

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

**Humble
Chapter N2**



**Texas
Region H**

March 2007



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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 we move into better riding weather, everyone is starting to plan more rides. Robin and I want to thank everyone for the e-mails and suggestions for some up coming rides. I know a lot of y'all are looking forward to some day rides and even some over night rides. Some of the over night rides will be to Marshall for the Region H Rally, Wichita Falls for the district rally and Billings Montana for the Wing Ding. There are will also be other overnigher rides. Louisiana District Rally is coming up in April, the Bluebonnet Campout in Fredericksburg, a rally in Brownwood and Lake Texana.

There are several days rides coming up in March and April. The Armadillo Roundup in Montgomery, Luck of the Irish in Baytown, Birthday party at Bear Creek Park and the Fools Run in Winnie. I know we're ready to do some pretty scenic riding.

We are planning to put together a springtime maintenance day before all the nice riding weather gets here.

In the past there have been more and more motorcycles seen on the roads and will probably be a lot more this year. We have several events coming up to inform the public on how to be more aware of motorcycles around them; it's called the Motorcycle Awareness Division (M.A.D). The first M.A.D. event will be at "Humble Oils Days" on April 14th from 10 am to 5 pm. We will have a 20' x 20' area to set up to meet and greet the public and hand out information about the M.A.D. program. We have several more ideas that we're working on.

I know our Chapter Educator is working very hard to get a Road Captains Course, CPR and first aid classes put together.

Keep the e-mails and suggestions coming in. Be sure to keep checking them tires and come on out for the rides.

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



Rider Education

Situational Awareness

Before starting on this month's topic, let me take a moment to thank everyone in our N-2 family for their support and encouragement. It is a daunting task to follow in Rex's knowledgeable footprints. Suzanne and myself are here for you, so let us know what you need. We have enrolled six members in the Rider Education Program since January. That is awesome. I hope to get more members involved as time goes on.

Now onto the topic of the month – Situational Awareness.

Situational Awareness is critical to riding or driving safely on our streets and highways. With our roads congested with fatigued or distracted drivers only you can protect yourself. As promised last month, I want to pass on one technique used at FedEx to prevent accidents. At FedEx, we use a defensive driving program known as the "Smith System". There are five "Keys" to this program:

- * Aim High In Steering

- * Keep Your Eyes Moving

- * Get the Big Picture

- * Make Yourself Be Seen

- * Leave Yourself an Out

You can see how these "Keys" all interact to help a driver see and avoid trouble. This month, I will only talk about the first Key. The average driver, according to a study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, only scans about four seconds in front of their vehicle. I personally do not want a tired or distracted driver riding four seconds off the back of my vehicle. The NHTSA also concluded that the area of scanning is reduced to just off the right front corner of the vehicle as the driver tires.

If you are riding four seconds from the vehicle in front and an emergency braking situation arises, guess what happens. We at FedEx are taught to scan 15 seconds ahead of ourselves. This margin of error allows you time to react to a hazard without it becoming an emergency. This extra space causes minimal delay in your travels. It also lowers your stress level considerably if you are not always worrying about rear-ending the vehicle in front. These techniques are being presented on a "For Your Information" basis. What you do or don't do with them is your personal decision. I hope you will at least give them consideration. We always hear the saying "Ride Your Own Ride". But, are you really riding your own ride if the vehicle in front of you is dominating your

attention. I will expand on this subject next month and tie in the second Key. Until next time RIDE SAFE--RIDE AWARE.

Your Chapter Educators
Michael and Suzanne



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?

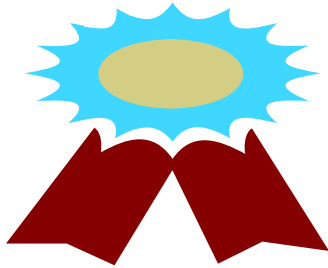
If so, send an email to Mike and Robin Thacker or put them in the suggestion box at the meetings.

Ride Participation and Miles Award Program

There was a suggestion concerning ride and event participation during our January Chapter Gathering. The suggestion was to track the Chapter miles that our members ride during the year and give recognition to that rider/co-rider at the end of the year. After discussing the suggestion with our CD's Mike and Robin Thacker, this incentive will be utilized. The Chapter has always recorded who rode the rides and now we will record the ride mileage from the lead bike's odometer and give all on the ride credit. We will also encourage riding your bike to Chapter Gatherings and Events by awarding mileage to the members on their motorcycles at these events. The rider with the most Chapter miles will be recognized and given an award at our Christmas Party. The members going to Wing Ding will rack up some serious miles, so the rest of us need to attend as many Chapter rides as we can to

keep up. As a group, our Chapter rolled up some really impressive miles in January due in large part to the fantastic turn out for Rex's Polar Bear Ride. We had 24 bikes ride New Year's Day and we also managed to get in two other rides despite the nasty January weather and as a group totaled 10,455 safe miles. Congratulations to everyone that participated. February's ride mileage is way down due to continued bad weather and low rider turn out. Our February safe mileage was 1,590, which is still good. The Chapter Staff is working hard to come up with fun rides. So, make your suggestions and then come out and ride and maybe you will be the high-miler in December. As always RIDE SAFE---RIDE AWARE.

