,000 miles. No, not even the new guy that just started riding with the local chapter and his trusty 1100 gets put down!

In closing, I just want to encourage all of you to ride safely, smile always, and hug often and say, "Thanks for giving and making this year, one we will never forget." Believe me, when I say "The best is yet to come!"

**God Bless!!!**

***Pam & Denny Milford***



**From our Region Trainers...**

***Patricia & Donald Hoffman***

**ATTITUDE**

Have you really ever sat down and thought about your attitude and the attitude of those around you? Charles Swindoll wrote the following regarding attitude:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on my life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, church or a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past ... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the string we have, and that is our attitude ... I am convinced that life is ten percent what happens to me and ninety percent how I react to it. And so it is with you ... we are in charge of our attitudes."

When I read the above I thought about it and came to the following conclusion. My attitude and the attitude of those around me are very important to me. I have seen many friendships fall apart because of attitude.

Just the other day I had to return an item to the store from which it was purchased. On the wall behind the customer service desk was a poster that read "Attitude is Everything". I questioned the clerk and she said that her manager brought it in one day and said that she wanted each clerk to read it at least once a day and to remember that their attitude can and will be the deciding factor in whether a customer returns to their store or not. I also believe that as a customer my attitude toward the clerk will be the deciding factor as to how I am served. I firmly believe that the attitude of each Officer and Chapter member will be the deciding factor as to whether a new member or even an existing member will return to the Chapter.

The following is a list of positive words that can be used to describe attitude:

- A - Active – Is your Chapter active, do you plan rides and activities for your membership?
- T - Trust - Does your Chapter trust you or do they watch and criticize?
- T - Thriving – Is your Chapter growing or is your membership getting smaller?
- I - Interesting – Are your Chapter gatherings interesting or boring?
- T - Treat – Are you treating your Chapter members as you would like to be treated?
- U - Unique – Are you using your own, your staff's ideas or are you using the ideas of the Chapter members and taking the credit for the success of a planned activity or giving credit where credit is due?
- D - Desire – Do you have the desire to see your Chapter succeed and grow?
- E - Enticing – Do you end your Chapter gatherings or activities with your Chapter wanting more?

If you can truthfully answer yes to any of the above questions, then I feel that you and your Chapter are on the road to success.



## From our Region CPRFA Coordinators...

*Tom & Anna Grimes*

Winter weather is just around the corner. As the temperature starts to drop, some of us will still be donning our protective gear and enjoying the last of the riding season as long as possible. Hence, the subject of this article; hypothermia. Hypothermia is a very real and dangerous condition that can sneak up on you without warning. Please become familiar with the warning signs and treatment for hypothermia.

### **Hypothermia: First aid**

Under most conditions your body maintains a healthy temperature. However, when exposed to cold temperatures or to a cool, damp environment for prolonged periods, your body's control mechanisms may fail to keep your body temperature normal. When more heat is lost than your body can generate, hypothermia can result.

Wet or damp clothing, an uncovered head and inadequate clothing during cold, winter weather can increase your chances of hypothermia, as can falling into cold water.

Hypothermia is defined as an internal body temperature less than 95 F. Signs and symptoms include:

- Shivering
- Slurred speech
- Abnormally slow breathing
- Cold, pale skin
- Loss of coordination
- Fatigue, lethargy or apathy

Symptoms usually develop slowly. Someone with hypothermia typically experiences gradual loss of mental acuity and physical ability, and so may be unaware of the need for emergency medical treatment.

Older adults, infants, young children and people who are very lean are at particular risk. Other people at higher risk for hypothermia than the general public include those whose judgment may be impaired by mental illness or Alzheimer's disease and people who are intoxicated, homeless or caught in cold weather because their vehicles have broken down. Other conditions that may predispose people to hypothermia are malnutrition, cardiovascular disease and an under active thyroid (hypothyroidism).

To care for someone with hypothermia:

1. **Dial 911 or call for emergency medical assistance.** While waiting for help to arrive, monitor the person's breathing. If breathing stops or seems dangerously slow or shallow, begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) immediately.
2. **Move the person out of the cold.** If going indoors isn't possible, protect the person from the wind, cover his or her head, and insulate his or her body from the cold ground.
3. **Remove wet clothing.** Replace wet things with a warm, dry covering.
4. **Don't apply direct heat.** Don't use hot water, a heating pad or a heating lamp to warm the victim. Instead, apply warm compresses to the neck, chest wall and groin. Don't attempt to warm the arms and legs. Heat applied to the arms and legs forces cold blood back toward the heart, lungs and brain, causing the core body temperature to drop. This can be fatal.
5. **Don't give the person alcohol.** Offer warm nonalcoholic drinks, unless the person is vomiting.
6. **Don't massage or rub the person.** Handle people with hypothermia gently, because they're at risk of cardiac arrest.

Until next month, Ride Safe, Ride Often and Keep the Shiny Side Up. Ride to survive. *Tim & Anna Grimes*



## From our Region Educators...

*Keith & Elaine Price*

**Hello my friends, both new and old.**

My name is Keith Price. My wife, Elaine, and I have accepted the position as the Regional Educators for the Northeast Region replacing Dick Norton. For over two years we have been the NY District Educators where we stressed the importance of training in the health and safety of our members and the riding community as a whole. I am convinced that the job of a rider educator is the **most important** job in GWRRA (sorry Lorraine). We are responsible for encouraging and providing the training for our people that will save their lives! Rider training has saved my life, it has probably saved yours and it will save theirs! You will quickly realize how passionate we are about training our people. In this we have received a mandate to increase the training opportunities for our friends

in the NE Region. We intend to certify more rider course instructors, more Medic First-Aid instructors, and PLP facilitators as well as seminar presenters.

