

# ***Gold Wing Road Riders Association***



***Rider Education Division***

**Educator Training Program**

**Gold Wing Road Riders Association  
Educator Training Program**

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# Gold Wing Road Riders Association Educator Training Program

## INTRODUCTION

While there are many documents available describing the Rider Education Program, there is nothing written with the express goal of acting as a “how-to” manual for an Officer interested in promoting the Rider Education Program. There is a need for more information on how to be an effective Educator and that is what this is intended to provide you. There is a need for a more “behind the scenes” information on how to recognize and implement the multiple options available to an Educator and tailor these resources to the personality and flavor of your particular office, be it Chapter, District and or Region Educator.

Let’s be honest, the program starts at the Chapter level. This is the heart of the program. As the Chapter goes, so goes the program. In saying this, the information that will follow is geared more toward the Chapter Educator. However, all Officers in the GWRRA can use this information and tailor a program for the membership in Rider Education.

There are many programs and materials available for you the Educator. We embrace the MSF programs, the ESC Sidecar program, the CSC programs and our own GWRRA programs.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) MRC:RSS and ERC/2-Up Courses  
Evergreen Safety Council Sidecar (ESC) Training Program (S/TEP)

GWRRA provides the following:

Rider Education Program (REP) Manual	Top Gunn Program	Co-Rider Seminar Video
Trailerling Rider Course	Co-Rider Seminar	Turning & Braking Seminar Video
Trike Rider Course	Trailerling Seminar	Trailerling Seminar Video
Parking Lot Practice Guide	Trike Seminar (under development)	Slow Ride Video
Road Captain Course	Team/Group Riding Seminar	
Field Events Manual	Team/Group Riding Manual	

It should be our goal as Officers in GWRRA to promote and improve the safety habits of our membership. After all, it is part of our motto “*Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge*”.

Safety is for Life,

Bob & Sue Lorenz  
National Director, Rider Education

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### CHAPTER EDUCATOR ROLE

Whether you are new to this office or you have been an Educator in the past, you will most likely agree that there are always things that we can each learn which reduce the riding risks of our chapters and ourselves. That's what the Chapter Educator position is all about. Like any other position in a volunteer organization, the Chapter Educator Office can be as challenging and rewarding as you make it.

Promotion of safe riding habits will often entail trying to convince others to change their riding styles and preconceptions in the interest of personal and group safety, resulting in risk reduction. We all have a lot of pride in our style of riding and our riding ability. Hearing that you need to change your style can be difficult to accept.

**A successful Educator will find that there is a fine line within the chapter where Education meets Diplomacy.** One must establish respect from their peers in order to get their message across. You are an Educator, not an Enforcer; in other words, we are not the Rider Ed police. The message you send should be one of concern for others and acting as a provider of information. It is critical that we be informative, even instructional, but never dictatorial, condescending or judgmental.

**Leading by example, through presentation and through one-on-one interaction with your members** are the three basic methods to successfully promote safety, education and risk reduction. Remember, all eyes are watching your every move. Just move your motorcycle from one parking place to another without proper gear or a helmet on and experience the reaction.

***Credibility is the name of the game:*** When presenting a seminar or a safety talk at a Chapter meeting, if a question is asked and you don't know the answer, don't make one up. Tell that person that you don't know, but will find out and get back to them. *And get back to them.* There is nothing worse than promising a member a response and then avoiding the issue later.

***Actions speak louder than words:*** Where have we heard that before? Members do look to us as examples of the Rider Education Program, for better or worse. If we are to talk the talk, we must walk the walk. Will we send a message of Uncompromising Safety or one of "Do as I say, not as I do"?

***Council/Mentor:*** If you have a safety problem with a member, please take that person off to the side and council them. Approach the member with the utmost tact and concern for their feelings. Don't bring their riding style or habits up before the chapter. Addressing these issues in a safety talk or a newsletter article without mentioning any person by name can sometimes resolve the issue before you need to talk to that individual. This is why the articles and safety talks are an essential part of the Educators role.

