



GWRRA New York District

June 2007

Northeast Region



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<p><u>REGION MAD</u> KEITH & KATHY EDDY</p> <p><u>REGION PR</u> MORT & RUTH SMITH</p> <p><u>REGION MEMBERSHIP</u> ROY & CHRIS BILL</p> <p><u>REGION COY COORDINATORS</u> MIKE & JULIE WALTERS</p> <p><u>REGION COY</u> STEVE & CAROL DALEY</p> <p><u>REGION CPR/FA COORDINATORS</u> WAYNE & CATHIE KETENHEIM</p> <p><u>REGION WEBMASTER</u> TOM EVANS</p> <p>GWRRA homepage: http://www.gwrra.org</p> <p>Region Website: http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org/</p>	<p>News from National...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A note of special interest to all GWRRA HAM Radio enthusiasts... As of May, 2007, a potential new SIG for HAM radio folks has been announced. June Agee our MED person has announced that Brian Johnston is interested in forming this SIG and needs 50 interested people to sign up. Please contact June at med@gwrra.org or Brian at w8tfi@aol. ▪ Bank Financial Statements. National needs only the December statement from now on. This will reduce the bundle of paper that we send off to the Region each year! I do remind you that you should keep your chapter records for up to 7 years just in case the IRS wants to see them.... ▪ Area Reports. I have sent out a message I received from Region about an upcoming change in the reports we receive from National. Based on the feed back I have seen from the other Districts I am not sure of the outcome. 	<p><u>DISTRICT COY COORDINATORS</u> RICH AND LOIS BROWN</p> <p><u>COUPLE OF THE YEAR</u> RON & PATRICIA SCHROTH</p> <p><u>DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR</u> PETE & MARIELLE ST. AMOUR</p> <p><u>DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATIONS</u> LINDA WATERMAN</p> <p><u>DISTRICT AMBASSADORS</u> WILL & CAROL O'BRIEN</p> <p><u>DISTRICT TREASURER</u> JACK SEELEY</p> <p><u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</u> WILL O'BRIEN</p> <p><u>DISTRICT WEB MISTRESS</u> DOTTIE BAHRENBURG</p> <p>NY District Website: http://www.gwrra-ny.org/</p>

News from National... (cont)

Our own Pete St Amour has done a GREAT JOB in straightening out the reports for our Chapters. I will not be happy if his hard work was done for naught.

News from the Northeast Region

Rally Season is Here!

The various districts within the region are gearing up for the Rally season and I hope to see more New York folks at these events. It is a great chance to meet new friends and see new sites. Dottie and I have made many new friends attending these events and have had fun doing it.

Some rallies to keep in mind:

The New England Rally, West Springfield, MA, on July 19-21.

The Pennsylvania Rally, Lancaster, PA, August 23-25

The New Jersey Rally, Mount Olive, NJ, on September 6-8.

Region Raffle

Don't forget to sell the Region Raffle Tickets. You don't want to miss the chance to win a 2007 Honda VTX-1300-C Motorcycle or \$7,000 in cash. Second prize is a 2006 Honda Silver Wing or \$5,500 in cash.

The Raffle benefits the PA District and also the Northeast Region. The proceeds support programs such as the FunShop.

Ticket stubs, money and any unsold tickets need to be returned to Paul Wood by July 16. Checks should be made payable to GWRRA NY District.

From the District Director

District Ride In--- Rain In?

The weather was very wet but that did not stop about 50 people from having FUN at an indoor picnic put on by Rocco Cole and his fellow chapter participants in NY L. We even had 6 bikes ride in from NY F which was a 5 hour ride in the rain. We took a car after deciding that I would rather get teased by folks than ride for hours in the cold and rain. We ate too much, talked a lot and won some really nice prizes. The



chapter obtained 3 VERY nice riding jackets that they raffled off. Two were won by NY F and one was won by Dottie B. The District gave away a pair of rally registrations and there were a number of other excellent prizes. Well Done NY L.

May Is Motorcycle Awareness Month and many Chapters held Mall Shows to help educate the

public about motorcycling in New York. We were able to visit a Chapter F's and Chapter Y's Mall Shows.



Americade Booth and Breakfast

The New York District has taken on the manning of the GWRRA booth this year. It is located “under the bridge” at Tour Expo where it has been for many years. Stop by and say hello. If you are able to give a few hours of your time to helping out, please contact me (wingin-it@stny.rr.com). This is a great opportunity for you to recruit new members and talk to motorcyclists about GWRRA.

