

Region Directors Ramblings



Steve

It is with mixed emotion that I sit here typing what will be my last newsletter article as your Region Director. After about 135 monthly articles (I remember 7 months where we did not issue a newsletter – this includes the three years we were Region Trainers) it never became what I would call easy to decide what the article should contain. I found that by sitting down in front of the key board and doing what I call rambling worked best for me. You always want it to be informative, articulate and provide a benefit to the members. I hope that these objectives were met.

The Region is, as with most groups, not run by an individual but rather by a team. Sandy and I have been extremely blessed with having a team (staff) of members that always stepped forward, accomplished what was needed and asked to do more. This is what made it such a pleasure for us to be your Directors. I do not have the vocabulary that would adequately express all the feelings we hold for these individuals. All we can say is thank you - thank you.

On a personal note we have benefited in our personal life by making friends that will last a lifetime. This is a part that is often over looked but is, in our opinion, the biggest benefit of our association.

January 1st Mike and Peggy Hudnell will officially become your Region Directors and we are proud that we are able to leave the Region in such capable hands. We sincerely hope that you will

support them in the coming years with the same willingness and commitment that all gave so willingly to Sandy and me.

Our Association is being challenged with the task of meeting the needs of the members. In this light our National, Region, District and Chapter officers are working hard to provide members their ever changing needs. They say that the only constant is change and to meet this situation many changes are being made to our Association. It is incumbent upon us, the members, to embrace these changes and insure that they are indeed what needs to be done. This can only be accomplished if you, the members, step forward and do two things. The first is to be verbal; are these changes beneficial, and second to come forward with your suggestions on what is needed. Too often good ideas die before their time because someone hesitates to present them for consideration. So speak up, do not be bashful and by all means step forward to accept a position in our Association. Please believe me that you will not regret it but rather benefit in so many ways.

The magic time of year is approaching. In the Henicks household the Christmas season is the best time of year. While we really enjoy decorating the house inside and out, the change in attitude by people is the best by far. The smiles, the greeting of Merry Christmas and the gatherings with family and friends is very special. We would like to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas. Our great hope is that the season will find all healthy and happy. May all your travels be safe ones.



Assistant Region I Directors

Yes, it is Thanksgiving but the snow is here.

Ride Safe & we will see you down the road.

Sandy

“You say Good-Bye, While we say Hello”

While it is now time to say Good-Bye as your Region I Directors, it is time to say Hello to being Just a Member (JAM). It has been 8 years since we have been Just a Member and while we are sure this will not last long as we truly believe you have more fun when you are involved. As a matter of fact I (Sandy) have already volunteered us help at next year’s Region I Convention.

After we spent 3 years in California with not much if any involvement in GWRRA, we returned to Idaho in October 2000 and in March of 2001 we were approached to be Assistant District Directors for Idaho and, of course, we said yes and the rest is history as they say.

We leave you in the excellent hands of Mike & Peggy Hudnell and their staff. We know you will be well taken care of.

So as the Beatles song goes:

“You say Good-Bye, while we say Hello”.

Keep the Sunnyside up and we hope to see you this summer.

**Steve & Sandy Henicksman
Region I Directors**

*Merry
Christmas*



How do you spell relief?

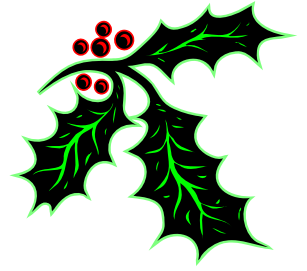
I bet I know what is on the mind of some of you! You probably have just about every commercial jingle you can think of running through your head. But I know two people who are most likely saying just thirty one more days and not only can we spell relief we can enjoy it as well. The transition for Steve and Sandy has long been coming. Not just from their time as our Region Directors but from all the other positions they have volunteered for the past nine years. I for one am not sorry they volunteered because we, Peggy and I, got to know them a lot better and had the privilege to serve with them on their Region Core Team. We shared lots of ideas, tried our best to plan fun events but in the end Steve and Sandy carried the brunt of the workload. So with the coming of December 31st I am sure they will raise a glass and toast each other on a job well done. At least I hope they do because they have earned it.

I know we have said thank you to them on a couple of occasions but my Christmas wish for this year is that you join me in once again saying thank you for their time, hard work and most of all their friendship. I know all of us that have worked with them, shared fun times with them or ridden with them know the quality friends that they are. The best thing is that they are not going away; they are just taking some time to relax. At least I thought so until Sandy volunteered them to handle vendors at the 2011 Region convention. Once you see the smiles on people’s faces having fun, it’s hard not to keep making the good times happen. I bet that this small task will be very easy for them.