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## **Educator Training Program**

### **What The Rider Education Program Is All About**

The GWRRA Rider Education Program is intended to make the motorcycle environment safer by increasing motorcyclist skill and safety awareness, to reduce injuries and fatalities, to help in lowering our risks and, as a result, increase our riding enjoyment. We don't have all of the answers. We do, however, have a close working relationship with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) and can draw upon the additional GWRRA programs and studies, which provide a wealth of information for our use in establishing a comprehensive Rider Education Program.

### **What we can accomplish.**

- Increased rider knowledge and safety skills
- Prevention of accidents
- Reduced injuries and fatalities
- Improved general public image of motorcyclists
- Enhanced enjoyment of motorcycle riding

What are your rider education goals for the Chapter? How does the Rider Education Program figure in? It is the Chapter Educator who makes this program work. But you must have goals established and a plan to implement these at the beginning of each year. Some educators look at the program as a powerful tool to protect their friends and loved ones as we ride down the road.

We can help develop the members riding skills and can easily save a life. Does this happen over night? No, practice is needed and experience developed over time. Sometimes help is not requested. Keep offering, as you could easily save someone's life. It is often hard to break through someone's ego, but the end result is well worth the effort. There are few sports as unforgiving as the one that we participate in. If you recognize a way to help a fellow rider, take advantage of a moment and make the time to bring this up with them.

Promoting and elevating the members riding skills within a chapter not only protects them, but also acts to protect you when you're riding with that group.

### **Educator Responsibilities:**

Following are the general duties of the Chapter Educator:

- Promote and implement the Rider Education Program at the Chapter level.
- Promote and participate in such activities that will expand the Rider Education Program. These should include speaking at Chapter Gatherings and furnishing articles for the Chapter Newsletter concerning safety.
- Develop ideas to increase participation and improve communication in the Chapter.
- Maintain such records as necessary to facilitate keeping Chapter participants current in the REP.

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- Promote and arrange for CPR, First Aid and Riding courses at the Chapter level. Ensure that information regarding scheduled courses is published in the Chapter Newsletter.
- Work closely with the District Educator. Review any ideas that will help make the Rider Education Program more appealing to the Members of GWRRA with the Chapter Director and the District Educator.
- Work with the Chapter Director, Road Captains, Motorcycle Safety Foundation Instructors, etc. to improve riding habits and to disseminate information.
- Validate and/or process forms for Levels I through IV of the REP for the participants as they meet the requirements of the program.
- Lead by example by becoming and maintaining Level IV in the REP and always wearing proper protective riding apparel whenever operating a motorcycle.
- Assist the District Educator in staffing the Rider Education Booth at rallies and fund raising events as needed.
- Submit a monthly activity report to the District Educator. (See Section 5.3 - Rider Education Monthly Reports.)
- Objectively observe and critique Chapter riding habits in a manner that will produce positive results.

The Rider Education Program must be administered fairly and equally to all, which means that as a Chapter Educator, you are responsible for completing the Rider Education Program applications and verifying that your Chapter Members have fulfilled all the requirements. However, try not to get hung up on the rules of the program or the concept/perception that we are “selling patches.” The patches and pins are there as recognition of the accomplishments of the Riders and Co-Riders. It is the accomplishments that make your chapter members safer, not the patches. If you have someone who is upset about not making the requirements for a level in the program, explain it in terms of promoting the safety and training of the chapter. If there is still a problem, contact your District Educator for help. We need to keep the Members happy and interested in the program in order for them to get involved. You need to find that fine line between Diplomacy and Education.

You are responsible for all paperwork that pertains to the Chapter Members in the Rider Education Program. You should file a copy of all paperwork and be able to hand it down to the next Educator who will take your place. If one is not available at the time, then the Chapter Director should receive it. This also should include any and all correspondence with your fellow officers, both District and Region. Your REP handbook, Training Manual and any pins and patches that are in your possession should also be handed over at this time.

You should be setting up an ERC, CPR, FA, Co-Rider Seminar, Group Riding, Road Captain Course, etc. for your Chapter Members. Keep them involved. Have a poster to hang on wall at Chapter functions to allow members to see where they are at, what is due to be renewed, etc. Make it fun.