Also, don't forget the GWRRA breakfast at the Longhorn Café, formerly known as Bandits (the same place as last year). Come enjoy the breakfast buffet for \$6.95 per plate on Saturday, June 9 from 7-10:00. The Longhorn Cafe is located 5 miles west of Lake George on 9N, just up the hill from Roaring Brook Ranch. We will be under the tent. There is lots of parking space.

The menu includes: scrambled eggs, pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, sausage gravy & biscuits, toast, pastries, cereal, fruit cocktail, mini cheese omelets and coffee.

Ed & Dottie Bahrenburg
District Director

Rally News

Volunteers Needed!

Wow! I just looked at the calendar and the NY Rally is now only two months away!

There is an exciting full schedule of activities planned for the rally. Some great rides are in the works. Lots of people have already registered.

BUT!!!! We still need some volunteers to help out with Registration on Friday and Saturday and, also for the Street Fair on Saturday afternoon.

Please drop us an email or give us a call if you can spare an hour or two to help out. We don't want anyone to have to work so much that they miss the fun!

Street Fair

Right now you are probably scratching your head and saying “Street Fair,” what Street Fair.

On Saturday afternoon all rides will arrive back at the rally site by 1:30 PM. And, at that time, there will be a Street Fair with games, vendors, food, the Canal Boat Team

Race (mentioned in the last newsletter). Also, there will be bike games to participate in or to watch. And...the slot car races to benefit Rider Education.

The games will be a lot of fun! Almost like a small carnival. And, don't forget to get your team together for the Canal Boat Team Challenge. We have heard of people working on their "mule" costume.

The list of vendors coming to the Rally is growing. As well as vendors for your motorcycle, there will be craft vendors on site. There will also be a caricature artist and photographer present during the Street Fair.

Rally Book Ads

If your Chapter is planning to place an ad in the Rally Book, please send your ad to Jack Seeley **no later than July 1**. If you need help putting an ad together, just let us know what you would like to say...and I am sure that we can come up with the graphics.

Check out the District Website

Every month we have focused on a different activity planned for the Rally. If you need more information on the Basket Auction, Canal Boat Team Challenge, Women's Only Event, etc. Go to the District website and you should find additional information.

<http://www.gwrra-ny.org>

From the Assistant District Director (West)

From the Assistant District Director (East)

From the District Educator



My thanks to Gary Mandak for this excellent article!

Seeing is Believing

When you ride your motorcycle, constant scanning of the environment is something we were taught to do, know we should do, but do we really practice it? We need to be aware and be looking for potential hazards in the constantly changing environment. Motorcycle safety courses teach you to continually scan your environment from side to side and front to back. Some use a figure 8 to scan the environment; it sure beats the 0 scan.

When you approach cars at intersections, watch their tires. If the tires are pointed toward you, that indicates their intent to turn in your direction. Try and do eye contact so you know they can see you, this

may make them reconsider that quick turn into your path. This may cause you to re-tire from riding for a while.

If you are in an unknown area, observe all the road signs and reduce your speed as needed. As you approach curves, be aware of surprises that may await you such as animals, stopped cars or debris in the road. Be in control of your speed so you have ample time to react to any given situation. Make sure you have set your speed at a level that is appropriate, that means the correct speed to accelerate out of the turn, and not having to apply brakes in the turn.

While traveling, observe the road for shiny spots which could mean spilled coolant, diesel fuel or oil, all of which are very slippery. Tar snakes on the road become slippery when the temperature increases, or in the rain. Be careful so you don't get bit. Railroad tracks are slippery when wet, try to cross them at reduced speed and position yourself as perpendicular to the tracks as possible to avoid sliding. Paint at crosswalks and other markers painted in the road become slippery as well.

Ride slower at night, in the rain and fog as visibility is greatly reduced. Your speed should be appropriate for the riding conditions. Observe the speed limit and remember it was established for ideal conditions. If conditions have become too hard to see, pull over in a safe area and wait until you feel comfortable to continue. If visibility conditions are reduced to a point that it is hard for you to see, think how hard it is for people to see you. Dress to be seen. Don't be concerned about being late; concern yourself with getting there safely. In this case, it would be appropriate to be fashionably late.

