



GWRRA New York District

April 2008

Northeast Region



Chapter Directors

<i>Chapter C</i>	<i>Bob & Georgina Hanlon</i>
<i>Chapter D</i>	<i>Rick Reardon</i>
<i>Chapter F</i>	<i>Rich & Lois Brown</i>
<i>Chapter G</i>	<i>Pete & Marielle St. Amour</i>
<i>Chapter H</i>	<i>Garry & Shirley Sauls</i>
<i>Chapter K</i>	<i>Lawrence Showman</i>
<i>Chapter L</i>	<i>Rocco & Karen Cole</i>
<i>Chapter N</i>	<i>Gary & Donna Cork</i>
<i>Chapter R</i>	<i>Mike Hernandez</i>
<i>Chapter T</i>	<i>Bo Shapley</i>
<i>Chapter U</i>	<i>Joe & Marsha Gaworecki</i>
<i>Chapter W</i>	<i>Mike & Ginny Schelkun</i>
<i>Chapter Y</i>	<i>Jack & Donna Seeley</i>

NEW YORK DISTRICT STAFF

DISTRICT DIRECTOR
ED & DOTTIE BAHRENBURG

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTORS
PAUL AND SUZETTE WOOD
BOB & CATHY TURNER

DISTRICT EDUCATORS
Dan & Kathy Corby

Asst Educator
Tony & Michelle
VanSchaick

District Trainer
Dottie Bahrenburg

DISTRICT MAD
COORDINATORS
JOE & MARSHA GAWORECKI

DISTRICT COY
COORDINATORS
RICH & LOIS BROWN

COUPLE OF THE YEAR
RON & PATRICIA SCHROTH

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP
COORDINATOR
PETE & MARIELLE ST. AMOUR

DISTRICT PUBLIC RELATIONS
LINDA WATERMAN

DISTRICT AMBASSADOR
WILL & CAROL O'BRIEN

DISTRICT TREASURER
JACK SEELEY

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
WILL O'BRIEN

DISTRICT WEB MISTRESS
DOTTIE BAHRENBURG

NY District Website:
<http://www.gwrra-ny.org/>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MELISSA NORDEOFF

REGION DIRECTORS

LORRAINE & EARL KNIGHT

REGION EDUCATOR

KEITH & ELAINE PRICE

REGION TRAINER

PATRICIA & DON HOFFMAN

REGION MAD

KEITH & KATHY EDDY

REGION PR

MORT & RUTH SMITH

REGION MEMBERSHIP

DONNA WHEELER

REGION COY COORDINATORS

DAN & RUTHANN CAMIRE

REGION COY

DAN & RUTHANN CAMIRE

REGION CPR/FA

COORDINATORS

TIM & ANNA GRIMES

REGION WEBMASTER

TOM EVANS

REGION CHOY COORDINATOR

CLAUDETTE CYR

GWRRA homepage:
<http://www.gwrra.org>

Region Website:
<http://www.gwrra-northeastregion.org/>

News from National...

- Wing Ding 30, Greenville, SC is fast approaching. The Membership Enhancement Team is working hard to make this a Wing Ding like no other for the membership. The past several years at Opening Ceremonies, the hard work and dedication of the Chapter Directors was acknowledged by recognizing them. This year will be no exception as again we will have reserved seating for the Chapter Directors attending Opening Ceremonies. We need a count of Chapter Directors that will be attending Opening Ceremonies.
- If you are going to Wing Ding, you may be surprised to know that 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.
- If you will be at Wing Ding on Wednesday, be sure to support Dan & RuthAnn Camire, our Region Couple in the International Couple of the Year Selection.

Based on the Growth Report for GWRRA and 2008, I believe this is going to be a great year. We are at a .48% growth in membership. **We did it!!** The last time we had a positive increase was 2003. I can only attribute this to the hard work and dedication of all of you out there. **THANK YOU!!** (And thanks for making me look good! :) I know it is only January but with a start like this I know we can keep it up.