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Give Me 5 Program, the key to it all. Present a 5-minute safety talk at each meeting. If you are unable to attend a meeting, ask someone who is qualified to take your place for that meeting. Don't speak about the same thing you printed in the newsletter that same month. Keep it interesting. You may have a few riders who need help on riding with the group. Do a talk on lane positioning or write an article on the same. Don't mention their names.

District Rallies need your assistance at the Rider Education Table. It is part of your duties as an Educator. What a great way to meet new Members and induct them into the REP. It will also help you to fill out paper work, issue pins and patches and work with your fellow Educators. At Wing Ding's, you can work side-by-side with the National and Regional Officers. There is much to learn and if you are dedicated to the safety aspect of this sport, then you will be more than willing to step up to the plate.

### **Whose Staff Am I On**

We hear this question a lot. The Chapter Educator is part of the Chapter Director's Staff and reports to the CD. As the Chapter Director goes, so goes the Educator. In other words, if your Director steps down, you step down also. The new Chapter Director may ask that you remain in the position and then a new MOU will be required. This must then be sent to your District Educator showing the new Chapter Director's name and signature. Yes, as with any set of duties comes a little paper work.

And speaking about paper work, a new Educator is required to fill out an Officer Application, KLE and a MOU. Your District Educator usually handles this, gives you the test (KLE) and sends paperwork in to the Regional and National Staff and keeps a copy for their office.

**The Educator and the Director must work as a Team along with the other Chapter Staff members.** As a Team you can set goals and agendas for the year. **If for some reason you can't make a meeting, you might ask that the Director or one of their staff conduct the safety talk for that particular meeting.** Working together can accomplish much. We will get into more of this later.

As a new Educator, the outgoing officer should hand you the Rider Education Program handbook (REP), this Training Manual, all paperwork on Rider Education Levels within the Chapter that have been issued, any and all CPR/FA courses that have been completed and or are scheduled, patches and pins, etc. that the Chapter has on hand. You should also have a general overall view of where the Chapter is in regards to the Education Program. Getting started on the right foot is important and these things need to happen to ensure that the quality of the program continue on with a new Educator.

You might also confer with the Director on who your replacement will be. That's right, a replacement. You should be training a replacement as soon as you come into office. What better way to have someone else take over after you step down? And yes, it will happen. A year or two down the road you are ready to move on, the Chapter won't miss

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a beat because there is an established assistant. You will have someone who the Chapter has looked up to also, and they will have full knowledge of the REP.

So, let's look at the Staff again. A Chapter Educator works with and reports to his Chapter Director. An Assistant Educator should be considered or at least someone identified who would be willing to step in when you leave. The Chapter Educator works with the District Educator and reports out on how many members in the Chapter took any courses, seminars or listened to a chapter talk for that month.

### **Planning**

You are part of the Chapter Staff. You should be attending the Staff meetings prior to a scheduled monthly Chapter meeting to discuss what your agenda will be, what you will talk about at the meeting and what article you will be writing in the monthly newsletter. Don't make the mistake of writing an article and then talking about the same thing at the meeting. Unless you are going to expand on that article, most members, if not all will have already read the article and will find your repeating it boring.

By preparing before hand, you give yourself the opportunity to look relaxed, know your subject and have the confidence to answer any questions. However, if you don't know an answer, tell that person you don't know and get back with them in a reasonable amount of time with the correct answer. There is nothing worse than avoiding a members question. It affects your relationship with the Chapter as a qualified Officer in the Rider Education Program.

### **Reporting**

**Reporting is a requirement not an option.** Reports should start with your Chapter Director and then be sent on to your District Educator. You should be working hand in hand with both.

Let's make this easy. Reporting sounds like work, but it can be easy if you follow these steps. At each meeting there is usually a sign-up sheet for both members and visitors. You give your safety talk and once meeting is over, count how many signed in and call, write, e-mail or fax this number to your District Educator. This should be done each and every month.

For example, there were 31 people at a Chapter meeting and you gave a 5 minute safety talk, had a CPR/FA course that month and 7 attended and 6 couples took an ERC 2up course. You would compile those numbers (talks – 31, CPR/FA – 7, ERC – 12; total – 49) and send this information to your District Educator at the end of the month. Also, when standing before the membership, ask if there is anyone who took a course that you don't know about. There are many work places that offer CPR/FA for their employee's and unless you ask, you don't know.