When following large trucks, your forward vision is significantly reduced, as well as the ability for drivers to see you. If you cannot see the drivers face in their mirrors, they cannot see you behind them. Stay in their line of sight. Back off and make sure you have a good view of the total environment. For smaller vehicles, look through their windshield to see down the road for obstacles. Make sure you have enough room for an escape route if needed. Scan and plan.

Be smart, see and be seen.

Practice safe riding

Gary Mandak
Chapter W Educator

From the District Trainer

Enthusiasm...It's Contagious!

Enthusiasm is contagious and we caught it at the NY District Ride In! Chapter L offered an event that was just what we enjoy—good friends, good conversation and a lot of fun.

Despite the rain and cool temperatures, our enthusiasm was re-ignited by the team-work exhibited by the members of Chapter L. Yes, enthusiasm is contagious!

Thank you to Rocco Cole, Doug Eighmey and the other folks from Chapter L for making us feel so welcomed and creating such an atmosphere of fun and enthusiasm.

Creating and maintaining enthusiasm is an extremely important aspect of leadership. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “*Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.*” Enthusiasm is crucial to the success of a leader and to the success of an organization. If you serve in any position within GWRRA whether it is as Chapter Director or as Ride Coordinator, your enthusiasm for the task ahead will spark the enthusiasm of your team members.

How do you get and keep enthusiasm? That sometimes is not an easy question. Getting enthusiasm is a little like learning to breathe. No one can tell you exactly how to do it, but without it you are in big trouble. No one but you, as a leader, can discover what ignites enthusiasm within you. However, once your enthusiasm is ignited, everyone wants and needs to get near the fire.

Enthusiasm is born on the inside. Always remember that enthusiasm comes from the inside out, not vice versa. Enthusiasm and self-motivation are interdependent. Enthusiasm provides the energy and fuel to keep people working toward their goals.

Enthusiasm grows when you focus on solutions and opportunities, not problems and circumstances. Enthusiasm with all the good things that go with it comes when you turn your eyes from the problem or circumstance and focus on finding a solution or opportunity. If you try something and it fails, “fail forward.” Pick yourself up, look at what went wrong, and go forward toward your goal.

Enthusiasm thrives around positive people. Enthusiasm is contagious, but so is negativism and pessimism. Sometimes it seems easier to believe the worst than to hope for the best. It’s even worse when you are tired, or suffered a severe setback. As a leader, it is deadly to let negativism prevail. When you feel negative thoughts, take a step back and try to re-focus on what is important to you, what ignites your enthusiasm. Remember your attitude is contagious and will affect your team and task.

Enthusiasm generates energy. Success requires enthusiasm. And success generates enthusiasm and energy to tackle even bigger tasks and challenges. Nothing feeds enthusiasm like success, and nothing can hold back enough enthusiasm.

Enthusiasm is excitement with inspiration, motivation and a pinch of creativity. Enthusiasm can empower you to do just about anything you want, but most of all it will help you do it exceptionally well. Enthusiasm is easily recognized by those around you because it seems to radiate and spread. When another finds you enthusiastic about something, it is difficult for that person not to share some of your enthusiasm.

It is said that enthusiasm springs from desire and passion. Within GWRRA, our enthusiasm springs not just from our desire or passion to possess and ride a Gold Wing or Valkyrie, it springs from the desire and passion to meet friends, have fun, ride safely and learn more.

Enthusiasm is contagious...Start an epidemic!

Dottie Bahrenburg
Northeast Region & NY District Trainer

From Your District Membership Coordinator

CDs and ACDs will find their Chapter participant listing coming in this month and in the future as well.

Again this month your most important information is the new members as well as Expiring Hot List. Please concentrate on these members, don't let them go off the list without getting in contact with them either over the phone or in person, every member we have is part of our wonderful family of friends.

Next month I anticipate that the list will reflect most if not all of our members that are currently listed as N/A due to Chapter consolidation or Zip Code reassignment will be given a Chapter even if they are far away, I designated them to the physically the closest we have in our District .

Coming from National, the only person allowed to modify their profile is the person themselves. EI: Address change, E-Mail, address , Phone # and so on. If changes are needed in this area you need to call National.

Many District, Region Directors and myself have sent out and posted letters of concern regarding the proposed changes in the membership lists. We will need to wait and see what happens when the new lists come out later. Hopefully we have made a difference.