District Region	Total Membership Statistics					Household Stats		Chapter Stats		
	As of 01/01/07	This Month	Net Growth	YTD NEW	Joined / Recruited	AS OF 01/01/07	THIS MTH	FEES PD	NEW YTD	AVG# MEMBS
CT	308	313	1.62%	33	10.71%	212	215	4	1	78
DC	17	17	0.00%	2	11.76%	10	10	0	0	0
DE	195	193	(-1.03%)	17	8.72%	114	114	2	0	97
MA	692	681	(-1.59%)	51	7.37%	456	449	6	0	114
MD	989	997	0.81%	77	7.79%	578	586	9	0	111
ME	295	285	(-3.39%)	17	5.76%	198	193	4	0	71
NH	314	312	(-0.64%)	30	9.55%	209	209	5	0	62
NJ	1,016	1,017	0.10%	70	6.89%	600	607	8	0	127
NY	1,424	1,444	1.40%	89	6.25%	905	918	13	0	111
PA	2,796	2,802	0.21%	192	6.87%	1,699	1,698	24	0	117
RI	161	161	0.00%	7	4.35%	104	103	2	0	81
VT	132	134	1.52%	8	6.06%	85	85	1	0	134
Region "B"	8,339	8,356	0.20%	593	7.11%	5,170	5,187	78	1	107
USA	70,234	70,525	0.41%	5,341	7.60%	42,655	42,801	777	5	91
GWRRA	75,914	76,277	0.48%	5,934	7.82%	46,313	46,497	825	6	92

"We are listening. What is your solution?" Enjoy the Ride! -Melissa

"We are listening. What is your solution?" Enjoy the Ride! -Melissa

News from the Northeast Region

Results are in for the new Northeast Region Logo. THE WINNING ENTRY was submitted by Sam McQueeney - Connecticut, Chapter B. ****Note** (Many New York members may remember Sam McQueeney, she and her husband Skip attended the Knowledge Enhancement Program in Syracuse last fall.)

Our New Region Logo will look like this....

Region patches should be available in each District soon.



From the District Director

Reality is slowly edging in as the 75 degree temperature difference registers from what we had just 2 days ago in Florida verses this early mornings reading—ugh! But we have some great memories of fun and fellowship with the various Florida Chapters we rode with, the people we met at the Florida District Rally and our friends, Bob and Sandy Kelly, former NY H CD's who led us around Florida and showed us that there are curvy roads in Florida-if you know where to look.

It looks like the Dash for Cash project is off to a great start. We have a mail box full of requests for "points". We will get them sorted out and up on the web in a few days. Quickly, H, W, N, Y and T have all earned points. I hope I have not missed anyone here!!! Another time you can earn some points is to come to the District Ride In Picnic on Father's Day, June 15th at Union Springs. CD's. please let me know if you are attending and a rough head count by May 15th.

As the riding season gets underway, don't forget about the area's biggest Motorcycle event- Americade! We will be manning a booth under the bridge at Tour Expo again this year and we will again have the GWRRA Americade breakfast on Saturday June 7th. This year we will be at the Elks Club in Queensbury, who have promised us a great breakfast just a short 9 miles from downtown Lake George. We will be inside and there is ample asphalt parking!

The Traveling Plaque has moved. After being at NY F for way too long, NY W stole it and 5 days later, NY H has taken it. Who is going to get it next?

As you noticed above, the Northeast Region has a new logo and patches will soon be available. If you are interested in ordering a patch, please let Dottie and I know and we will get some for you. The patches should become available in May.

Ed & Dottie Bahrenburg, District Directors

RALLY NEWS

- **Possible Swap Meet:** Several times the idea of a "swap meet" of motorcycle parts and accessories has been mentioned. We have room at the hotel to hold this but need some people/chapters to volunteer to man the room to make it work. If interested in doing this please let us know.
- **Race Car Show:** There will be a RC Race car show on Friday evening, classes, rules, etc are "in process" of being developed. Stay Tuned!
- **Race Events:** In keeping with the theme for the Rally, ***The Race is On***, there will be several "race related events". At the rally you will have the opportunity to have fun and participate in two different race formats.
 1. During the first Race you will be running your own vehicles.
 - a. *Electric Radio Controlled Cars, Trucks, or Buggies Only!* No gas powered vehicles.
 - b. *3 classes will be held (if needed)*
 - i. *1/18th Scale*
 - ii. *1/12th Scale*
 - iii. *Open Class (Nothing larger than 1/8th scale allowed*