Now the best way to report all of this is to use our handy GWRRA Rider Education Activity Report form. The reporting categories are printed on the Activity Report, which is in your REP manual. Simply fill in the numbers. Send the original to your District

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Educator and make copies to keep in your files. Suggestion: Have this form with you at each Chapter meeting and fill it out there. Now, how much time did that take?

### **In Summary**

- The Chapter Educators role is to promote safe riding habits through education.
- We must be a leader, lead by example and, above all, work harmoniously with the chapter members.
- You are on the Chapter Director's Staff as an Officer.
- Your duties entail your monthly reports to the District, the Give Me 5 Program, setting up CPR/FA classes, MSF classes, various seminars and workshops involving the Rider Education Program.
- Support the program by working the Rider Education Table at your District Rally, Region Rally and Wing Ding.
- Encourage members participation in the REP Levels program and filling out the paper work and submitting it through the proper channels.
- Identify and train an assistant to take your place as part of your Officer Tenure. Remember, if you don't know an answer, tell that person you don't know, but will find out and get back to them. Your credibility is everything. There are no dumb questions. If you are not sure, ask. We are here for you.

### **PRESENTATIONS & TOPICS**

#### **GIVE ME 5 PROGRAM**

What exactly is the "Give Me 5 Program"? A few years back some of us got together to talk about the Educators role within the Chapter and how to get the message out. Someone said, " why can't they have at least five minutes to talk on safety at the meeting" and the Program was started.

Does that mean you only have five minutes? Not at all, but be careful not to run-on. This is where your planning comes in. You should already know what subject you will be talking on prior to the meeting. Be concise, be accurate and be informative.

What to talk about? There are many topics, just know your source. If you are not sure about a topic or a statement in the topic, call your District Educator and asked what he or she thinks. There are numerous web sites listed on the GWRRA, NHSTA, MSF and motorcycle magazine home pages. Twelve meetings a month times the number of articles available and you could never run out of topics.

When addressing your audience, be sure of yourself, plant both feet and look out into the audience. Talk as though you are speaking to one and all. The Chapter will look forward to your talks.

If you start your program off with, "I have to do this" you have the wrong attitude. If you are looking forward to the presentation, it will show in your delivery.

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### **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

You should be writing an article a month for your Chapter newsletter. As with the talk at your meeting, there are a variety of topics to write about. You might want to address a problem that the Chapter is experiencing. It could be lane positioning, coming on and off an expressway or parking in a group. Whatever the problem, this may be the time to address it. Don't single anyone out, address it as a group.

Include information about upcoming rider education events. You could include information regarding available training programs. Maybe there is a news release regarding a recall or some new feature for the bike. Don't simply assume that every member reads every magazine or has access to information that you have.

You should be receiving newsletters from other chapters in your District. Share the knowledge, you will never run out of topics. Other educators write some very good articles. Make certain you recognize the source of the information. If you are not receiving other newsletters, ask your Chapter Director for them. He or she is getting them and can pass them along to you.

Always include your newsletter distribution count in your Activity Report to District each month.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL SEMINARS**

There are several GWRRA instructional seminars available. These are presented either in video format or can be formally presented by an educator or special speaker. GWRRA is interested in making certain that these seminars are presented consistently and with a level of quality that ensures the quality of the program.

For this reason, the Seminar Presenters Certification Program was established. This program requires all potential seminar presenters to attend and complete a training program designed to provide a complete and thorough basis for our seminars. For this reason, seminars presented live should only be presented by certified members. These seminars should only be presented using approved seminar outlines available from your District/Regional Educators.

The video seminars available are the Co-Rider, Trailering, Turning & Braking and the Slow Ride seminars. These videos will take from 20 minutes to 1 hour depending on the subject. These are great to use at chapter meetings and gatherings and have often been used at rallies and other events.