It's very important and certainly proactive for us to manage the list at the District level and you to keep track of your Chapter participants but most important to send out your Newsletter and fun activities just by adding their E-Mail to your current list of members. Lets keep them in the Loop.

PS: If any CDs or District officers did not get our monthly listing, send us an E-Mail

Pete & Marielle St-Amour
NY District Membership Coordinator
"Every Member is Special"

From District Public Relations

Well, here it is May already-riding season is beginning-getting the bikes ready and yourself ready for riding.

I had the opportunity to attend two mall shows, Chapter F in Ithaca, NY on 5 May and Chapter N in Saratoga Springs, NY. A lot of time, effort and participation went into putting these shows together.

I spent some time with Pete and Marielle, former members of Chapter C and had the honor of helping Pete celebrate his 60th birthday. Happy Birthday, Pete.

At our last meeting, I brought up about having your insurance reviewed as most insurance companies are always offering new plans with better coverage, to include medical, accident forgiveness whether it be for a car, motorcycle, homeowners, etc. Below is an article that appeared in the local newspaper.

INSURANCE DESERVES FREQUENT REVIEW
By Vicky Katz Whitaker of the Copley News Service

“Whether you own a Honda or a horse, a Yugo or a yacht, you need to review your insurance policies at least once a year, maybe more.

With life-changing events like the birth of a child, the death of a spouse, or the simple act of purchasing a Jet Ski, you could leave yourself exposed to liability and loss if you don't keep an eye on your coverage needs, experts says.

“You may not need to make changes, but it is a good idea to evaluate what you have,” says Walter A Bell, president elect of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, and Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Insurance.

Knowing how well you are insured is another matter, points out Dr. Etti Batanoff, associated professor of insurance and finance in Virginia Commonwealth University's Risk Management

and Insurance Studies Center. Widely published and author of the industry tome, “Risk Management and Insurance,” Dr. Batanoff says the historic structure of the industry can make it tough for consumers to understand what they have and what they need.

One by-product of its evolution from a simple life insurance business 200 years ago to the splintered industry it is today, is that consumers are at a disadvantage, unable to negotiate with a single company for health, life and property coverage. What’s more, insurance is getting more and more complex, she says, prompted by external as well internal forces such as terrorism, the threat of pandemics, extreme weather, damaging effects of environmental pollutants like mold, even longevity.

How can consumers protect themselves? “Educate yourself,” Dr. Batanoff recommends.

Unless you keep your insurer informed or have a close, personal relationship with your agent, don’t count on your insurance company to automatically review your policies. And if you add onto your home, updating your insurance is a must.

:It goes against the grain to call your insurance company and volunteer to pay a higher premium, but that’s what you’ve got to do to make sure that your home is insured to its full value,” explains Senior Professional Public Adjustor Milton Marvin, a principal of Massachusetts-based Swerling Milton Winnick. “It’s especially important if you’ve purchased guaranteed replacement cost insurance, which everyone should do,” he adds.

In addition countering inflation, replacement value insurance your home from 125 percent to 150 percent of estimated replacement cost, leaving you with a “vital cushion” in a disaster.

People frequently too little insurance, says Marjorie Young, vice president of the New York City insurance brokerage firm, E.G. Bowman. “With auto insurance, many people only get the state-required minimum liability coverage,” which she warns, “can be very costly if you have an accident.” If you are at fault and someone is severely injured, you may have to pay the victim’s medical expenses, “which could be astronomical.”

Some homeowner policies in coastal areas omit hurricane wind damage coverage. Even if they don’t, homeowners could still face steep outlays, says George Yates, president of Dayton, Ritz & Osborne, a Long Island, New York insurance company. “In coastal areas, wind coverage almost always has a large deductible, 2 to 5 percent of the coverage on the dwelling.” Many homeowners fail to get flood or earthquake insurance, which are both optional, he adds.

Having someone in your corner can help. James Kane, president of Philadelphia-based HUB Personal Insurance, Ltd., a unit of Chicago-based HUB International, deals with more than 2,000 carriers to provide insurance protection for wealthy clients who get the kind of personalized insurance advice most people dream about. Kane and his associates will “quarterback” on a team of trust advisors, advise wealthy clients about insurance needs on a mega home, fine art, even travel abroad or serving on a board of directors.

Still, the concept of liability exposure is the same, he says, whether you plunk down money for a Jet Ski or for a yacht. As you expand your net worth, you increase your liability.”