Since I have mentioned the 2011 Region Convention I want to share with you that we are very close to an agreement with a school in Driggs, Idaho for our place to meet. We are waiting patiently and I hope we can confirm this location for you very soon. The riding around there is fantastic and the scenery is even better. I would like to share that since we are traveling to the center of the Region for the Montana District event I am going to move our event to the 4th, 5th and 6th of August so we can reduce travel costs as well as your rally costs. I hope to have a great deal more to tell you about it in the January newsletter.

So, just 31 more days until relief is spelled out in six little letters. It comes in the form of a rocker that reads FORMER on it. How sweet is it going to be to have that rocker on your vests and know you did an outstanding job for the membership as their Region I Director! The Directors I have given it to in the past have all had smiles upon their faces so can anyone tell me why Steve and Sandy started smiling in Tillamook? I just want to you both to know you're awesome and you can't hide because we know where you live!

Mike and Peggy Hudnell
Assistant Region I Directors (for 31 more days)



Tales Of The Dragon



Hello Fellow Riders.

We need your help to get the word out to all the Chapters, Chapter Educators and the General Membership to make this a success. The more instructors we have to help cover our regions the better we can serve the membership with rider course training. What a great way to help keep all our friends safe. We know there are some great people that would really enjoy doing this. It is hard work but the rewards make it all worthwhile. If you know of someone that has what it takes to become a GWRRA instructor, please pass this information on to them. If you have any questions please contact Tim or Lee.

A note from Tim Mitchell:

To All:

Please pass the following information to all Chapter Members:

Do you have members that can talk in front of a group? Are they considered a good rider? Would you like this person to teach GWRRA motorcycle rider courses? If you know that special someone then please provide this email to them!

The Region I Educator and I are in the process of gathering a list of potential Members who desire to become certified Advanced Rider Course (ARC) Rider Course Instructors through the GWRRA Rider



Region I Educators

Course Instructor Certification Program (RCICP) this coming spring of 2011. Facilities will be located in Washington State.

This is a four day course of instruction to become a GWRRA Certified Rider Course Instructor and is necessary should you want to become certified to instruct the Trike Rider Course (TRC), Trailing Course (TC) or SideCar Course (SRC) through the Instructor Certification Program (ICP).

A RCICP Registration Form and GWRRA Rider Course Instructor Certification process information is [attached] - see web site "gwrra.org" and "Rider Education" tab. Interested members: please complete the registration form N13a and send it to me at the address below by 1 Jan 2011. If at that time we have enough interest then we'll conduct the course. We need the minimum of 8 registrants for the RCICP. If any members have questions please have them call or email me at my contact information below.

Important note: There will be additional emails to those who express a desire for more information.

Tim Mitchell
PO Box 323
Naples, ID 83847

Region I Instructor Coordinator
Idaho District Educator
208-290-8395 cell
208-267-1209 after 6pm
pigseyes53@yahoo.com

We need more instructors throughout our region in order to cover the rising WANT for rider courses from our members. Below are some good reasons to take a course.

“Why Should I Take a Rider Course?”

This question is one that many of us find easy to answer. What we may not understand is why anyone would need to ask it. There are some riders in each of our chapters that choose not to participate in an instructed Rider Course. Let's examine this and try to understand why, and look at what a Rider Course can do for you.

“Some may say, “I’ve been riding for years. I don’t need to take a class.” Others will boast about the miles they have accumulated on two wheels and ask “what can they teach me?” Have you ever tried to persuade someone with that attitude that a Rider Course might help them be an even better rider? Their position can be so negative and so strongly put that you don’t want to talk to them about the benefits of rider training. Sometimes, people hide their self doubt behind a curtain of confidence and bluster. Is it possible to have all the knowledge and skill necessary to avoid any accident? Well, if one chooses not to ride very far or very often, then perhaps it is possible. But I wouldn’t want to bet *my* life on it!

“Do you remember a single season in your riding career without at least one close call or near miss due to another motorist’s driving behavior? How about a single *month*? If you ride around the state or across the country, you expose yourself to many different situations that require anticipation of all the possible actions of other drivers. You have to be prepared to counter with the proper response – *whatever their action* – and do it in a split second! A motorcycle Rider Course helps prepare you mentally and physically to execute the kinds of maneuvers called for by a driver’s unexpected actions. We look upon these classes as an opportunity to learn and improve our riding skills in a safe environment.

