

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

**Humble
Chapter N2**



**Texas
Region H**

February 2007



23620 Oakwood
Splendor, TX, 77372

Place
Stamp
Here

Place Address Label Here

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Chief Advisor

Gene & Carolyn Tice

Couple of the year 2006-2007

Ken & Barbie Peterson

Assistant District Directors

John & Lydia Bourg

District Educator

Ron & Magaly Griffis

District Trainer

Jim & Ruby Seale

Vendor Coordinators

Evertt Hunt & Fay Eger

Couple of the year 2005-2006

John & Lena Bryant

Assistant Membership Enhancement Coordinators

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Chapter meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of each month at 6:00 PM. The meetings are held at the American Legion Hall at 307 Charles St, Humble, TX

The rides depart from the Flying J at 242 and IH-59 in New Caney.

News from the Chapter Director

As the New Year begins, we all have a lot to look forward to this year. We have a new Director, Educator and Treasurer. We have heard so many new ideas for fun rides from so many people. This is going to be a fun year. There will be some small changes made, but not a lot. Everyone will be informed of the changes and why the changes were made. There are a lot of new faces in the Chapter and hopefully a lot more to come. We are planning to have some events that will inform the public about the Motorist Awareness Division (MAD) and how to be safe and have FUN while riding. There are some other events that we will be planning to advise people in the area about GWRRA. There are a lot of fun weekend Rally's coming up, we also have the Region H (The Good, Bad and Ugly) Rally in Marshall, March 22nd, 23rd and 24th. The District Rally (Riding with the Stars) will be in Wichita Falls on May 17th, 18th and 19th. These are going to be fun Rally's because we get to go to an event and dress up like our favorite western character in Marshall and our favorite Hollywood Star character in Wichita Falls. We are hoping to have a lot more input from the chapter regarding events and rides. We would like to see more people riding on an outing to do something, instead of just riding to eat. There will always be food wherever we go. So let's go ride for fun. Then we'll eat.

Mike and Robin Thacker-Master Tour Rider-6162
Chapter Directors



Suggestion Box:

Do you have any favorite rides you would like to ride again? Do you have any events or places you would like to ride? Do you have any ideas for prizes for the 50/50 at the meeting? Any restaurant you would like to eat at after our Chapter meeting? Any ideas for the newsletter?

If so, send an email to Mike and Robin Thacker or put them in the suggestion box at the meetings.

Rider Education

TRAFFIC CONFLICT RESOLUTION

This month I would like to talk about traffic conflict resolution. We all do this everyday. Some do it better than others. Anyone who has been driving any kind of motor vehicle for six months or more probably has a war story about how some one almost ran over you. Or, how someone cut you off which caused you to slam on the brakes or make an abrupt lane change. There is no doubt that our highways and roadways are becoming severely congested. And there is no doubt that a large majority of drivers are giving their attention to everything but driving. The increasing number of crashes daily attests to this fact.

A crash is rarely the result of one driver making one mistake behind the wheel. According to the traffic experts a crash is a result of multiple errors in driving by one or more drivers. Anyone driving for a long time has probably been involved in an accident of some sort. Was the crash your fault or theirs? Are you sure? In the world of professional driving in which I make my living, the American Trucking Association determines fault with one question. Who was the last driver with the opportunity to prevent this crash? That's not to say the other driver isn't responsible for the crash. Maybe they disobeyed a traffic control device. Maybe they cut you off, leaving you with no place to go. Maybe they made an abrupt turn in front of you. But, did you have the last chance to prevent the crash. In the MAD Handbook, a crash is described in the following sequence. A Hazard unresolved becomes a Conflict unresolved becomes a Crash. The MAD study does not really believe in the concept of accidents, but rather prefers to call them crashes. Now, I would like to ask you to think about your driving, being honest with yourself.

Think back to those encounters of the close kind that came to mind while reading the first paragraph of this article. Think especially about those close calls that scared you. The ones that caused your heart rate to soar, palms to sweat, or maybe even momentarily envision a crash. Now, ask yourself a question only you may know the answer. Be honest with yourself. How did you contribute to that situation? Did you fail to see a hazardous situation in front of the vehicle in front of you? Did you fail to recognize that the driver merging with you is paying no attention to their own driving and is quickly running out of options? In this case, if you don't give them some options, there will be a crash. Perhaps the vehicle stopped on the shoulder suddenly comes back out into traffic very slowly. Did you recognize that hazard before it became a conflict. In the world of trucking, or as I prefer to say, professional driving, we are taught ways to reduce these conflicts through defensive driving. Over the coming months, I would like to introduce these tips to my N-2 family. Maybe you will give them a shot.