Next month’s article will reveal a little more information about insurance. Don’t be afraid to call your insurance agent and request a meeting to go over your policies-it could make a lot of difference of your coverage.

Our chapter is busy getting ready for our First Annual Ribs and Wings and we hope to see a lot of you “wingers” there with your friends and family. Come out for a good time.

So, I cannot bring this article to a closure without adding my sense of humor. **For this getting on in years here is some advice:**

Q: Where can women over the age of 60 find young, sexy men, who are interested in them?

A: Try a bookstore under fiction.

Q: What can a man do while his wife is going through menopause?

A: Keep busy. If you're handy with tools, you can finish the basement. When you are done you will have a place to live.

Q: How can you increase the heart rate of your 60+-year-old husband?

A: Tell him you're pregnant.

Q: How can you avoid spotting a wrinkle every time you walk by a mirror?

A: The next time you're in front of a mirror, take off your glasses.

Q: Why should 60+-year-old people use valet parking?

A: Valets don't forget where they park your car.

Q: Is it common for 60+ year olds to have problems with short-term memory storage?

A: Storing memory is not a problem, retrieving it is a problem.

Q: As people age, do they sleep more soundly?

A: Yes, but usually in the afternoon.

Q: Where do 60+ year olds look for fashionable glasses?

A: Their foreheads.

Q: What is the most common remark made by 60+ year olds when they enter antique stores?

A: "I remember these."

Until next month, I leave this thought with you: “Life isn’t about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain.”

Linda Waterman
District Public Relations Coordinator

From the District COY Coordinators

**A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR
CHAPTER DIRECTORS, DISTRICT DIRECTORS, AND REGION DIRECTORS**

The Couple of the Year (COY) Program was established in 1988 to recognize couples for their dedication, accomplishments, and participation; couples who typify the GWRRA image of "fun, safety and knowledge." Each year couples are honored by being selected as Chapter, District, Region and International COY's. COY's are active and enthusiastic about GWRRA and committed to GWRRA ideals. COY's promote GWRRA both within the Association, helping with retention, and outside the Association, helping to attract new Members into the GWRRA "family." Thus the COY at each level should be a couple that you would be proud to have represent you and the Association. Judge them fairly; select them wisely.

Communication between you, your staff, and the COY is of paramount importance. COY's should be informed by you and your current COY of what is expected of them, and what their duties and responsibilities will be. It is helpful if this information is in writing as well as verbally explained. And timing is of the utmost importance. Be fair to your COY--give them sufficient time in each level to prepare for the next level; a minimum of three months at each level is suggested.

The COY program should be promoted as a fun event. The selection process should be as stress-free as possible. This is why we encourage you to inform your COY fully so they know what to expect. The more prepared they are to handle the events, the more fun they will have. A brunch or luncheon with just the COY's, and a social hour with the selection committee are very beneficial.

Be sure that the COY's are scored fairly. It is recommended that you utilize the standard score sheet for your level of COY competition (see Attachment 1, Forms #1-4). Appoint a COY coordinator to handle the selection process, at the Chapter, District, or Region level. You can also ask for assistance from past and present COY's.

COY's should not be pressured to go beyond their financial means. It would be appreciated if visiting COY's were invited to be "house guests" by Members and provided with complimentary meals at GWRRA functions. This is where Districts and Regions can especially offer reciprocity. When you are aware that a COY will be attending your event, provide them complimentary registration. Ask them if they would like to help--in judging events, 50/50 sales, seminars, etc.,--or if they would prefer to kick back, relax, and just socialize.

Being selected as a COY should be viewed as an honor. Recognition should be afforded COY's at all events, preferential seating provided when feasible, and placement in the front of parades arranged. Afford your current COY the opportunity to place an article in your newsletter, rally book, or the like. Include them in your media events when possible. The more positive exposure they receive, the more the program will thrive.

Participation doesn't end after the COY term has ended. Most often the COY's go on to assume various positions within GWRRA. They are enthusiastic supporters of GWRRA, and enthusiastic about remaining involved. The bottom line is, COY's are Members just like you--they are an important part of the GWRRA "family." They, like you, are "Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge."

Rich & Lois Brown
District Couple of the Year Coordinators

Around the District

Chapter G had only a slightly rainy and slightly cool kick off ride to Brooks' BBQ in Oneonta. We love Brooks so much that we joined them for the meal a ride through some snowy Cooperstown area hills.

