



GWRRRA New York District

January 2010

Northeast Region



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Melissa Eason

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

Mike & Nancy Mandell

Region CPR/FA Coordinators

Tim & Anna Grimes

Region Webmaster

Tom Evans

Region ChOY Coordinator

Claudette Cyr

GWRRRA homepage:

<http://www.gwrra.org>

Region Website:

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

Chapter Directors

<i>Chapter C</i>	<i>Nick & Gail Habel</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>Doug & Linda Eighmey</i>
<i>Chapter N</i>	<i>Gary & Donna Cork</i>
<i>Chapter R</i>	<i>Mike Hernandez</i>
<i>Chapter T</i>	<i>Al & Linda Yerdon</i>
<i>Chapter U</i>	<i>Joe & Marsha Gaworecki</i>
<i>Chapter W</i>	<i>Mike & Ginny Schelkun</i>
<i>Chapter Y</i>	<i>Roland & Katrina Teribury</i>

NEW YORK DISTRICT STAFF

District Director

Paul & Suzette wood

Asst. District Directors

Bob & Cathy Turner
Rocco & Karen Cole

District Educators

Al & Emily Stahl

Asst Educator

TBA

District Leadership Trainer

Jack and Donna Seeley

District MAD Coordinators

TBA

District Coy Coordinators

TBA

Couple of the Year

Bob & Sandy Kelley

District Membership

Coordinator

Pete & Marielle St. Amour

District Public Relations

Linda Waterman

District Treasurer

Nancy Schaal

Newsletter Editor

Phil coons

District Web Mistress

Suzette Wood

NY District Website:

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

News from National...

Dear Member,

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association, in cooperation with Baker Strategy Group, is asking for your help. Please click www.gwrrasurvey.com to complete this important survey. The survey results will be used to learn more about our Members and help us create better programs. The results of the survey will be shared in a later issue of *Wing World*.

All surveys are anonymous.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Melissa Eason
Executive Director.

From the District Director

Hello GWRRA NY,

Although I am not a fan of the January weather here in western New York, I do enjoy the calm after the storm of the December holiday season.

A new year has arrived, and will likely pass by even faster than the last one did. In order to make the most of 2010, we need to start planning our GWRRA activities now. Hopefully your Chapter holds a ride schedule-planning meeting during the winter.

2010 promises to be a great year for GWRRA in New York. We are planning increased activity in the Leadership Training and Rider Education areas. Enhancements to the Dash for Cash program are also in the works. The new interactive District calendar will help Chapters plan visitations.

Even though we are in winter's early stages, there are GWRRA activities going on. The Maryland District is holding its Winter Thing Rally on Jan. 7-9. Our NY District Staff meeting is on Jan. 16, and you can find the flyers in this newsletter. Assistant District Directors Bob & Cathy Turner and Chapter K are hosting the GWRRA booth at the International Motorcycle Show at the Javits Center on Jan. 22-24.

We plan to take pictures of all Staff members at the District meeting. Please wear your vests and any other GWRRA apparel that you have. We plan to use the pictures on our NY District Staff display board at the Bi-State Rally.

Final sign off and collection of Chapter year-end financial paperwork will also occur at the District meeting. You will need to bring the Financial Report Cover Sheet, year end Financial Report, end of year bank statement, and Equipment Report.

There appears to be demand for vest patches from our members. The District can help you. Contact us with what you want, and we will help you get it. We have a supply of 10 inch red "griffon" back patches and red "New York" 10-inch bottom rockers on hand.

See you on the 16th!

Paul & Suzette Wood
GWRRA NY District Directors
gwranydd@gmail.com

From the District Educator



A New Year and so much to accomplish

So here we are in 2010 and I know everyone made lots of New Year's resolutions. I hope as GWRRA members, rider education will be near the top. January is the perfect time to plan your 2010 rider education calendars.



Here are the NY District current planning calendars.

Weekend of April 24th 25th, eastern NY, Chapters N and G will do a road captains course and Medic First aid/CPR course in Wilton, NY, near Saratoga Springs. Weekend of May 22nd 23rd, Chapter U will do similar courses in the Jamestown area. Lastly, not completely scheduled, we will do similar courses in the center of the state.

Next at Americade, June 7th through 12th we will be doing Trike Courses again. I also understand the MSF ERC course will be available after the problems last year.

Next, Wing Ding all courses will be available.

Lastly, August 5th through the 8th in Bridgewater, NJ we will be providing the trike course, the ARC and hopefully a trailering course.

If this isn't enough, if any group can get at least 6 people together, I and some other educators will provide the training you request.

So, the only requirement from fellow GWRRA members is to schedule a few hours to save your life. Can you ask for anything more in the New Year? Oh and all this will be at no cost. Yes you need to pay a signup fee, but it will be refunded after successfully completing the course. The only exception is the Medic First Aid/CPR Courses.

Come on everyone give me a really good excuse for not getting the tools for your ride. I guarantee it will be even better than chrome.