I would like to challenge everyone to evaluate his or her own driving techniques. No one but you will know what you think of your traffic conflict resolution abilities. See how quickly you can recognize a hazard before it becomes a conflict. Try guessing what the drivers around you are going to do before they do it. Also, pay more attention to your own driving. Obey traffic control devices and scan an intersection before entering the intersection. I would also like to encourage you to take advantage of the

rider education opportunities available. We have a Texas District Staff that truly believes in training and education. They are making huge efforts to provide to us with opportunities to learn and grow within our GWRRA organization and us. Whether on you bike or in your automobile - Practice defensive driving. I will close for now by thanking you for reading this article and asking you to think about its contents. Remember, the life you save may be your own.

RIDE AWARE-----RIDE SAFE

Your Chapter Educators
Michael & Suzanne Elrod



The transition from a Co Rider to Rider

I initially took the motorcycle riding class so I could understand what Ricky went through and the challenges he had on our rides so I would be a better co rider. The class got me hooked!!!! I began to consider riding my own bike for the shorter rides. This became a reality approximately 4 months ago, which began my transition from a co rider to a rider. All my time as a co rider and especially riding as the drag bike helped me to understand the rules and safety of the road. Now as a rider, I had to remember the rules and safety of the road while remembering to work brakes and a clutch with my hands, brakes and gears with my feet and to balance a 500-pound machine – all at the same time. What a challenge I had ahead of me. The training class was only the beginning of a lifetime of learning. Every time I get on my bike I think of each of these things. The more I ride the better my balance and control gets. There are so many great and long time riders in the group who I ask for advise and recommendations as often as I can in order to continue to improve my skills. Ricky says I am a better co rider now and I feel this is true, as I understand everything that is required for a safe ride. I will continue to be a co rider on our long rides as I enjoy the time Ricky and I have together while riding. I have also learned to appreciate the safety and knowledge Ricky has while riding and appreciate every safe trip.

Karen Frazier

FAREWELL TO RICHES' CHILI SUPPER

By: Mari Rich

“The two chapter events that I’ve enjoyed the most have been the Halloween parties and the Chili suppers.” Those were the words spoken by long-time N-2 member Randy Talbot as he thanked us in December after our hosting the chili supper for the last time. Nice comments such as that one have kept us going in the past. We hated to end hosting the fun get-togethers that so many seemed to enjoy.

After our big fire that burned our Halloween decorations we felt that we could not continue to host the Halloween parties that had been so enjoyable in the past. Yet M-2 and N-2 members refused to let us give up so easily something that they looked forward to each year. Bringing decorations in hand (both for Christmas and Halloween) 85 GWRRA members attended our last Halloween party in 2003. What an honor! But because all food was furnished and prepared by Paul and me for all those years, we realized that with attendance growing by leaps and bounds, it was becoming too expensive and difficult for retired folks to continue a practice that had started out small in number and our being younger in age. Thus, sadly we discontinued our Halloween parties, much to the chagrin of many party lovers as well as ourselves.

Likewise, the annual Cleveland Christmas parade, followed by our hosting the chili supper, was an event that members of Chapters N-2 and M-2 looked forward to yearly. So did we! Again, because the chapters have grown in number, it meant that larger pots of chili had to be stirred by tiring and aging arms each year. Too, for the many years in the past, the total expense of the chili supper had been covered by Paul and me as hosts. For the past two years both chapters took care of the expenses of the dessert and chili supper which helped us non-working hosts immensely. But the stirring still had to be done by even older and tiring arms. Too, although it is exciting to see how the number of GWRRA friends is increasing in number each year, the crowd is outgrowing our home.

Now please understand that we have enjoyed the parties in the past. We love each of our GWRRA friends dearly. We just feel that, even with the wonderful help from Debbie and Britt Grieger each year, it is just becoming impossible to continue the chili and/or dessert suppers.