- c. *All contestants for the above race are responsible for bringing their own equipment.*
2. *An Open Race format will also be held using cars provided by the New York District.*
 - a. *Entrants for that race will race in side by side races, using an elimination style of format.*
 - b. *First one finishing advances!*
 - c. *You must stay inside the track confines at all times, no "short-cuts" will be allowed.*
3. *All proceed are to benefit New York District Rider Education.*
4. *You may enter as many times as you like and have as much fun as you possible!*
5. *Challenge your friends!*
6. *See who is "the Best"*



- **Women Only Event:** Last year our Women only Event (PJ Party) was a great success and those who attended had fun. So, there will be another women only event this year, it is the ***Redneck Woman Event.***
 - Every woman attending should plan to wear at least one item a redneck would wear.
 - "Big Hair" competition
 - Best redneck invention (group improvisation).
 - There will be some redneck games, such as bobbing for pigs feet, hub cap hurling, hoop shoot, and more.
 - And of course, fun and surprises galore!
- **Rally Book Ads :** It is not too early for your Chapter to consider placing an ad in the NY District Rally Book 2008. You will see a rally book ad form is included in this newsletter. You can send your rally ad and check to Jack Seeley by snail mail. Or, send your rally ad by email as an attachment. Of course, your check will still need to go through the mail. The form is also posted on the District website Rally page: <http://www.gwrra-ny.org/rally>
- **Brag Book or Chapter Display:** Are you proud of your Chapter? Do you have a lot of fun at events and rides? Why not let others know what you are doing? This year at the rally there will be space set aside for each Chapter to show what they are all about. This could be in terms of a Chapter Scrapbook (Brag Book), or display.
- **Rally Shirts:** Rally T-shirts and Golf Shirts (both short sleeve) are available only through "pre-order". The order form is part of the rally registration. Shirts must be ordered by July 8, 2008, to be ready for the Rally.

From the District Educator



Dan's Dribble

Spring has Sprung!!



The long awaited arrival of spring is amongst us, and if you are like me, you can't wait to get on that bike and go for a ride. Hold the horsepower a minute!! There are several things that need to get prepped before you go for your first ride of the spring.

First and foremost, the bike should get a thorough T-Clock inspection. Be especially careful of things like tire pressures, and the like. We also need to make certain that we are properly dressed for the weather, as this time of year, things can change rapidly. That early morning ride may be much colder than you anticipated. Is there frost or ice that you need to be aware of? What about those dreaded April showers?? Is your rain-suit prepped and ready to go? Did you happen to think to use a product like Nik-Wax or the like to enhance the waterproofing? Do you have enough layers of clothing to keep you warm, yet still be able to remove them as the day warms up? These are the thing that you need to do to get the bike and your equipment ready.

Next and equally important is the mental and physical preparation. If you are like most of us, we have managed to put on some of that winter weight (you know the stuff), perhaps it is time to shed some of that extra burden. One thing that many of us probably don't realize is that riding IS exercise, so we can use that to our advantage. Physically we need to be prepared, but what about mentally? This time of the year, we need to be especially sharp, since the cage drivers have not seen us for awhile. That means that we need to watch out for them, since they really aren't watching for us. We need to be especially wary of their actions, since to them, we don't yet exist. Are they looking directly at you? Even if they are, you need to assume that they still don't realize that you are there. Remember to scan, predict and plan your next action!! OK, you see the vehicle sitting there, waiting to make a left turn. Are they going to pull out right in front of you? What will you do if that happens? These are the type of things that we need to be mentally prepared for. Have you practiced your panic stops? What about the obstacle swerves? If something comes rolling out into the road directly in front of you, will you have the knowledge and ability to execute an emergency move?

This is exactly the things that rider education teaches us! So this time of the year is the perfect time to get out and become actively involved in rider education. Take a rider course, or MSF course, or Road Captain, or any other approved course.

Just remember that each and every time that you lead a ride, you are not only responsible for the safety of yourself and your co-rider, but you are responsible for the safety of the entire group. If you make a wrong move, you can endanger the entire group. Go out, get educated and know that you are the best rider that you can be!!!

See you on the first ride!!

Have Fun, Get Educated, Ride Safely!!

Dan Corby, NY District Rider Educator

ASST. DISTRICT DIRECTORS

VARIETY

GWRRA chapters are made up of people. While that may be obvious, you need to remember that all people have likes, dislikes, and busy schedules. A healthy Chapter makes allowances for this by providing a variety of activities.