Some have questioned the validity of the Co-Rider Video indicating that this is out of date. Not True! The principles and techniques coached in this video are consistent with almost any motorcycle, and the process of teaching a co-rider to work as a team member with the rider is constant and not bike dependent.

The Co-Rider Seminar or Video is the only presentation that assists in the advancement of the member in the REP Levels Program.

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Other seminars available include the Group Riding, Road Captains Course and Trike Seminar (in development). At our rallies and functions many special seminars are provided as well. Encourage our members to participate in any and all.

### **PLP, SKILLS DAY, SAFETY SUNDAY**

Call it what you want, but get the membership involved and make it fun. Most riders enjoy a riding course with other folks they know. They seem to feel less intimidated. Some are the other way. They would rather practice on their own or with another group. Whatever, the idea is to get them to practice their skills and have fun doing it.

Parking Lot Practice (PLP) is a defined set of exercises in a booklet that can be ordered through GWRRA for free. This is the only PLP that is endorsed by GWRRA. The booklet contains all of the information necessary to set up a PLP and provides feedback for the members that will assist them. Do not coach or instruct the members. Even if you are an MSF instructor this is not an MSF course.

Many of us have developed annual skills day events. These have been developed around riding exercises, seminars, bike inspections and CPR/First Aid training sessions or renewal challenges. Keep in mind that these should not be competitive events but should be fun. You can certainly use the PLP as a guideline for the exercises.

These programs are designed to allow Riders to practice and hone their skills and work in conjunction but do not take the place of an MSF course. You can't advance and or renew in your level's program with these with one exception. If you are in a remote section of the country and travel to a MSF site is out of the question, you may use the GWRRA PLP. However, you must contact your Regional Educator and receive permission to use this program in this way.

### **FIELD EVENTS & TOP GUNN**

These are both programs that the Educator can and should help with at their District, Regional and Wing Ding events. As always, it takes a number of members to put these exercises on and the more help, the merrier. Why put on these events? Well, competition makes for practice and what better way to have a Rider practice than on a parking lot rather than the highways and by-ways.

Field Events can be fun. GWRRA has a pamphlet that lays out several events and exercises for 1-Up, 2-Up, trailering and sidecar. You can set up your own exercises as well, but don't get carried away. Jumping 4X4's and reaching up to eat a hot dog can be dangerous. Common sense should and must be used. If you are to have a timed event, make it a slow time event. Use a stop box at the end of a timed run with penalty points for not stopping. We don't want a racetrack atmosphere on the range.

*Note: You can use a PLP for a Field Event. What better way to get a Rider to practice some skilled exercises?*

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Top Gunn is broken down into 3 skill groups, Beginner, Intermediate and Expert, for the exercises. There is a complete pamphlet out on Top Gunn and made available to the Educators. Be prepared, this range takes a lot of time to set up. You will need 8 to 10 people to mark range. The Top Gunn exercises are designed to test basic riding skills. There should be no exercise that is too difficult but you must maintain control. Don't let the "Hot Dog" ruin a great day for everyone.

### **RIDER TRAINING**

#### **PROPER RIDING GEAR**

What is proper riding gear? Very simply, it consists of a DOT approved helmet, long sleeved apparel covering the entire upper body, long pants cover the entire lower body, full fingered gloves, over the ankle footwear (preferably boots) and eye protection. Proper riding gear will leave no exposed body areas or skin.

#### **Participation in any GWRRA or MSF course REQUIRES proper riding gear.**

There are no exceptions. Notice, please, that the previous statement identifies "course". This also includes such events as Field Events and Top Gunn participation. This "rule" does not apply to normal chapter events such as group rides, etc., although it is highly recommended that all members wear proper riding gear whenever they ride.

This also needs to be stated in the flyer for the rally or training course and understood prior to starting the event.

Each of the courses listed below are good for 2 years in your Level's program. After 2 years, another course is required to renew in Level's II, III and IV.

#### **MRC:RSS, ERC COURSES**

These are your MSF course available in most states.

The **MRC: RSS (Motorcycle Rider Course: Riding & Street Skills)** course will take a full weekend but will begin at the beginning and will take a rider through the entire program. It is an excellent course for the experienced as well as the novice. You will have motorcycles provided to you by the training organization instead of using your own. If you have less than 5,000 miles riding experience, it is suggested that you take this course.