Thank you for being our guests for these many years. And when you eat chili in the future please think of us and hopefully you’ll say, “This chili surely isn’t as good as Mari’s!”



Chapter N-2 would like to say “**THANK YOU**” to Paul and Mari Rich for the many years of warm hospitality and great chili after the Cleveland parade. Thanks for the hospitality and memories!!!!

Thanks To District Staff for Kerrville Mid-Winter Round Up

Did you attend the Kerrville Mid-Winter Round-Up???? If not, you missed a very good opportunity to learn about the operations and educational aspects of GWRRA. I am so glad Suzanne and I attended. I would like to take the time to thank John Simonick and his very dedicated District Staff. The time and effort required to present the Round Up was very obvious. I am of the opinion that our Texas District is very fortunate to have Leaders so passionate and dedicated in enhancing the training and rider education of all members. I hope anyone the least bit interested in GWRRA takes advantage of learning from the District trainers by attending at least one of the educational opportunities that are being offered by John Simonick and his entire District Staff.

The District Staff first presented the Education Day in Lufkin, which was then followed up by the Mid-Winter Round-Up in Kerrville. The next Education Day in Lufkin has already been planned for November 3-4 in Lufkin, Texas. The Education Day has been expanded to two days which concludes with entertainment on Saturday Night. In addition to these seminar days, the Texas District is also conducting as many Horizon programs as they possibly can this year. John Bourg and his staff are working equally as hard to bring us as many opportunities to improve our riding skills and participate in the Rider Education Levels Program. The Texas District Staff makes these Seminars and Socials a lot of fun. All three GWRRA principles were used in Kerrville. The Seminars enhanced our Knowledge, while the Social afterwards encouraged Friendship, through some very Fun games. I really hope you consider attending the next training day.

Michael and Suzanne Elrod



Polar Bear Ride, Or December 32nd

For some reason, it seems I have been put in charge of the last couple of rides we participate in on New Years Day. I fret about it for a few weeks then I try to figure something out. While out with the family one weekend in Bryan Texas, we found a fair place to eat and for some reason I thought it would be a good idea to do a couple of hundred miles for our first ride of the year. So I had a ride, now all I had to do was check it out.

Ann and I looked at several routing options and made our plans. Nathan and I took off one day to make sure the route was ok for the bikes. We had to make a couple of minor changes since the roads I wanted to take either were not there or were nasty muddy dirt roads.

The day, you know, the one where everyone has to remember to write in a different year on everything, finally arrived. The starting point was at the corner of Hwy 59 and FM 242 at 9am. We made timing and place changes a month in advance because of the distance we were to go.

We all gathered, talked, had breakfast, coffee and a few hugs along with some good fellowship. Finally we started making plans for groups since we had some 22 bikes and nearly 30 folks ready to hit the road. We broke it into 3 groups since 2 bikes were staying behind waiting for others not yet arrived. We found group leaders and tail gunners and all had maps so as not to stray off the route. We finally got everyone into a group and at 9:15 we were off.

How could you ask for a nicer day? The sun was trying to make an appearance; the temps were a little cool and promising to warm up to a nearly perfect riding temperature for the day. We were on our way to ride through some nice country highways along with enjoying the company of our friends. The first leg of the route took us west on 242 to 1314 where we turned right to loop 336 where we turned left. There was nearly no traffic so the road was mostly ours. We took FM 2854 west to bypass some lights on Hwy 105 going west. Hwy 105 has some comfortable curves and gentle rolling hills to enable everyone to wake up after a night of bringing in a new year. When we arrived in Navasota, we took a short break to let everyone stretch his or her legs and talk about the night before. I called ahead to remind the folks at 'Beef Masters' we were on our way with a group of hungry folks. They said no problem and they were ready. We headed north on Hwy 6 till we arrived at Hwy 21 in Bryan where we took our exit and pulled into the restaurant.

Everyone found a chair and the two ladies that were to take care of us went straight to work. Our drink orders were taken in short order and in a few moments they were taking our food orders. Just when we thought we had a few minutes to hang out and talk to each other, our food started showing up. My grandson Abraham ordered chicken fried steak and I ordered steak with various veggies while the rest of the group ordered everything from more steaks to hamburgers. All in all, I think the place got a thumbs up from most everyone.

