

Wing Wisdom

Inside this issue:

From The Director's Chair	1-2
The Curriculum Corner	3
3rd Quarter Reports Due	3
Facing Your Challenges	4
Seminar Tools & Resources	4
By The Book	5
Training Calendar	6
International Staff Listing	6

From the Director's Chair

Timing is everything. How many times have we heard those words? It applies to sports, job hunting, shopping, and just about anything else you can think of. But one of my favorites is planning. You see, if you wait too long to plan, you don't leave enough time for executing and then all of the time you spent planning ends up being wasted. Therefore, timing is absolutely critical in planning.

With that as our premise, let's take a look at when we should start planning for next year's training activities. A little basic questioning would be appropriate right about now. Oh, you are asking "what is basic questioning?" Here are the basic questions --- Who? What? Where? When? And Why?

1. Who is our audience?
2. What types of training do we deliver?
3. Where do we conduct this training?
4. When do we hold training classes?
5. Why do we train at all?

Once we answer each of these questions, we'll know when we have to start the planning process and what types of activities we need to complete in order to plan effectively.

1. We have two audiences. The first one we were created to serve is the officer corps of GWRRA. These are the officers that are already in place, and those that we must help to put in place. The second audience is the general membership. Even though they were not our first assignment, they are just as important to the survival of GWRRA and we are 100% committed to serving them. The LTD curriculum as been expanded to better serve them it and it will continue to be expanded over the next few years with subjects that the members tell us they want to see. A couple of examples are: seminars on Web Site design, How to use a GPS, Using MS Word, Using MS Excel, etc.

2. We train officers in skills that they need to be more effective leaders of their chapters/districts/regions. We train members in everyday skills that will improve their quality of life and increase their "fun quotient".

3. We deliver the officer oriented training as close to the chapters as we can efficiently get. That is, we minimize the officers travel time as much as practicable by gathering staffs from two, three or even four chapters together and holding seminars.

(continued on Page 2)



From the Director's Chair *(continued)*

If even two can't be gathered due to very large distances, we hold individual chapter training sessions. We deliver general member training at Rallies for the most part, but that doesn't mean that we can't hold a day or half-day session of seminars in a geographically central spot that is convenient for several chapters.

4. Now here is where the timing questions comes into play. We deliver officer training outside of the usual riding season and not during the rally season. Why? Because the officers are too busy working to put the rallies on! That is why the attendance at the LTD seminars aimed at training officers were so poorly attended for so many years. But the seminars geared toward the general membership should be given at rallies when they are in attendance and looking for fun things to see, do, and learn. Keep that in mind when you are practicing to deliver your favorite seminar. If your kids, spouse or dog walk out of the room because they are bored, you really need to perk up your presentation. (You all do practice, don't you?)

5. And last, but certainly not least, the reason that we train is quite simple and straightforward--- all of our members deserve the best. That is, the best officers to run the administrative side of this organization and the best fun activities to enjoy with their friends. It is a proven fact that trained officers are better at running any organization and it is also a fact that there is no such thing as too much fun. So we train officers and potential officers so that they can do a better job of serving the members by providing fun, fun and more fun. And while they are doing that in front of the members, they are working behind the scenes to keep the GWRRA engine running smoothly.

So what does all this have to do with timing? Take another look at the "What" and the "When." Now think about how far in advance you schedule events in your own lives and accept the fact that even if you don't plan very far in advance, many of our members do. Keep in mind that many of our members must forecast or select their vacation weeks by the beginning of the fourth quarter of the preceding year. Oops, that's now! So if we want to serve our members, we must support their timetable, not our own. Right now, today, is the time to plan next year's training schedule. Now is the time to set up those Saturday Seminar Round-ups or those District Fun Shops or whatever term you like to use in your region. And it is almost too late to plan for a Springtime Horizons Program – almost but not completely if you do it quickly and advertise it big time. The Operations folks are already busy with the preliminary plans for next year's rallies so this would be a good time to put in your requests for time slots to deliver general member oriented seminars.

Please take some time over the next week or so and put together a formal plan for your Region/District. Once you have them polished and prepared, please share them with us by Oct 15th. If any of you would like an example to use as a guide, feel free to send us an e-mail and we'll send you one or two from our archives. In that same vein, if any of you has a format that you have used before and wish to share, please forward it to us and we'll make general distribution. None of us has a corner on the "good idea market" so let's share our knowledge and double our power.