The ride schedule is a major part of each Chapter. It should include many different types of rides to accommodate as many Chapter participants as possible. Weeknight dessert/dinner rides, ice cream only rides, weekend day rides, weekend dinner rides, overnight trips, destination rides (museums, air shows, etc...), and visiting other Chapters are all examples of the variety of rides that could be offered.. Not everyone will participate in all of these rides, but each type of ride could be someone's favorite.

The best ideas will come from inside your Chapter. Your job as an Officer is to provide a format to allow open discussion of these ideas, a time when this is the only topic on the agenda. Such meetings should be scheduled in a way to allow plenty of time for discussion. A good place for this is the meeting where you set up the years ride schedule. Make sure as many people as possible are in attendance so ideas can be refined quickly. Mutual discussion usually means mutual satisfaction. It is a lot of fun to watch the concept for a ride or trip take on a life of it's own.

Having something for everyone is not always an easy task, but it can go a long way toward growing a Chapter.

Paul Wood, Assistant District Director

From Leadership Training

Building Rapport with Different Personalities

We've all been there... A prior Chapter Director's personality and way of doing things is different than the current Chapter Director and his/her staff and he/she just doesn't want things to change from the way things were done in the past. When it comes to personalities, no one clicks with every person on earth - that's what makes interactions so interesting and sometimes frustrating.

You can count on the fact that during the course of your tenure as a GWRRA volunteer leader you'll meet people with a wide range of personalities, including several that push your buttons. To work effectively, efficiently, and enjoyably, you can learn how to create positive or neutral interactions with personalities that would otherwise drive you into raging maniac mode. Needless to say, this can be a lot harder than you imagine.

Below are three types of personality types with whom many people have a tough time relating:

The Power Junkie - at every meeting, this person tries to take control and power from the Chapter Director that he/she perceives as threatening to his/her stature. Wanting to be the top dog and to be seen as the most knowledgeable, the power junkie will interrupt, squelch ideas and intimidate others. Generally, the power junkie just wants recognition for his/her talents and acts out based on insecurity. By acknowledging this person's expertise in a specific area and seeking his/her opinion, you'll help quell his/her fears of appearing stupid or not having his/her expertise recognized. Don't retreat from communicating your suggestions simply to placate this person, but don't be so attached to being right that you end up in a power struggle with a power junkie - no one really wins.

The Withholder - Also insecure about power, the withholder doesn't share information that will benefit the Chapter, even though it may ultimately benefit him. The reasoning behind this action may be to hang on to perceived power, to make him/her look better, or to test your abilities and trust in him. Pay attention to the "red flags" you are receiving, clarifying what you're able to do and what is not possible, given the information you've received. List all the information you need to ensure a successful outcome, or be clear about what outcome is possible with the information you have.

The eager puppy - So enthusiastic about the Chapter, the eager puppy jumps in the way too prematurely. While his/her vivacity is refreshing, it can be contagious. Before you know it, meeting participants have agreed on a solution to a question or problem without examining or knowing the full story or assessing the outcome. Solutions have sprung from ideas and opinions, not informed research. Needless to say, the result is a solution that doesn't fit the problem, leading to an unhappy Chapter member or members. Whenever the conversation veers off from the key point of the meeting, lasso everyone back in. You could say, "That's a topic we may have to cover during our next staff meeting. For now, let's work on the purpose of the Chapter gathering, to ensure that we address the key reason we're here today." If it looks like the members are getting out of control, step in and ask a question to halt this common meeting phenomenon. For example, "Before we even start talking about an online newsletter as the answer here, do we know if all of the members have online access? What do we know right now that will help us identify realistic next steps?"

We all need to remember that we are all here to have FUN and our Chapter members are our first priority. Set differences of opinions aside and you will see your Chapter grow. So, if you have a member that just doesn't want to accept your opinions and ideas, ask them to attend your next staff meeting to discuss your differences. Do not discuss the differences at your Chapter gathering.

Patricia and Don Hoffmann
Region Trainers

From District Public Relations

SHHHHHH! I think I hear spring just coming around the corner. Yeah-riding season is coming and I know there are a lot of you out there that are just itching to get on those two wheels and ride.