“The instructors are trained to spot the little techniques during range exercises that riders tend to forget to employ on the road. They provide reminders to all students in a positive manner. Their trained eyes and constructive comments are geared to put each of us on the path to being the safest riders we can be. This can help with your attitude and performance on the road. Being reminded of the best techniques to execute different skills does not hurt at all. It is painless. The practice and coaching helps to improve our skills, whether we never knew the technique to use, or just need the occasional reminder. Hey, who doesn’t appreciate a reminder from time to time? Especially when it is about something you want to do correctly and safely, but may have just forgotten the best method.

“In athletic training we are taught that practice makes perfect. And when you practice something you enjoy doing, it’s just a lot of fun! Practicing

motorcycle riding maneuvers in a closed parking lot with someone else (the instructors) monitoring the range to protect the riders from outside hazards helps you focus your attention on the task at hand – becoming a better rider!

“On another level, taking a Rider Course will help you qualify for advancement in the Rider Education Levels Program, to Level II or above, or keep you current in your present level. And there is one more thing to remember about *all* GWRRA Rider Course offerings. Nobody fails! Everyone who completes the course receives a course completion card. There are no minimum performance requirements. You are asked to push yourself to improve your abilities. You won’t get better at it if you don’t try. Sign up for a Rider Course today. You will thank yourself later!

Ride Smart & Be Safe!

Bruce & Melissa Thayer
Former MI Asst. District Rider Educators”

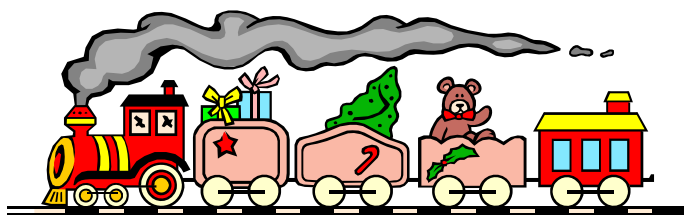
Remember:

Ride-Em SAFE!!!

And Have Fun!!!

Lee & Anna Nelson

Region I Rider Educators



Region I Trainers



“What’d ya know!”

We hope that you celebrated Thanksgiving with family and with those friends you cherish – We did! Now John is shoveling snow every one to three days, instead of working in his exercise room, to remove all those turkey, gravy, dressing, potatoes, squash, cranberries, fruit salad, and pie pounds that showed up on his normally “lean and mean” body...Now it is time to shop, wrap, mail, travel and eat again this month. John and Dianne know that we have soooo much to be thankful for and some of that thankfulness is our GWRRA friends and their associations. Thank you! It’s a lot of what our friends, fun, safety and knowledge are all about.

This month there are four (4) important GWRRA areas that the directors need to attend to beside the Christmas rush and stress.

Last month (November 3rd) we sent the Directors in Region I an e-mail requesting the names and home towns of the members in their districts that still or will require an Officer Certification Program (OCP) Class completion. This is necessary to complete the “Officer Change/Appointment” form as we start the 2011 year. Your information was to be sent to the upcoming Region I Directors, Mike and Peggy Hudnell and to us. To date, we have only received information from Don and Sharon Webber. We need your information soon so that we can start our planning for the Region I Training in 2011 and to finalize the Training Budget for 2011 that Mike has requested of all of the Region’s Core Team Members. **Thanking you in advance!**

Secondly what about OCP Updates? During the Region I expanded Officer and Support Team meeting in Boise on October 23rd, all District Directors and other attendees received the 2010 OCP updates. By now you have all presented these Updates to the Chapter Directors and your appropriate Core Team Members. We sent you the OCP Update Class Roster blank forms. We have not received copies of those Update class rosters yet and we need those ASAP so that the Region's Training records are up to date, i.e. "it's our job – it's what we do." **Remember: a member is only a Certified Officer if they have successfully completed an OCP Class and obtained a yearly OCP update.**

The Idaho and Oregon Districts need District Trainers to complete their Core Teams and to provide GWRRA Training "at the local level", i.e. less travel time and expense. Please search your brains and think about the folks in those Districts you think would or might be suited for those positions. District Directors should also request information from the chapters in their Districts and all Directors are hereby encouraged to identify potential candidates. We will do the all the rest of the work to solicit, explain the task, and vet these members with the particular District Directors and the Region Director. Any one in any District is also encouraged to help us and identify potential Trainers in these two Districts. We look forward to hearing from several of you and/or the members in your Districts.