Lastly in our beautiful winter, please everyone, remember to **DRESS FOR THE CONDITIONS.**

Your Rider Educator, Al Stahl

astahl@nycap.rr.com

518-587-2420 (H) 518-598-8981 (C)

From the District Leadership Trainer



Charitable Fundraising. . . With the Proper Perspective

By David and Kathy Orr - Directors, Leadership Training Division

Many of us in our great Association are using this time of year to reach out to those less fortunate. The willingness and ability to help those in need is one of the greatest gifts we can offer one another, not only as motorcyclists but as human beings. Most organized religions in the world today teach that there is no greater example of love than to help the helpless and those less fortunate than us. We commend those in GWRRA who reach out and assist those in need.

While the example and commitment of helping people in need is commendable and necessary, the issue of fundraising as it relates to our Association needs to be discussed. GWRRA neither encourages nor discourages Chapters, Districts or Regions to participate in fundraising events. It is up to the individual group to decide to participate in these activities. However, we should consider the following as it relates to fundraising and our membership in GWRRA.

First of all, how much time and commitment is being asked of our members to raise money or goods for a charitable organization? The question is something Directors at every level should be asking. It is especially worrisome if Chapter Directors in GWRRA are spending a large portion of their Chapters money and time working to either raise funds for these organizations and/or volunteering their Chapter members to work at these events. Remember our motto, "Friends for FUN, Safety and Knowledge." There is no mention of fundraising in our motto; it is a motto that describes what our association stands for. Members usually join GWRRA to find friends to ride their motorcycles with and to have FUN. In a lot of instances, fundraising is real work, and since it is for a good cause, some members are hesitant to object or ever say anything. They don't want to be branded as unloving or uncaring for those less fortunate. So we ask, did you join GWRRA to spend most of your time at Chapter events or rallies to work and raise money? We didn't and from what we hear as we travel to GWRRA events across the country, this is not what our members joined for either. Recently we were at a rally and while sitting in a common area where refreshments were being enjoyed by attendees who were sitting and visiting, we were approached by no less than five different individuals wishing to sell up raffle tickets or solicit money for charities. While the organizations were legitimate and the efforts by these individuals were sincere, quite frankly it was a bit much for us.

The number one complaint from the members is that they are constantly being bombarded to give money or work for some charitable organization. Increasingly more members are telling GWRRA Customer Service that they feel as if every event they attend, whether it is a monthly gathering, a rally, or even in some cases a ride, they are asked for money. GWRRA is not a fundraising arm for any charitable organization and neither does GWRRA receive their tax exempt status due to raising money for any organization. The IRS recognizes GWRRA as "Not for Profit". Our tax exempt status

exists due to our providing our members with training and benefits that fall under the "Not for Profit" status. Fundraising has no effect on our tax exempt status.

In conclusion, let's make sure the idea of fundraising is put in its proper place in GWRRA. Is it wrong to raise money for a deserving charitable organization? Of course not! The intent of this article is to help everyone to understand how it should work in GWRRA. Plus, we need to listen to what our members want, and what they don't want. The members are telling us they do not want to be bombarded at every event, or quite frankly, be hounded for money. We suggest inviting members to participate in one or two events a year, yet keeping fundraising in its proper perspective. Fundraising put in its proper order of importance, is a very valuable goal and something members should voluntarily participate in but they should be respected should they decline. The goal for our members must be giving them opportunities to ride, visit friends, learn things that are helpful, and most of all have FUN.

We encourage you to examine the fundraising goals in your Chapter, District, and Region. Has your worthwhile fundraising effort to help a charitable organization replaced the main reason your members joined GWRRA? Remember, what the members want is, "Friends for FUN, Safety and Knowledge? Let's get back to basics and have some FUN!

Enjoy your day,

Jack Seeley

GWRRA - NY District Trainer

E-Mail: pedlesjack@aol.com

From the Region MED Coordinators - Donna & Joe Wheeler

Hi everyone,

We can't believe its December already, where did 2009 go? We had a wonderful year, riding this beautiful country that we live in and we also got to ride (with our own bike) on 6 different Caribbean islands this spring. We went to different rallies this year, either with our bike or with the RV carrying our bike. We haven't yet decided on our travels for 2010, so you never know where we will show up.

We only have one more month until we get another full area report, I would like to show National that we as the Northeast Region can have all the unassigned zip codes updated and off the books. To the districts that are up to date, HURRAH to you again for a great year. For the few districts that need to do this update, delegate this to your ME Coordinator and let them tackle this project. Once you have completed this task, it will be an easy task for next year. If you don't have a MEC, now is a great opportunity to find a special person that would take the burden off you as a District Director. If you are a new District Director, which we have had during the past few months, just let us know and we can walk you through the process, it's not very hard. You can also let your Chapter Directors help you out with the unassigned zip codes; they are the ones who know their area the best. How do you change the unassigned zip codes? Every month, when you get the unassigned zip codes place the chapter letter next to the zip code. You may forward this to me or you may also forward it to Deena Shaw at dshaw@gwrra.org . Let us get the unassigned zip codes up to date as a region before the new year. Let us swamp Deena with all these zip codes again so it will be a breeze as we start a brand new year.