The **ERC (Experienced Rider Course)** is taken on your own motorcycle and recommended for Rider's with at least 5,000 miles riding experience. This course may also be taken with your Co-Rider and is suggested if you ride mostly 2-up. If however, this is your first course, it is recommended that you take it solo first.

GWRRA has other classes for advancement and or renewal in the program. The **Trike Rider Course** has had rave reviews and, since many members are going to Three Wheeled motorcycles now, has become very popular. Essentially this course provides

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instruction and coaching similar the ERC with a focus on braking, cornering and swerving. This course can be taken 1-Up or 2-Up.

Also available is the **Trailer Course**, which is brand new. It was introduced at Wing Ding in 2000 and was very popular. Again, focus on the braking, cornering and swerving elements of riding but with the added affect of pulling a load.

The **Side-Car Course** is currently being provided through Evergreen Safety Council and their certified instructors. The course was developed primarily through the efforts of Dave Hough and is an excellent program. This is designed, however, for the rider only, as the rig needs to be completely unloaded.

All of the courses listed above can be used to advance or renew a Rider/Co-Rider in the REP Levels program.

### **CPR/FA COURSES**

We never know when the unexpected will occur. Part of the REP program is to prepare members for the unexpected. This is why the CPR/First Aid courses are a part of the program. As educators, talk to the members about how important CPR/FA is and that they probably won't use it on total strangers, but will more likely use it on a loved one, especially if they have parents who are up in age, grandbabies, etc. This is where you will need this knowledge and could possibly use it.

Part of an Educators responsibility is to set up classes for their Chapter members. Find out who needs a CPR and or First Aid course. You might want to have a poster paper at the meeting where the membership can look at a glance where they are in the REP, when their next CPR/FA course is due, etc. Put the poster up front where all can see. List all members' names and use gold, blue and red stars to designate different courses and or classes and stick stars by their names. Make it fun.

There are several sources for CPR/First Aid training. The American Red Cross and the American Heart Association are two of the primary and well-known providers. Check with your local chapters to see what programs are available and at what cost. Make certain that you understand the renewal requirements for each as they do vary.

There are other private providers as well. Many chapters will use a local EMT service or hospital to provide training at a reasonable cost. Check out these sources as well.

GWRRRA has a new CPR/First Aid training program now. It is called Medic First Aid and provides training that is good for 2 years on CPR and First Aid. This program allows GWRRRA to train members as instructors and provide a cost effective and consistent program nationwide. This program can be administered through your Chapter, District, Regional Rallies and Wing Ding. Course cost is about \$20.00 per student, a great value for the dollar. This program allows us another option for getting CPR/First Aid training

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but is not mandatory nor intended to replace other providers. Determine which program will provide the most cost effective training for your members.

### **THE REP LEVELS PROGRAM**

#### **HOW IT WORKS?**

The Rider Education Program was implemented with the goal of reducing injuries and save lives. The main structure is based on three levels and provides a program for the member to proudly display their participation and commitment to reduce riding risk as well as enhance the riding experience.

**Level I – Safety by Commitment:** No matter what your riding skills are, we are challenging you to be at least Level I and make a commitment to safely ride your motorcycle for the rest of your life. That's why there is no renewal. When you commit, it's for keeps.

**Level II – Safety by Education:** This requires the rider to have an MRC:RSS, ERC or other approved rider course. This is the education part. The Co-Rider only needs a Co-Rider seminar to be eligible but will also qualify by participating in a 2-Up ERC or Trike (TRC) course. Riders must have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license. Statistics show 92% of motorcycle accidents involved riders with no professional training.

**Level III – Safety by Preparedness:** The rider and/or co-rider needs a current CPR or First Aid completion card for this level. A First Aid kit is required to be carried on the bike. Co-Riders can now advance to Level III before the rider. This prepares the member to give assistance in the event of an incident.