Almost as a "P.S.", the OCP Update at the Boise Region Leadership meeting, stressed the importance and the "how" for each IRS "Subordinate" (Chapters, Districts, Regions) in the U.S. GW Association to file the IRS Form 990N, a.k.a. "e-PostCard" for Fiscal/Calendar Year 2010. It's just one more thing to add to your "To Do" list.

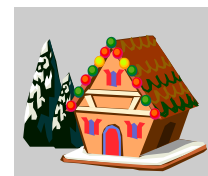
Have a warm and marvelous and meaningful December season. "See you" next month.

Ride safe & have fun,

**John & Dianne Kester
Region I Trainers**



Couple of the Year Coordinators



Hello from the AZ portion for Region I.

We attended the Wyoming District Meeting on October 30th. We encouraged them to work hard on not scheduling their Convention as to conflicting with another District. Time will tell if they can achieve this. We performed the oath of office for Jane Datisman, the Wyoming Trainer, during the OCP update session.

We took a break from cleaning and painting for a bike ride to attend AZ-R's chili feed on November 6th. The Chili Fest was a great success. They had 108 people signed in. The Chili was great. Everyone got to go through the line once as they cut it pretty close on chili and a couple pots that were expected failed to materialize. They had a fantastic White Elephant exchange. Ben Weber was the MC and his special sense of humor made it a laughter-filled event. We got to talk to many of the people we met on our visits as Region Couple. Shirley won the poker hand with a full house and netted \$47. On November 20th, we attended the Chapter AZ-R gathering. They had 45 members attending and 21 of us went on a ride to Gila Bend after breakfast.

This next year the opportunity of some lucky couple being selected as our Region Couple is not looking good. We encourage all District Directors to make it a point to your Chapter Directors that this is

important to you. For your information, and I'm sure it doesn't come as a surprise, it's important to the Region Staff.

Shirley and Dale will be attending the Chapter gatherings in our area and inviting them to come to your District Conventions and our Region Convention next summer. We'd like to present them with a complimentary registration for each convention, but we wouldn't do that without your approval. So let us know if we can print a registration to give them. Who knows, we might stir up some interest for attendance.

Dale and Shirley Dufner Region I Couple of the Year Coordinators



A Note -or two- From Dianne



Holiday Best Wishes Disclaimer

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low-stress, non-addictive, gender neutral, celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice, or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all.

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally

fulfilling, and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2011, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make America great (not to imply that America is necessarily greater than any other country or is the only "AMERICA" in the western hemisphere), and without regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religious faith, or sexual preference of the wishee.

By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms:

- This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal.
- It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting.
- It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her/himself or others, and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher.

This wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year, or until the issuance of a subsequent holiday greeting, whichever comes first, and warranty is limited to replacement of this wish or issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher,

Andrew J. J. Delehanty.
Happy Holidays!

Seriously though:

The Region Core Team wishes all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy 2011.



Important News

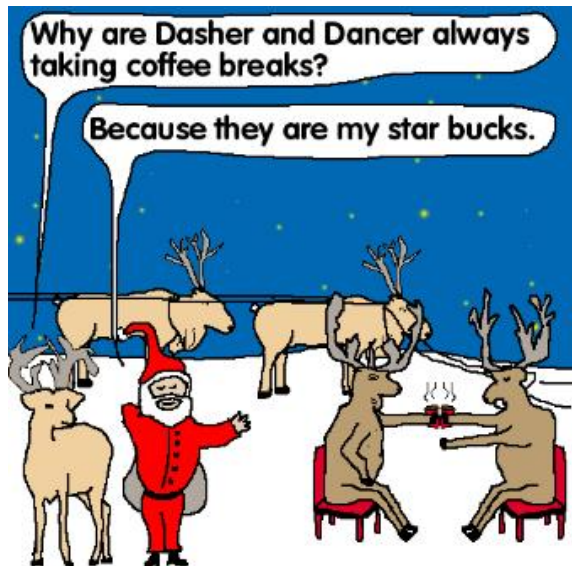
This will be my last Region Newsletter. Dale & Shirley Dufner will be taking over these duties in January. I am sure they will do a great job in relaying all your articles to the Region readers and are looking forward to it. So please send your articles to them at: Shirley Hansen-Dufner [shirl2000@comcast.net].

I will miss being the Region Newsletter Editor and putting all those silly jokes in “A Note-or Two-From Dianne” but John & I will continue to be the Region I Trainers. I appreciate all your help in making this a happy experience. Thanks!

Thanks too, Steve and Sandy, for a job well done!

See you down the road.

Dianne Kester
“Retired” Region I Newsletter Editor



And