Our return trip was a bit different. We rode south on Hwy 6 for a couple of miles till we found Hwy 30 where we turned east. We followed this route till just past Roans Prairie where we

turned south on FM 2582 for about 10 miles. This is a nice road with a few slow curves but be careful, this is not a drag your pegs road. We soon found FM 149 where we turned left and headed eastwards. This is a quiet and gently curving road going through the Sam Houston National Forest. We soon found FM 1375 where we turned left and headed towards New Waverly.

At this point we continued east on Hwy 150 till we came upon FM 1725 where we turned southeast towards Cleveland. This road has several types of curves and is still a decent road to travel to get most of the group back towards their homes. I had a planned stop at the Dairy Queen for everyone to finish his or her day with a small treat. I mean, after all, what the heck, why not. Many of us that were still in the ride made a short dessert stop where there were many hugs and discussions for future rides.

From here, we all went our different directions to get back home. The ride for the day was right at 200 miles. There were many friends involved, we had a safe trip and it was a great day for riding. What else could we ask for?

I would like to thank all those that attended for coming out, I know we all have busy schedules in our lives and at times it is tough to spend a day out on the road. During this New Year, I hope we can all spend many days riding together and I have a greater hope that they are all safe.

Happy New Year from our home to yours, Rex, Ann and Nathan.

[Couple of the Year Adventures for January](#)

We began our year with the Polar Bear Ride. Ricky had been sick the week before with a cold so he and Suzanne chose to ride in the car so they could stay warm. The day began at Flying J at a very chilly temperature. This was my first ride on my own bike in this type of weather. I quickly learned how important it was to have cold weather gear. At the first stop I took my gloves off and my hands were beet red. Marty came to my rescue at our first stop. He found some gloves that helped a lot but without a windshield it still was not enough. At the second stop, J.R. loaned me a really good set of gloves that I used most of the day. I went the next week and bought a set of the same gloves. Thanks to everyone that worked hard to make sure I was comfortable. It was a great ride and I really learned a lot about handling the bike and riding the curves. I rode behind Michel Elrod, in Suzanne's normal spot, who is very good at teaching you how to approach and ride the curves. Ricky said he enjoyed the ride in the car with Suzanne but really missed riding his bike. The day ended at Dairy Queen where many of us said our good bys. I had the final lead of a small group from Dairy Queen to our respective homes.

The next weekend we went to The Mid Winter Roundup in Kerrville, Texas. This was a training session and we attended a lot of classes. Our most important class was the Couple of the Year training. The seminar assisted us in understanding our roll as ambassadors for the Chapter. We were advised to just be ourselves and have fun. We were presented with COY Gold Medallions to be worn anytime we represent the Chapter. Ricky was so proud of this medallion that he even wore it home the next day. The Gold Medallion gave us an opportunity to proudly explain GWRRA and the Couple of the Year program. On the way home, we stopped at a beef jerky shop in Johnson City and while there we were asked why we were the only one's in the group

wearing the Gold Medallion. Of course, Ricky, very proudly explained GWRRA and that we were honored to be chosen as ambassadors and Couple of the Year. The reminder of the trip was great and we enjoyed all the fun and friendship.

Our new Chapter Directors, Mike and Robin, held a campfire wiener roast at their house. Ricky was out of town for work but I attended. There was a great turnout and everyone enjoyed the food and friends. It was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to slow down and just visit with each other.

Finally, we attended the Wednesday Dinner at Sarpino's Pizzeria, which was chosen by Dolly. Again, there was a good turnout. The food and friendship was great. It was good to see Randy and Sharon back home as we have missed them at our other gatherings. Hope to see everyone at every event and meeting we have and will write again next month.