#### **COST?**

**Level I** sign up is a one-time fee of \$6.00 and includes a Rider or Co-Rider Rocker and Round Patch with a Safe Mile Pin. If the member is new, then a 5,000-mile pin is included. If member has more than 5,000 safe miles on a Gold Wing, then that mile pin is included with purchase. 5,000 safe miles are not required for Level I.

**Level II** sign up is \$5.00 and includes a Triangle Patch for either a Rider or Co-Rider. A renewal fee of \$2.00 annually is required to keep current (Life Members have the fee waived but the renewal form must continue to be submitted annually).

**Level III** sign up is \$4.00 and includes a Rocker for either a Certified Tour Rider or Certified Co-Rider. A renewal fee of \$2.00 annually is required to keep current (Life Members have the fee waived but the renewal form must continue to be submitted annually).

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**Safe Mile Pins** are \$2.00 each and can be submitted with each increase in the program so the miles can be updated on the Area Report (formerly known as the Green Bar). Remember that a member must continue updating their safe mileage in order to achieve the Level IV requirements.

All renewals are due January 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

**These Patches and Pins can and should be available at the Chapter meetings held each month.**

**Level IV** sign up is \$35.00 and includes a Triangle Patch with a gold number designating Master. There is no difference between Rider and Co-Rider at this level and if issued in a set, the Co-Rider receives the lower number. Cost to renew is \$10.00 and an invitation to the Masters Breakfast at Wing Ding is included. Applications and renewals for this level are handled directly through the National Office in Phoenix.

### **REP Levels Paperwork (how to fill out)**

***Make sure that all paperwork is completed legibly for others to read.*** When filling out Level I, II, III and High Mileage Program, make sure that courses and dates (especially expiration dates) are included, the members city, state, zip and what Chapter, if any, the Member is associated with.

**Level I:** If they are already enrolled in the program, check that box. Check if they are a Rider or Co-Rider. Don't assume. Where it says Safe mile pins needed: This is where you put in their Safe Mile pin mileage, be it 15,000, 30,000, etc. Safe Mile Pins come in Black and Gold and are in **5,000-mile increments**. If they were new to the program, then you would put in 5,000, as the minimum. The Safe Miles begins building from the time the member joined GWRRA so this mileage may vary. If they do not have 5,000 Safe Miles at Level I sign up, keep the pin until they attain the mileage. Remember that 5,000 miles is required for Level II.

**Level II:** Where it says: "Approved Rider Course within 2 years", you need to write in what course it was that they took and the date of course. Validate that they have at least 5,000 Safe Miles and that the rider's driver's license has a motorcycle endorsement (for states/provinces that require this).

**Level III:** What First Aid or CPR course they took and date. If it was American Red Cross, use the initials ARC and the date of the course. If it was American Heart Association, use AHA. If they took Medic First Aid, then use MFA and date. Please note the expiration date. ARC requires renewal annually, AHA every two years for CPR. For First Aid, ARC is every three years for renewal. This information is required and can cause a renewal or application to be rejected if not completed.

## **Gold Wing Road Riders Association Educator Training Program**

If you have a Co-Rider who wants to advance before the Rider, they can do so. We are not holding anyone back. However, this may induce the Rider to take up the slack and move up also.

**High Mileage Program:** Again, make sure you put down Bike, its year and Mileage. Some members may have 3 or 4 bikes and would like to list all of them. The High Mileage Pins come in **50,000-mile increments**. They are white and gold in color. This is a separate program from the GWRRA Rider Education Program. It stands on its own.

Now comes the best part. If you have collected the money from the member and if you have issued the pins/patches, then where it says "Total Money Enclosed", you put "0". You sign your name where it says Patches Issued By.

*If someone comes up to you and is not a member and doesn't even own a Gold Wing and wants to enroll in the REP, what should you do? Sign them up. But instead of sending in paperwork, keep it for your files only. Why should we deny them the opportunity to express their desire to ride safe and display a Level I patch?*

Where to send form: The blank forms are available on the GWRRA home page under Rider Education. These are in a printable format. You can change the address at the bottom to read wherever you want paperwork to go. Most Chapter Educators send paperwork to their respective District Educators, some to the Region Educator. It is suggested that you check with one of these Officers on their thoughts.

