

I D A H O



DISTRICT DASHBOARD

Idaho District Staff

September 2018

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WELCOME FALL

Fall brings a winding down of the riding season. We begin to look back on our year and reflect on what brought about great participation and where we can enhance our efforts. Some Chapters are already preparing their bikes for the end of the season. Most Chapters are beginning to plan their awards and Christmas parties. And new Chapter and District Officers and Couples of the Year are selected in preparation for the next year. It's a busy but exciting time of year!

We thank all our Chapter and District Officers and appreciate their time and commitment to the organization. All have done a wonderful job in keeping their Chapters and the District in the growth mode. At this point in time, our membership numbers are very positive.

A reminder to all you Chapter Directors is that Officers are *appointed* based on the individual's qualifications. There is a protocol to follow and naturally there is paperwork such as the Officer Change Form and the MOU to submit to the District Director before the appointment is completed through Home Office. The new Officer(s) designated must have membership current through their prospective term of office and should have already demonstrated their unconditional support, enthusiasm, and participation in chapter activities as a benchmark for selection. Yes, volunteers are often difficult to recruit, but keep in mind that it's more important to have the right person in the right position for your Chapter's success.

Depending on your role as an Officer, you may have to think about the following:

- How do I structure my Team?
- What talent and skills do I need to be successful?
- Do I have the right people in the right roles?

Different levels of responsibility require different methodologies and different talent. Get the right people in the right jobs. Remember, not all people are willing or able to grow to the next level. Borrowing a quote from Rick Page's book *Hope is Not a Strategy*: "...Hope is what you do when you have no control. But a strategy is made up of actions and tactics that convert visions to results for those that can make things happen." *(Thank you for the reference Jere & Sherry Goodman)*

I also encourage mentoring your new Officers whenever possible. When you share your knowledge and experience, you not only build relationships, you also strengthen your Chapter. None of us were born into our Chapter positions, and mentoring can often make the difference between a successful and unsuccessful transition of responsibilities. And we all want to succeed, right?

I am here to assist you in any way that I can, so please don't hesitate to call on me. I'm on YOUR Team.

Glen Goff
District Director

Don Sawyer – Asst District Director
Chapter Director ID-G

As we continue the planning process for a 2019 District Rally, one of the first things we explore is the venue. We want to accommodate those who prefer a hotel bed at night and those who prefer to camp. If possible, we want to keep us all as close together as possible. And, of course, we want some beautiful ride destinations. Then the real work begins: planning activities, meals, and rides and then putting it all together.

Our current focus is in Kamiah, Idaho, June 21-23, 2019. That is pending our securing the KOA. If you have another idea, please contact me, Martie Mitchell, or Gary Evans at your earliest convenience as we are going forward with these plans. Input from you and from your Chapter Members is invaluable in making this a fun and memorable event for everyone. We look forward to some great participation!

Gary Evans – District Treasurer
ACD ID-T

Riding season came but so did high temperatures and smoke. I hope all of you have had some good riding anyway. I have, and my consecutive months of riding is now at 18. We were able to ride to Northern Idaho for a family celebration there in July, and I was privileged to participate in the recent Chapter ride of the Stanley Loop that included a nice group from Chapter G in Twin Falls. Now for the business side of this fun association.

Chapters are required to pay an annual Charter Fee of \$100. This fee is to be paid to the District in the Fall before December 1, so I am reminding each of the Chapter Treasurers and Chapter Directors to remit your fee by then. After all the remittances are received, I will send the entire amount to Home Office. The Guidebook explains these funds are used for Member rockers, Officer pins and patches. Most importantly, they cover the annual premium on the insurance that protects GWRRA Officers and designated third-parties (mall, meeting place, co-sponsoring authority, etc.) with a \$2 million-dollar liability insurance policy. These are part of the proper operation of this Association we love. It gets us together with great people who enjoy riding motorcycles, and one that helps to educate us on riding safely.

I look forward to receiving your payments. Thank you for your responses.

So many roads, so little time. Let's do it safely and with friends.

MARTIE MITCHELL – Membership Enhancement Coordinator
CMEC ID-H



WHAT IS A CHAPTER MEC AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

As we roll toward year end, some of you may be moving out of chapter leadership positions. Others of you may have been asked by your chapter director (CD) to consider a position on the leadership team. If that position is Membership Enhancement Coordinator (MEC), I'd like to share with you what it entails, what it COULD be and what it is not. This way you can consider the position with eyes wide open and no unexpected surprises. Even if no one has asked you to step forward, if there is no MEC currently in your chapter and you're intrigued, YOU can go to your CD and volunteer for the position! We all LOVE volunteers! There have been a lot of changes over the past year or so to the structure and function of the different positions of leadership but for our purposes, we'll stay focused on MEC.

First, you should go to the GWRRA website and review/familiarize yourself with the Officers Handbook and the Officers Connection tab (under Officers). There you will find a wealth of information and help -- it is your number one resource. <http://gwrro.org> There's also a specific Membership Enhancement Program (MEP) tab.

Next, you'll be expected to sign and agree to the terms in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). As an Officer, you'll have access to sensitive, private membership information and it will be your responsibility to protect it. You can find copies of the Oath of Office and the MOU on the GWRRA website by clicking the following link: <http://gwrro.org/oconnect/officerresources.html>

Now, what is it you do?

Principally, your responsibility to the chapter is to increase member participation and engagement of the membership within your chapter area. Sounds simple doesn't it?

Well it is, particularly if you're a natural "people" person and like meeting new people and making friends. But there are specific functions to be completed as well. Depending on the other members of the leadership team and the needs of your CD, your responsibilities could naturally overlap into some other areas if you're willing to take them on. Also, with your CD's permission, you don't have to be the lone rudder on your ship. You can and SHOULD ask for help and then delegate some of the activities that fall under the MEC umbrella.

