



# The Hospitality Region

## GWRRA REGION H The South Central Region



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BY THE BOOK  
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*Region H Trainer*

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. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District and Chapter newsletters.

### WHAT IS A CD TO DO WITH “FREELOADERS”?

During a recent training event the discussion turned to Members who do not routinely participate, yet show up for Chapter events that are “free”, i.e., a meal or party that is paid for with Chapter funds.

The discussion was NOT talking about Phantom Members; rather dues paying Members in good standing that only showed up for the free-

bies. This was a point of contention for other Members who did routinely participate in Chapter events. They felt the Members who only showed up for freebies had not contributed to 50/50 and other Chapter fundraisers all year long yet reaped the benefits. After some discussion we determined that the Chapter officers had contacted the “freeloaders” and eliminated personal and/or work related reasons why those Members did not attend functions all year long. The Chapter officers were satisfied that there was no apparent reason why the “freeloaders” did not routinely participate.

The discussion continued and centered on how the Chapter Officers should deal with these “freeloaders”. Some at the training event took a hard line approach and wanted to somehow stop these “freeloaders” from participating in the freebies. However the group consensus was that they take no action that would further drive these Members away from the Chapter. Rather their attendance at freebie events should be viewed as an opportunity to bring these Members into active participation with the Chapter. Numerous ideas surfaced to that end and were discussed in detail. The “freeloaders” should not be viewed as such,

rather as Members who for their own reasons chose not to routinely participate. It is the officer’s responsibility to meet the Members needs and encourage participation in Chapter events. Remember we are all Members of GWRRA and choose to participate in a Chapter. As GWRRA Members, we may legitimately participate is more than one Chapter.

This question arose from the discussion; “If the Chapter has a limited budget and numerous “freeloaders”, should we charge only the “freeloaders” to attend while not charging other Chapter Members who routinely participate”. The

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## CONFUSED YET?

Bob & Mary Jo Meloy Region H Educators



This just goes to show that if you think that our paper work is confusing real life can be even more so. To help take some of the mystery out of our work and to clarify some of our forms I am going to “borrow” what our Assistant National Directors, Bill and Linda English have already done for us. What follows is some clarification on the Rider Education Levels paperwork.

### **LEVELS I, II, III, & IV**

*Due to the large amount of new Rider Educators coming aboard, Linda and I would like to share some of the problems we have when we receive the level forms.*

*We know many have already started to check and make needed changes and we thank you.*

- 1. Old eyes are upon us and some times we are unable to read the information. Take time in completing the form or have someone complete it for you.*
- 2. At the top of the levels page we need your correct member number. We cannot put any information into the database without the member number. We also get #16540D for member number. NOT!!!! Some don't know what their number is.*
- 3. The whole name of the city, you may know all the abbreviations for your local cities but it*

*hard for us. (ea.Jax, Pns, NN)*

- 4. **Level I** is self explanatory, \$6.00 to join. The \$2.00 is only if you want an update or a safe miles pin. We have seen forms showing \$8.00 collected for Level I.*
- 5. **Level II** We need to know the expiration date of the course taken. What ever date is there is the expiration date for us to enter. Often we get 7/2003 for an update on 10/2003. We don't know if you took the course two years previous or this year. If it you took the course two years previous then you are not current to renew or move up.*
- 6. **Level II** We need to know if*

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## CONFUSED YET? Cont.



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*the course was two up or rider. A Co-rider can change to be both Rider and Co-Rider.*

*7. **Level III** You can update your safe miles in Level I and move up to or renew level III. We again, must have the type of First Aid and CPR course you took. We can sometimes know the expirations date by the type of CPR or First Aid. Not all CPR courses have the same expiration time as the First Aid. For the type we get Basic, or abbreviations. We need more info.*

*8. **Level IV** We get the same form you send to National. They do try and correct info where they can but they don't have the database to know.*

*At the bottom of the application*

*were it states, Total Money Enclosed, Date, Patches Issued, we need the date. With no date we enter the first day of the month we are working in. Now if you don't have the correct form, you will not have a place for a date. Then you need to put a date on that form and obtain the correct form for next time at [www.gwrra.org](http://www.gwrra.org) We need the forms to be read for completion and correctness. Some Regions have all forms sent to the Regional Educator for review. We don't care who sends them to us, just have the last person responsible to audit the forms for correctness.*

*If you are moving up or renewing to another Level the only thing that belongs in Level I is*

*updating safe miles and check the box for "Already enrolled in Level I". The Chapter Educator or the first person who received a completed form have the best chance to make sure forms are correctly filled out or readable. We would rather enter the data correct the first time and make Linda warm and fuzzy. Also when you receive your reports, you will have the correct information.*

I hope that the information provided and taken to heart. We need to be clear on what we need from all levels of our organization. Please take that little extra effort to make our record keeping easier and less frustrating for everyone.

## WHAT IS A CD TO DO WITH "FREELoadERS"? Cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

general consensus was that if the Chapter had funding problems it should not be putting on a free event in the first place. While you might limit participation at freebies to Chapter Members, the "freeloaders" had indicated their desire to be participants in that Chapter and should be considered as part of the Chapter.

Bottom line, do not think of Members who do not actively participate as "freeloaders", rather as Members who have indicated they consider your Chapter as their home Chapter. Their lack of participation is your challenge. If after your best efforts, they choose to continue only limited participation in the Chapter that is their "right" as Members of GWRRA. After all Members do

not have to participate in a Chapter.

Being positive and pro-active achieves more than a negative, confrontational approach.



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Newsletter deadline is the 21st of each month.  
 Please send your articles to:  
[newsletter@region-h.org](mailto:newsletter@region-h.org)

This newsletter is meant to be a resource for the  
 Districts and their Chapter participants. Comments  
 and suggestions are always welcome.

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**Texas District Director**

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## Region H Calendar of Events



District Rally May 6,7,8 2004  
 DeGray State Park & Lodge  
 Bismark, Arkansas  
 1.800.737.8355



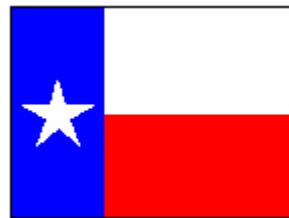
District Rally June 11,12, 204  
 Payne County Expo Center  
 Hwy 51 East of Stillwater  
 Stillwater, OK  
 1.405.372.6288 for information



Region H Rally October



District Rally March 25,26,27 2004  
 Hotel Acadiana  
 1801 West Pinhook Road  
 Lafayette, LA  
 1.800.826.8386



District Rally May 13, 14, 15 2004  
 Hilton Austin Airport  
 9515 New Airport Drive  
 Austin, Texas  
 1.512.385.6767



Wing Ding XXVI  
 Grapevine, TX

To register call 1.800.843.9460 or go  
 online to [www.gwrro.org](http://www.gwrro.org)