Ricky & Karen Frazier
Couple of the Year 2007



New COY Fund Raiser at 2007 District Rally

For the 2007 Rally in Wichita Falls, Any **Chapter Couples of the Year**, past or present, that wish to participate will create a "basket" of goodies. "Basket" is in quotes, because you can use a container. In the basket, the "goodies" must represent a *theme*. The theme may be directly related to the chapter, maybe related to the rally theme, or some other unique or interesting theme. The idea is to create interest in your "basket." The "baskets" should be wrapped in clear cellophane and will be displayed during the rally. For each "basket", a ticket container will be placed by it to receive tickets from people interested in winning that particular "basket". Tickets specifically for the "basket" raffle will be sold at a flat rate. Tickets purchased could be placed in one container or distributed between two or more ticket containers based on the desire of the ticket purchaser. At the pre-determined cut-off time on Saturday, all the ticket containers will be picked up and the tickets inside were counted. Each Chapter Couple of the Year contributing a "basket" will receive half of the proceeds that their basket brought in. The Chapter Couple with the "basket" that received the most tickets will win a very nice participation prize. All proceeds are intended to support the Couple of the Year Program. At Closing Ceremonies, one ticket will be drawn from each ticket container, and the winner will receive the respective "basket." If you have any suggestions for a "basket" please talk to Karen and Ricky Frazier.



Happy Birthday to you!! Happy Birthday to you!!

Bill Burgess	February 4	Rita Rathmann	February 17
Frank Kitchens	February 5	Robin Thacker	February 20
Nathan Nix	February 10	Doris Ryals	February 27
Oliver Rathmann	February 14		

Happy Belated Birthday to Sharon Rainwater January 16



Happy Anniversary

Charles and Betty Cato	February 1
Mike and Robin Thacker	February 5
Ricky and Karen Frazier	February 17

The hosts for the monthly chapter dinners in 2007:

- | | | | |
|------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| • January | Dolly Ard | • July | John & Terri Wilson |
| • February | Gary & Marie Rabalais | • August | Rex & Ann Nix |
| • March | Oliver & Rita Rathmann | • September | Ronnie & Doris Ryals |
| • April | Don & Carla Withrow | • October | Steve & Linda Seligman |
| • May | Jeff & Darla Ingram | • November | Gary & Stormy Young |
| • June | Randy Talbutt | • December | Marty & Donna |

The Hospitality Region Presents The GOOD, The BAD & The UGLY. Region H Rally March 22, 23, 24, 2007 at the Marshall Texas Civic Center Complex, 2501 east End Blvd S



The 2007 Texas District Rally will be held in Wichita Falls May 17th – 19th. The theme this year will be “Riding With The Stars”, come dressed as your favorite movie or television star or character.



HUGS

It's wondrous what a hug can do.
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.

A hug can say "*I LOVE YOU SO,*" or
"*GEE, I HATE TO SEE YOU GO.*"

A hug is "Welcome back again."

"Great to see you ! Where have you been?"

A hug can soothe a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.

THE HUG! There's no doubt about it...

We scarcely could survive without it.

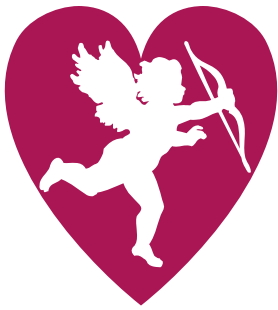
A hug delights and warms and charms.

It must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for Fathers and Mothers,
Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers.
And chances are your favorite aunt
Loves them more than potted plants.
Kittens crave them; puppies love them,
Heads of State are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier,
And make your travels so much merrier.
No need to fret about your store of them,
The more you give, the more there is of them.
So stretch those arms without delay
AND GIVE SOMEONE A HUG TODAY!!!



Want to treat your Valentine right? Join us at the Valentine's Dinner on Saturday February 10 at 7:00 pm – Outback Steakhouse at I-45 and 1960. RSVPs due to Karen Frazier by Saturday February 3.