**Level IV: Again, you are an Officer in the GWRRA. We are accepting your word that the following requirements are true and have been met. You do not need to send in a copy of Rider Course Completing Cards, current FA and or CPR cards. Please check them and mark down course and date on form. However, if a Rider/Co-Rider fills out one themselves, they should send in copies of said cards to the National Office. Again, all forms are on the GWRRA home page under Rider Education.**

### **WHY PINS & PATCHES?**

Everyone wants to ride safely. By joining the Rider Education Program Levels Program you are proclaiming that proudly. The patches are your symbol. They symbolize that you belong to a fraternity. Fraternities have emblems, jewelry or other articles to symbolize that they have something in common with each other. The Rider Education Program is much the same way. Our patches represent to all that see them what we have accomplished to be qualified to proudly wear them.

A Level I patch let's me know that the person wearing that has made a commitment to ride his or her motorcycle as safely as possible.

Level II shows me that this person has had several hours of classroom and road course training and has taken the time to develop the basic skills essential for street survival.

## Gold Wing Road Riders Association Educator Training Program

Level III shows me that person can come to someone's assistance and render First Aid and or CPR and possibly save a life.

Level IV is the climax of the program. He or she has reached the pinnacle of the ladder in Rider Education. They are proud of what they have accomplished and proudly display that honor. They represent the leaders in our organization promoting safer riding and setting the example for all motorcyclists.

### WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

**Maybe your life, a safer and a more enjoyable ride.** The Co-Rider will have more confidence in ones' personal ability to handle the motorcycle in a crisis situation. The Rider will have more riding confidence knowing the proper way to handle a situation, whether it is a normal ride or if he/she is faced with a problem and has the need to make the correct split second maneuver.

By participating in the REP you send a message to all of the other chapter members that you care – care about yourself, your co-rider and the other riders around you. You're telling them all that you have taken the time and made the commitment to reduce risk and enhance your ability to survive. You want to be a professional rider not simply a weekend amateur.

Yes, you should be proud of your patches. We are. By wearing these you are telling the world that you are a member of a special fraternity of riders and that you represent the largest, single educationally focused motorcycle organization in the world. We encourage everyone to make the commitment and to get the training, so you too will know and feel the pride of what the GWRRA Rider Education program really means.

### COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS, FACTS AND THOUGHTS

An Accident is any unplanned occurrence that results in damage to the bike or injury to property or person. As a rule of thumb, if the incident (accident) requires a police report or an insurance claim for damage, it was an accident.

*Note: Dropping your bike in the garage, while it is an unplanned occurrence, is not an accident.*

A person who has an accident starts their safe miles over at Zero, but the member remains at the current REP level achieved. A person who is at Level IV remains at Level IV. Remember that a member who is Level III and has 20,000 safe miles and has an accident, must start again to accumulate 25,000 safe miles to advance to Level IV.

As an Educator, you are expected to wear proper gear. If you don't believe enough in the program to dress yourself properly, you don't belong in the program. **If you Talk the Talk, you must Walk the Walk.** If you don't think members are watching, try moving your motorcycle in a parking lot without proper gear on. **Remember your Credibility!**

## **Gold Wing Road Riders Association Educator Training Program**

Copies of Course Completion Cards do not have to accompany paperwork when the paperwork is filled out properly and an Educator has witnessed and initialed the applicant's documentation. The REP form MUST include the expiration date of the completion card.

Information about the REP Level status for members is available on the Area Report. The Area Report, formerly known as the Greenbar, is currently available in Microsoft Excel format and can be sorted by any category such as District, Level or Zip Code. Region Educators with Internet access can request the report from Jim & Donna Cox, Assistant National Directors in Washington State.

All Educators, District and Region level, should request a time slot for an Educators meeting at their rally. Invite all visiting Educators to attend and encourage others to pitch in and help each other.

Some general thoughts regarding Educators:

- Communication is important, especially with each other. If you don't know, ask.
- If you issue a Patch or Pin, paperwork must follow.
- If you are proud of your association, be proud enough to wear your 10" patch at all GWRRA functions.
- Smile, it is contagious.
- Be Enthusiastic.
- Have Fun.