Starting January 1, 2010, I will need the information that is described below sent to me monthly, so I can forward them to National.

Area Report List (ARL) Revisions for 2010

The Membership Enhancement Coordinators main purpose is the Retention of Members.

In order to provide a method for Chapter Directors and/or Chapter Membership Enhancement Coordinators to record and report Members they have contacted, three new columns have been added to the right side of the Area Report List. These columns were added to the NEW, PROSPECTIVE, EXPIRING and EXPIRED listings. These new columns are labeled CONTACTED – YES/NO, DATE CONTACTED, and COMMENTS. After contacting Members and completing the columns, the information is to be forwarded back to the Region Membership Enhancement Coordinator with a copy to the District Membership Enhancement Coordinator.

Once the contact information is received from the Chapters, we as the Region Membership Enhancement Coordinator will submit a monthly report to the Membership Enhancement Division Director. The information on EXPIRED Members will be used by the Executive Director and Staff to identify areas within GWRRA that may need to be modified or areas where new programs are needed to help Retain Members.

It is recommended that EXPIRING Members be contacted during the month they actually expire. If Members are contacted too early, they may put off renewing as they feel they have more time or they may be more prone to forget. It is recommended to call instead of emailing the Members. In many instances emails are not received, deleted, or simply not read. Emails offer no personal feedback. Personal contacts are recommended, especially when contacting EXPIRED Members.

Joe and I want to thank everyone for a great year. 2010 will be another great year to travel and meet old and new members. Hope to see you out there on the road.

Donna & Joe Wheeler
Region MED Coordinators

From District Public Relations

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

We are now getting into that time when we make resolutions and promises to change our life, behavior, lose weight, save more money, etc. Granted all of these are important to us and our family. I believe there is one thing that we can do that will improve every aspect of our lives and it is called ACTIVE LISTENING. You are probably asking what is she talking about-active listening-I listen. Do you really listen to what is being said or do you think you are? I was reading an interesting article on listening and it definitely opened up my ears and mind. Did you ever wonder why we were given 2 ears and one mouth? An understanding of this part of our physical make-up doesn't make it any easier to practice listening more than we speak. How many times have you been sitting at a meeting, and hear someone talking to another while the guest speaker is talking. Where did your attention go? I know where mine goes. How many times has your mind wandered while in church, meeting, listening to your kids, husband, best friend, etc. I caught myself doing just that very thing at Christmas Eve services while the

minister was giving his sermon. I immediately brought my mind back to that moment in time. It is easy fall into this kind of behavior of wanting to be heard. There is so much noise and information about everybody and everything else going on around us 24/7 we begin to feel lost in our connection to humanity and ourselves. All we each want is to be heard, being able to express our feelings, our pain, or our joy and know that it is OK to feel our feelings. We don't always want someone to try and solve our challenges, we just someone to LISTEN. Listening is an art and in this form creates awareness for that particular individual who is speaking to us. A non-judgmental and caring listener can create a sense of peace. Whether we are walking in the woods, along the street, at a meeting with others or sitting in a quiet space listening to our breath, let's begin to really listen and experience something deeper than we have ever realized.

I would like to express our sympathy to Rocco and Karen Cole, Assistant DD, on the loss of Karen's father just recently.

Reminder of the District Staff Meeting in Syracuse, NY on 16 January. Bring your listening ears.

So, in closing, I would like to say to everyone within the District-HAPPY NEW YEAR and practice becoming an active listener.

Linda L. Waterman
Public Relations Coordinator



NY District Meeting Hotel List

Econo Lodge

5396 S Bay Rd
Syracuse, NY 13212
315-454-9027

Candlewood Suites Airport Hotel

5414 S Bay Rd
Syracuse, NY 13212
315-454-8999

Holiday Inn Express Syracuse Airport

5418 SOUTH BAY ROAD
SYRACUSE, NY 13212
315-454-0999

Red Carpet Inn

2914 Brewerton Road
North Syracuse, New York 13212
315-454-3266

Best Western Syracuse Airport Inn

Col Eileen Collins Blvd
Syracuse, NY 13212
315-455-7362

Budget Inn

901 S Bay Rd
Syracuse, NY 13212
315-458-3510

Interactive Map of North Syracuse, NY

Hotels Things To Do Restaurants

SORT BY: Popularity | **Price** | **Name** [REFINE](#)

Price Range: **All** Hotel Class: **All**

Neighborhood: **All**

1	Best Western Syracuse... class ★★☆☆☆	\$85 Check Rates »
2	Candlewood Suites Syracuse... class ★★☆☆☆	\$86 Check Rates »
3	Comfort Inn & Suites class ★★☆☆☆	\$83 Check Rates »
4	United Inn class ★★☆☆☆	\$89 Check Rates »
5	Econo Lodge Inn and Suites class ★★☆☆☆	\$68 Check Rates »
6	Red Carpet Inn class ★☆☆☆☆	\$46 Check Rates »