Specifically, you or someone you assign in partnership with your CD, are the official welcoming committee whenever you see a new face at any chapter functions. This could be a new member or a prospect. You need to seat them with someone who is friendly and engaging who will pull them into the group and make them feel welcome. Have you ever walked into a room where you don't know anyone and they all look at you and then return to their own activities without inviting you to join them? One word for this: AWKWARD. Also, reach out to members you haven't seen in a while. They may be at home dealing with an issue and need to hear a friendly voice of someone who cares.

There is also a monthly requirement from HQ that the MEC manages and updates the information on the Area Run List (ARL) for their chapter. This includes prospective and new members that need to be contacted and invited to participate in chapter activities. It also includes existing members who have recently allowed their membership to lapse or it's about to. Retention is hugely important to maintaining chapter health, so these people should NOT be overlooked. There's no real need to stress over this however. Each chapter rarely has more than a half dozen contacts to make per month combined.

Frequently there's only one or two and occasionally there are none. A little advanced planning can make this quick and simple. We have some available email templates you can use and even a few suggested scripts when making a phone call. By utilizing the KISS (**Keep It Simple Sweetie**) principle, you won't have to reinvent the wheel.

Additionally, you will be working closely with your CD and Chapter Ride Coordinator (if you have one), scheduling and coordinating entertaining ride and social activities for your chapter. This can include chapter events and public facing occasions where you can pick up new members.

There is another program that falls under the MEP: Couple of the Year. Each chapter selects and nominates a couple who exemplifies chapter life. The nominees are energetic volunteers who actively participate in their chapter. After being selected as their Chapter Couple, they can choose to move forward and compete to become District COY and even National COYS. The Chapter MEC spearheads this program and coaches the couple

should they wish to be considered at the national level. As Assistant District MEC and COY Coordinator, Joey Goff can give you more detail on this program.

Finally, understand that you are not alone if you take this position. You should engage many "helpers" and you have the resources of your CD, your Ride Coordinator, the Event Coordinator (if you have one), and never forget your District MEC. I am always here to help you with any questions, needed resources, or problems that might arise. I'm a phone call or email away and I love to help.

If this is something you'd like to consider or are already in this position, reach out and let's chat. I'm happy to share what we do, why we love doing it, and how we manage to get it done.

C'mon -- jump in! Be a part – it's exciting!



Rich Davis – Rider Educator **Ride Coordinator ID-H**

It's getting late in our riding season here in North Idaho, riders in the south may still have a few more weeks left. Hope your Chapters had many rides and racked up a fair number of miles this season. Speaking of miles, this is a good time to remind your members to take a hard look at their tires. Pressure checks should always be done on a regular basis, but when temperatures are fluctuating greatly as they do in the Fall, pay more attention. Tire wear should be noted and if you are getting close, it might be a good time for replacement in preparation for next season.

The end of the Third Quarter is coming up at the end of September and I will be contacting you to get your ride numbers and any information pertaining to training, etc. I am looking for the number of rides, pre-ride briefings, and number of riders.

Remember always: **DRESS FOR THE SLIDE, NOT THE RIDE!**

Joey Goff – Asst MEC/Couple of the Year Coordinator
CMEC & Newsletter Editor ID-T

It's time to start talking turkey about your Chapter's Couple of the Year selection! We encourage all Chapters to select a Chapter Couple of the Year. The Couple of the Year Program recognizes couples who exemplify the GWRRA image of fun, safety, and knowledge. It is the "gold standard" of what it means to be a member of GWRRA. This is the highest degree of a service-oriented "thank you" that can be given to those couples who have demonstrated their dedication, accomplishments, and participation with the Chapter. It is a fun and rewarding experience and an honor to be selected to represent your Chapter and GWRRA.

Here are some important features to keep in mind for the Chapter selection.

- The couple must hold Individual or Family Membership in GWRRA.
- Membership must be valid through the conclusion of their Couple of the Year term.
- The Couple must have completed at least one year of membership in GWRRA prior to selection.
- A Couple may not be selected as a Chapter Couple of the Year in consecutive years.

Your Chapter Couple of the Year candidate(s) are generally recommended to the Chapter Director by your Membership Enhancement Coordinator (MEC). You may also choose to have a selection committee of 2-3 individuals including your MEC who will identify candidates, review contributions, and make the selection. *Chapters should never vote or take a survey when considering candidates for their Couple of the Year.* Once a couple has been selected, they maintain their award for the year they were selected and will always hold that status for that timeframe. If a Chapter does not have a new Couple to replace the current Couple, that Couple may continue to serve as the Chapter Couple for a second term. However, they may only participate in the District Selection the first year.

All Chapter Couples should be selected by December 15, allowing interested couples the opportunity to complete and submit their resumes to the Couple of the Year Coordinator for consideration as District Couple of the Year. A District Couple of the Year would be selected in January 2019 and their names submitted to the national team by January 31, 2019 to be considered for national interviews. The required forms are in the GWRRA International/Couple of the Year Program Handbook. The Handbook is also available on the gwrra.org website under Programs, MEC, Couple of the Year.

Please let me know if I can assist you in any way regarding the Couple of the Year Program. I strongly endorse this recognition program and hope that each Chapter will select a Couple, possibly for the District, and to ultimately be considered as one of the six new International Couples of the Year for 2019.

Your 2018 GWRRA Teams

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Chapter T Nampa	Glen Goff	glengoff@hotmail.com

IDAHO DISTRICT TEAM

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District Ride Coordinator	Open	
District University Trainer	Open	

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