Until next month, let us leave you with this axiom: *People don't plan to fail, but many fail to plan.*

Best Regards,

CJ & Bo Karcanes



*Discovery consists
of seeing what
everybody has
seen and thinking
what nobody else
has thought.*

- Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

The Curriculum Corner

This month I'd like to take a few minutes to talk about a subject that has come up again and again; the idea of modifying the seminars found in the LTD Curriculum. I have been asked many times, "Can I change the slides in 'this or that' seminar?" The short answer is **yes**, but for those of you that don't know me very well, I can't just give a short answer.

One of the most wonderful things about LTD is that we get to teach (or if you prefer, we get to give seminars). Standing in front of a group is very energizing and stimulating. It is also very scary and intimidating for many people. It is for that reason that I believe very strongly that our instructors must be allowed to modify the presentation materials to suit their delivery styles and personal tastes. If you are like me and like to insert a bit of humor, you might find your hands tied with a presentation that makes no attempt at humor. On the other hand, if you are uncomfortable with telling jokes or poking fun at yourself (remember, as instructors we never poke fun at others, only at ourselves), you would struggle with a presentation that directs you to tell a joke or some other type of quip. I encourage each of you to take the time and effort to "personalize" every seminar that you deliver to whatever degree makes you comfortable and happy.

When I compiled last year's Update, I made every file a "Read Only" file. (Did I say every file? How silly of me, as we all know I must have slipped on one or two.) Anyway, the point is that I didn't make them "read only" so that you couldn't change them, but rather so that you'd have to make a re-named copy of the file in order to make your personal changes. In this way, even though you have personalized your seminar, you still have a clean copy of the official seminar to make reference too. I really don't care how much you depart from the original, just as long as you maintain the message and get all of the points across to your audience.

I have learned after some 30 years of training and public speaking that the more of myself I put into my presentation, the more I believe in the message. The more I believe in the message, the more the audience will believe me. Give this philosophy a try, and see if it doesn't work for you as well.

'Til next month, stay happy and keep training,

CJ Karcanes
Curriculum Coordinator



*Tough times
never last,
people do.*

- Robert Schuller

3rd Quarter Training Reports Due

The region training reports covering training between July 2005 – September 2005 are due to CJ Karcanes by October 10th. District Trainers: Please forward details to your Region Trainers by October 5th, so the details can be compiled and forwarded in a timely manner. For details about the report, reference page 45 of your *Trainer's Handbook*.

Facing Your Challenges

A few goals (otherwise disguised as resolutions) will soon be made for 2006. Many of them will involve facing fears and overcoming challenges. Will you set yourself up for success or failure? Hopefully, you've considered the challenges and provided yourself some stepping stones to achieve mini-successes on the way to those final goals.

Keep in mind that goals need to:

1. Be realistic (so you work toward their completion)
2. Have deadlines (to provide a target)
3. Have pulling power (to help you stretch a little for something worthwhile)
4. Be measurable (to provide feedback regarding progress)
5. Be written down (to add accountability)



As you know, you can run but you cannot hide from challenges. Go ahead and take on the difficult tasks. Raise yourself to a new level of experience, strength and effectiveness. Take the initiative. Make the challenges yours rather than waiting for them to make you their slave.

The sooner you choose to really challenge yourself, and to face any difficult tasks that must be done, the better. When you break them down into more manageable tasks and face the challenges them head on, you're in a much better position than you'd be had those challenges forced themselves upon you.

Good luck as you start planning for success!

Amy Peterson
Region E Trainer

Seminar Tools and Resources

People learn and consider ideas in different ways. The more senses we can engage in our message, the more information will be retained. As you prepare for your seminars, consider your audience and how you will bring the information to life for them.

Franklin Covey's *Brain Training for Teams* activity cards can provide some small or large group activities that you could tailor to emphasize learning points in your seminars. You may want to have a couple options for activities with you and choose the best one based on the participants' learning styles, background, time frame available, etc. [Read through them ahead of time to assemble supplies as needed!]

Another resource that offers a number of activities and thought-provoking concepts is Michael Michalko's book entitled *Thinkertoys – A Handbook of Business Creativity for the 90's*. The combination of pictures, discussion, and other activities mixed with anecdotes and examples can help lead your seminar participants to new ideas and unique insights.

If there are other tools or activities you would like to share with the other Instructors and Trainers, please call or e-mail Amy Peterson at your earliest convenience.

**Keep your fears
to yourself,
but share
your inspiration
with others.**

**- Robert Louis
Stevenson**

By The Book

The “By The Book” articles are intended to help familiarize Volunteer Leaders and GWRRA Members with the guidelines, policies, procedures, and information contained in the GWRRA Officer’s Guidebook.

RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Recognition Program consists of three basic levels. Recruits are counted based on “headcount.” The Friend-Finder Member will receive credit for the number of actual people recruited. For example, when a Member recruits a family of six, that is recorded as six.

The first level of The Recognition Program is the **Find-A-Friend Council**. To qualify for this level a Member must have from 1-25 new GWRRA Members recorded by the GWRRA Home Office in his or her own name. In addition, members are awarded hanger bars for each 5 additional members recruited.

The second level of The Recognition Program is the **Hall of Honor**. To qualify for this level, a Member must have from 26-100 new GWRRA Members recorded by the GWRRA Home Office in his or her own name. As each Member newly achieves the **Hall of Honor** status, he or she will receive a congratulatory phone call from his or her Regional Director and/or District Director, a letter from Home Office including a special certificate, and a special pin. There will also be a listing of new **Hall of Honor** members printed in *Wing World*, as well as a new listing as part of the GWRRA web site.

The third level of The Recognition Program is the **Hall of Fame**. To qualify for this level, a Member must have more than 100 new GWRRA Members recorded by the GWRRA Home Office in his or her own name. When a Member achieves the **Hall of Fame** status, he or she will receive a congratulatory phone call from GWRRA’s Executive Director and his or her Regional Director, a handsome **Hall of Fame** jacket, and a special pin and patch. In addition, the Member’s name and photograph will become a permanent part of the new **Hall of Fame** gallery at Home Office honoring those who have achieved this special ranking. There will also be a listing of **Hall of Fame** members printed in *Wing World*, as well as a new listing as part of the GWRRA web site.

RECRUITER OF THE YEAR. Travel and lodging for the top recruiter and their spouse will be provided to Wing Ding. The top recruiter will also be invited to enjoy Opening and Closing Ceremonies at Wing Ding from a special VIP section. The top recruiter will be introduced and their achievements acknowledged during one of the ceremonies. The Recruiter of the Year will be profiled in *Wing World*.

REWARDS PROGRAM. The Rewards Program offers a FREE renewal for every 3 memberships recruited, with a maximum of 3 free years. A certificate is automatically sent to the recruiting member to use with their next renewal. Life Members may use the certificate for Wing Ding registration or purchases from the Goodie section of *Wing World*. Recruiting information is maintained in the Home Office database. Recruiting totals are also distributed on the monthly Area Reports. For inquiries about the Find-A-Friend program or to verify information, call toll free (800) 843-9460. In Arizona, call (623) 581-2500. Inquiries and verifications are also welcomed by email at customerservice@gwrra.org.

Harry Dollarhide
Region H Assistant Director

*Dreams are what
get you started.
Discipline is what
keeps you going.*

- Jim Ryan



Training Calendar

Thank you to Regions H, D and E for your updates this past month. Please add amysescape@aol.com to your e-mail distribution lists so your events can be publicized here and sent to the International Office website. (We'd also like to continue to share your thoughts and articles with the rest of the LTD team!)



October 2005

10/06-10/07: Showing & Judging Your Bike and Getting the Most For Your Membership seminars at the Region E Rally in Des Moines, IA. Contact Amy Peterson at 763-783-1851 or amysescape@aol.com.

10/15-16: Horizon Program in Midland, MI (Region D). Contact Bob & Carolyn Wisniewski at hondabob@chartermi.net.

10/29-10/30: Horizon Program in Beaumont, TX (Region H). Contact John Simonick at gwrratxtrainer@msn.com

November 2005

11/05-11/06: Horizon Program in Des Moines, IA (Region E). Contact Amy Peterson at 763-783-1851 or amysescape@aol.com.

11/05-11/06: Horizon Program in Conroe, TX (Region H). Contact John Simonick at gwrratxtrainer@msn.com.

11/05-11/06: Horizon Program in Bippus, IN (Region D). Contact Susan & Mike Jennings at smjennings@skynet.net.

11/13-11/14: Horizon Program in Hamilton, OH (Region D). Contact Joe & Stormee Lupo at wolf52@fuse.net.

11/19-20: Horizon Program in Morrilton, AK. (Region H). Contact Mel McKay at 501-796-0130 or melmckay@yahoo.com

March 2006

3/24-3/26: Fun Shop in Binghamton, NY (Region B). Contact Dottie & Ed Bahrenburg at wingin-it@stny.rr.com.

*If you don't take
control of your life,
don't complain
when others do.*

*- Beth Mende
Conny*

International LTD Staff Listing

International Directors:

CJ and Bo Karcanes
336-374-6455
karcanes@surry.net

Newsletter Editor:

Amy Peterson
763-783-1851
amysescape@aol.com