Rider Education is changing. An all new manual is due to be released shortly. The program will be streamlined and will provide more training opportunities at the Chapter level where it does the most good. An all new Parking lot Practice (PLP) program is in the works. This will be utilized at the chapter level. No longer will training have to wait for a rally. An entirely new method of updating the REP database will be instituted. Chapter Educators will be empowered to update the records for their own chapter. This will enhance the up-to-datedness of the database.

One challenge facing the Region is a lack of District Educators. Currently there are three districts without a district educator. While I am responsible to fill that role in such a district, the members of those districts deserve someone who lives there and whose attention is focused entirely in that district. Most of the districts without educators have only a few chapters. The workload of a D/E is not that great. I plead with you.... Won't some Chapter Educator in those Districts step up and help protect their friends?

One job of any educator is to submit monthly reports. The reports, which take only about five minutes to do, are extremely important. They actually ensure the continued existence of GWRRA. NO reports – NO GWRRA – NO Rider Education Program – MORE INJURIES AND FATALITIES! It's as simple as that. So please, District Educators send me those reports and encourage your Chapter Educators to send them to you.

I am delighted to announce the Frank Germa has agreed to remain on board as our Assistant Educator. Frank's experience and training instructor credentials make him invaluable in both Rider Education and the Rider Training program. We are privileged to have him as part of our region. We thank him and value his expertise in areas where we have limited experience.

We look forward to meeting and working with you all. You have our gratitude for what you have done and will do in the future. We all have a huge job to do in bringing an enhanced training program to all of our people. Finally I want to extend a word of sincere gratitude to Dick Norton. Dick has devoted himself to Rider Education for over fourteen years. Everyone hopes to see him and seek his council at rallies, rides, and at Americade where he has volunteered for years. You've done a great job and we all thank you.

As always Ride Smart – Ride Safe

*Keith & Elaine*  
pricewingk@aol.com



## From Our Region Public Relations Coordinators...

*Mort & Ruth Smith*



**What is Public Relations?** It is, and I quote, the process of supplying information to the media, case GWRRA, the information must be factual, interesting and timely. Public Relations doesn't just happen, make it happen when we wear our vests, shirts, fly our flags, talk about GWRRA. We make the publicity rates increase considerably with your ability to collaborate with the members, as well as potential members; e word out about this Association known as Gold Wing Road Riders.

Publicity is not advertising, you don't pay for time or space, it can have a great impact on the members because you are supplying them with important information about Region, District, Chapter and International events. Things that are important to all GWRRA members and potential members.

GWRRA is the greatest Motorcycle Association in the world. Use your Public Relation skills, yes we all have them, talk about it, brag about it, let others know what we are all about. Inform them of the wealth of information a member can receive. Inform them of one of the best Rider Education programs around. This, my fellow member is Public Relations. Please ride safe.



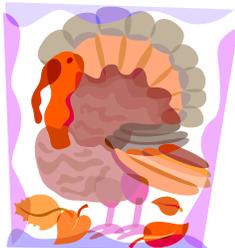
# From our Region Newsletter Editor...

*Debbie Casale*

The splendid month of November is finally upon us...we've been enjoying some really nice summer-like weather; with all this warmth it somehow seems strange to see the trees changing color right before our eyes. The beautiful colors of the foliage can be very distracting when riding; when it rains and the leaves line the roads (especially those back roads) it can be even more dangerous for us motorcycle riders. So please be careful...practice safety and be cautious at all times!



Maybe some of you would like some background on foliage! Trees which change color in the fall are known as deciduous. They lose their leaves and grow new ones each year. The color changes are caused by fall's cooler temperatures and shorter periods of daylight. These cause the build-up of cork-like cells at the base of the leaf stem which block the flow of nutrients between the leaf and the tree. Chlorophyll, which makes the leaves green, is no longer produced. As the green fades, two chemicals, carotin and xanthophylls, which cause leaves to turn yellow, are unmasked. Red leaves occur only when the leaves contain certain sugars or tannins. The red color further depends a lot on sunny days and cold (below 45 degree) nights, which cause the cork-like cells to form before these substances can drain away. Once trapped in the leaves, they combine with other substances to produce anthocyanin, the red pigment that gives the leaves their color. Fall color can vary from year to year in any one region. In some years, early frosts kill the foliage. Also, a warm, cloudy autumn can produce dull colors



**Wishing everyone a "Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Holiday".**

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

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## NE Region & District Web Pages

### Northeast Region B [www.gwrra-northeastregion.org](http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org)

Connecticut	<a href="http://www.gwrra-ct.org">www.gwrra-ct.org</a>
Delaware	<a href="http://www.gwrradedist.org">www.gwrradedist.org</a>
Maine	<a href="http://www.geocities.com/gwrramaine/index.html">www.geocities.com/gwrramaine/index.html</a>
Maryland	<a href="http://www.gwrra-md-district.org">www.gwrra-md-district.org</a>
Massachusetts	<a href="http://www.gwrrama.org">www.gwrrama.org</a>
New Hampshire	<a href="http://www.orgsites.com/nh/gwrra">www.orgsites.com/nh/gwrra</a>
New Jersey	<a href="http://www.gwrranj.org">www.gwrranj.org</a>
New York	<a href="http://www.gwrra-ny.org">www.gwrra-ny.org</a>
Pennsylvania	<a href="http://www.gwrrapadist.org">www.gwrrapadist.org</a>
Rhode Island	<a href="http://www.gwrra-ri.org">www.gwrra-ri.org</a>
Vermont	<a href="http://users.adelphia.net/~trikeinvt/index/html">users.adelphia.net/~trikeinvt/index/html</a>