

As we go into the summer season here in Florida, I would like to remind all that when you are out riding to make sure you **hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!** Wearing those long sleeves doesn't hurt either. You'll stay cooler with long sleeves. The sun won't dry you out as quickly. Take more breaks. The heat makes one drowsy and the more often you stop for a drink, the more alert you'll stay. Learn your limitations and listen to your body. Most of all, just be safe and have fun.

Most of our northern members have gone north and the numbers in our chapters are down. This may be a good time of the year to get everyone that is here year round, current and/or renewed in their levels. Avoid the fall and winter rush and get your Medic FA this summer. For an MFA class contact Rex & Tina Prince to get it scheduled.

As I have stated in a previous newsletter I have been restructuring our RE Team to better serve our membership. I am putting in place two Assistant District Rider Educators, one for our northern area and another for our southern area. Scott Kelly has accepted the position for the north and Ray Vega has accepted the position for the south. They each will have a number of chapters that they will be the RE contact to coordinate any RE Seminars, ERC, TRC, etc. This will better enable the REP to better provide the membership with the training and etc. they want.

With being able to get our raffle tickets printed a couple of months earlier this year we have already sent out over 36,000 to the chapters to sell. Many chapters wanted them before all their northern members went north to save on a lot of postage. Keep in mind that through the sale of these raffle tickets, we are able to offer all our Florida members free GWRRA Rider Ed training. If we could get each one of our Florida members that is in the Levels program to buy just ONE book of tickets we wouldn't need to push the sales of them outside our chapters. I still have about 14,000 tickets that need to get sold so if you need some just drop me an email and I'll get them to you.

As a side note, my wife Pam is retiring on the 15th of June this year. We have been going through a home buying process for the past few weeks and will be moving into it on the 15th of June. We are both excited about this "change" and looking forward to being able to work together, "full time." Now we can *BOTH* get to visit and attend all these great GWRRA functions!

Ride Safe, Ride Aware,

Rick Northrop