I would like to introduce to the District, Jim and Marcia Masters, members of Chapter H out of Buffalo. Jim is the Public Relations Coordinator for his Chapter and has been working hard at getting the word out about GWRRA and his Chapter. So, I asked him to write a PR article for me to include in the District Newsletter. Below is his article:

"Fellow riders, my wife and I have been GWRRA Chapter H members for a little over 5 years and have found the group to be like extended family. We have learned so much from them regarding motorcycling and safety, but at the same time have enjoyed fellowship which is unsurpassed. A couple years back I was asked to represent the group as the Public Relations Officer. I thought Oh Boy, another iron in the fire! Like I don't have enough to do already with young children, a demanding career, and church commitments. Anyways, I took on the challenge and have enjoyed dabbling with promoting the club and what it stands for. The first thing I did was start telling people about the Chapter. There would be some that would come to a dessert ride or the monthly gathering for brunch and the meeting. Some would take interest and others would just pass through. I then did a little research to see what avenues were available to get the word out. The media outlets in our area are local radio stations and newspapers. There are a two radio stations that have talk shows that bring in guests to discuss topics of community and human interest. They do an hour program with an interview and open the phone lines for discussion. I took down the number and right after a show, I telephoned the host and asked if he would be interested in doing a show about motorcycle safety and Chapter H. He was curious, and our safety officers did the show, it was a great program. The local newspaper has a community page and often they feature groups

or organizations that have an interest to the community. I emailed the editor and explained what the group is and what we do. I got a phone call about a week later from a reporter and we discussed the group. After a few minutes the reporter asked if she could do a public interest story and get a photo for a front-page story. My first thought was to try to get the article in sometime in April to promote motorcycle awareness month in May, but we have to take what we can get when we can get it. One of the radio stations I contacted wanted a fee to broadcast which may be an option at some point, but right now I think anything we can get to put the word out is great. **Be persistent and keep trying.** I had approached the newspaper 3 or 4 times in the last two years and finally got a good ear. To all you PRC's (Public Relations Coordinators): **Try all outlets, be persistent and be positive.** Enjoy a safe and fun 2008 riding season!"

Here is the article that appeared in the local newspaper-and they got front page. Congratulations to Jim and Marcia on an excellent job and to Chapter H as a whole. I have attended a Chapter H meeting and they do welcome you and they are a friendly group. They realized too late never ask if I have anything to say. ☺

This is the time of the year when everyone is getting the calendars annotated with all the rides, events, rallies that are coming up. Chapter G will be doing a mall show on May 4 and I hope to attend it this year. Americade is around the corner. Some of the chapters have a Tech Day scheduled-I know Chapter C has their Tech Day scheduled for April 27 at Nick and Gail's house in Baldwinsville.

Speaking of Chapter C, they had their Pot Luck Dinner at Nick and Gail's. Dennis and Marsha brought along a new couple, Larry and Colleen Springer. They have a new wing. Dominic and his wife, Carol were there as well. It is always nice to see old face and to welcome new ones.

Now for a little humor: *People will believe anything if you whisper it.*

I'd like to leave you with this thought: *If we did the things we are capable of, we would astound ourselves. Thomas Edison.*

*Linda L. Waterman
District Public Relations*

Traveling Plaque

The Traveling Plaque is on the move after staying at Chapter F throughout the long winter months. Chapter W captured the plaque on Saturday, March 15. Chapter W also receives 1 point for Dash for Cash!



Chapter W hardly had a chance to see the plaque when Chapter H came and captured it from them on March 20! Chapter H also receives a point for Dash for Cash!

Now who will capture it next?

Dash for Cash

New York Y is adding up points in the Dash for Cash. Here Chapter Y is visiting NY F!



Chapter N is now on the chart we a point for visiting Chapter G.



Chapter T scored a point for visiting Chapter D. (picture)

Dates to Keep in Mind

2008

May	4	NY G Mall Show
May	18	NY Y Mall Show
June	7	Americade Breakfast
June	15	Picnic for Points – NY District Ride In, Union Springs
June	21	Delaware District Ride In
July	3 – 6	Wing Ding XXX, Greenville, SC
July	17-19	New England Rally, Rutland, VT
July	31-Aug 2	New Jersey Rolling Hills Rally, Mt. Olive, NJ
August	7-9	The Race is On to the New York District Rally, Newark
August	21-23	Pennsylvania District Rally, Johnstown, PA