February 2007
GWRRRA CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS

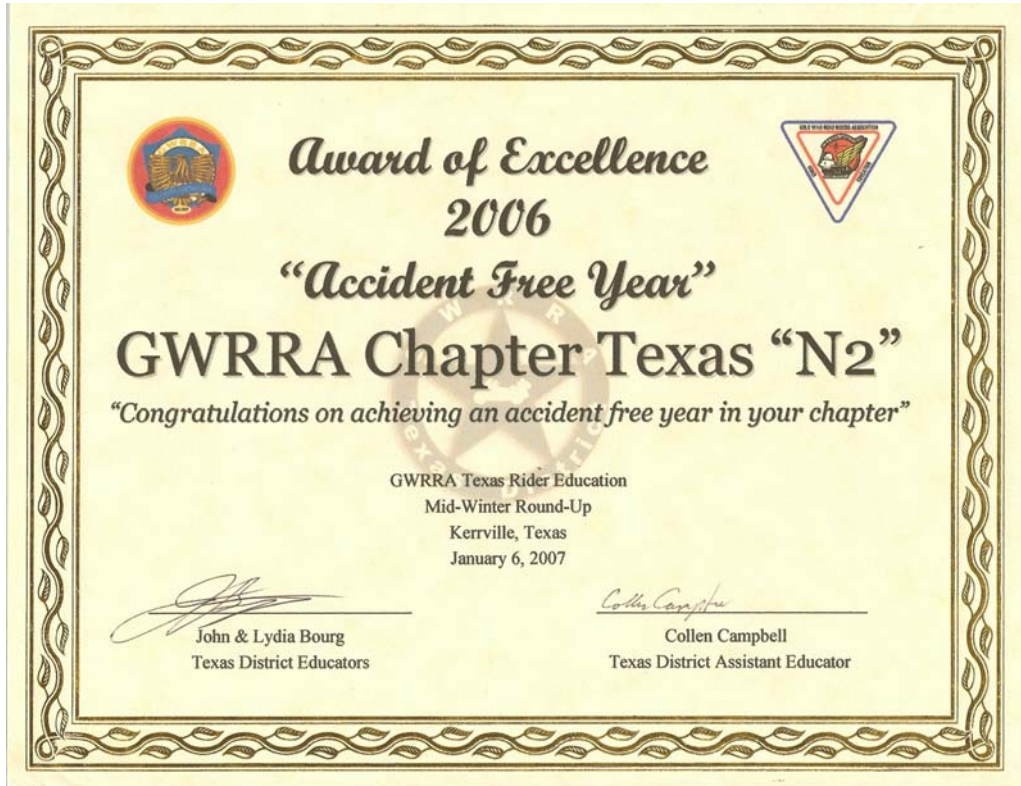
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3 RSVP for Valentine's Dinner to Karen Frazier at karenf@nctv.com
4 Super Bowl Party – Lynn and Jim Flourney's home 4:00 PM	5	6	7	8	9	10 Valentine's Dinner, 6:00 pm at Outback Steak House I-45 & 1960
11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Bowling Amf Diamond Lanes 267 N North Forest Drive 10 - 2
18	19	20	21 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner. Manuel Mexican Restaurant at 5856 FM 1960 E	22	23	24 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall.
25	26	27	28			



March 2007
GWRRR CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2	3 Armadillo Round Up Chapter S. Montgomery County Community Center
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Happy St Patrick's Day	15	16	17 Chapter X2 Birthday Party Bear Creek Pak 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall.
18	19	20	21 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner. Hosted by: Oliver & Rita Rathmann	22 Region H Rally, Marshall, TX leave Flying J at 8:00 am pre-fed	23 Region H Rally, Marshall, TX	24 Region H Rally, Marshall, TX
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Chapter J 's Fool Run Rally, Winnie, TX

At the Mid-Winter Round Up on January 6, 2007 in Kerrville, Texas - Chapter N-2 received the Award of Excellence for being accident free in 2006 . Way to go N-2!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Upcoming events:

Third Annual Armadillo Round up sponsored by Chapter S, Magnolia, TX. March 3 at Montgomery County Community Center. Registration begins at 9:00 am

Chapter v 6th annual Flock to Valley Rally – February 10, 9-3. Contact www.valleywings.org

Chapter X-2 Birthday Party at Bear Creek Park – March 17

Chapter J, 21st Annual Fools Run Rally. March 31 from 9-2 at the Winnie Community Bldg, contact David or JoAnn Parden

Louisiana State Rally – April 12 – 14 a the Holiday Inn Holidome in Lafayette, LA

Chapter O2 4th Annual Heart of Texas Wings Rally at Riverside Park, Brownwood, Tx. Contact Dave and Jean Simmons

Office DEPOT

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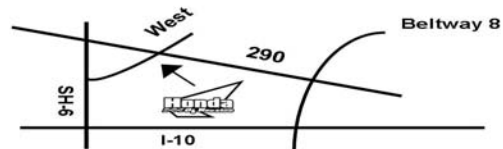


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