Your Chapter Educators
Michael and Suzanne Elrod



Couple of the Year Adventures for February

We began February by attending M2's monthly meeting, which was a very exciting meeting. M2 was celebrating Mike Stoneburner's birthday and had a funny hat for him to wear. For those of you that do not know Mike and Vickie Stoneburner are the couple of the year for M2 so it was exciting for us to be part of his birthday celebration.

Now it was time for us to begin the preparation for the Valentine Dinner on February 10th. This was the first dinner Ricky and I were arranging and hosting, so we wanted everything to be special for everyone. Since Ricky and I had never planned anything like this before it was a new and exciting challenge for us. The Valentine Dinner was good and everyone seemed to enjoy the games, prizes and gifts they received. We missed everyone who could not attend and hope you can be at next year's dinner. We would like to thank Mark and Robin Smith and Mike and Robin Thacker for all their assistance in the preparing for the dinner,

On February 17, (our 23rd anniversary) we began our day with our extended family. We had fun bowling at the Diamond Bowling Lanes and we found out that we have some good bowlers in our group (Gary Sanborn, Mark & Robin Smith). We may want to challenge other chapters to a bowl off. If you did not join us for bowling you missed a really good time and we hope you will attend next time. After bowling Robin Thacker told us about a Premier of the Ghost Rider in Alvin and the local theatre wanted a lot of bikes there to promote the movie and for people to look at so we took a ride to Alvin. We hung out at the theater for a couple of hours. We then wanted to have dinner so Mike Thacker suggested we go to Kemah. This was great for Ricky and I because on our 20th anniversary Ricky talked me into riding a Honda 600 Shadow to Kemah for the weekend. This was when he got me hooked and we began to consider buying a motorcycle. Just as it was 3 years ago, it was very windy when we went across the Fred Hartman Bridge. I was on my own bike this time and had to handle the wind on my own. What an adventure for our 23rd anniversary. We rode almost 200 miles and enjoyed time with our extended family. The day was wonderful and we would not have changed anything. See you again next month.

Ricky & Karen Frazier
Couple of the Year 2007



PAINTED CHURCHS RIDE – APRIL 21, 2007

If the weather cooperates we, are going to try the Painted Churches ride, one more time. Here is a rough outline of the trip:

7:00 AM start time at Flying “J” at Hwy 59 and 242 in front of the restaurant

8:00 AM (big) breakfast at the Magnolia Diner

First gas stop & rest break 116 miles out will be in Giddings

Visit 5 churches about 20 minutes at each church

Late lunch in Columbus

Second gas stop & rest break 116 miles from Giddings will be in New Ulm

Third gas stop & rest break (if needed) 75 miles from New Ulm in Tomball

Total mileage for the trip should be around 340 miles and we should be back before 7:00 PM

These churches may not look like much from the outside, but wait until you go inside. The interiors of the buildings have beautiful stain glass windows and beautifully painted murals on the walls and ceilings. Unless there is road construction, I can promise no dirt road riding, but there will be some back roads riding to get to some of these churches. There will be some beautiful countryside, lots of back roads, and one surprise along the way.

Sharon and I will pull our trailer to carry some drinks and snacks to tide us all over between breakfast and lunch. We hope each of you are planning on making this trip, it should be memorable.

Sharon and Randy Rainwater

Recipe of the month

Mexican Tortilla Soup Shirley Rodger

1 lb ground beef

2 cans (14-1/2 oz. each) beef broth

1jar (16 oz) Taco Bell Home Originals Thick ‘N’ Chunky Salsa

1 can (7oz) whole kernel corn, undrained

1 cup tortilla chips, crushed

1 cup Kraft Mexican style shredded cheese

Brown meat in large saucepan, drain.

Add broth, salsa and corn, bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer 5 minutes or until heated through.

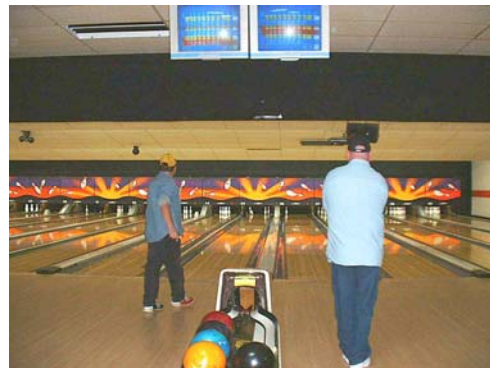
Service topped with crushed chips and cheese

The chapter goes bowling!!!!

On Saturday, February 17th, members of N-2 went bowling at Diamond Bowl on North Freeway in front of North Forest Subdivision for approximately 3 hours. There were 10 adults and two children that showed up for the event. Some of us met up on 242 & FM 1314 and rode to the bowling alley together, others met us there. We bowled on 5 lanes, each person bowling 2 to 3 games. We ate lunch at the alley as we were bowling. Food wasn't half bad. Both kids and adults had a great time. There was a lot of cutting up and laughing. We had the whole bowling alley to ourselves. After we finished bowling, 9 of us went to Alvin to a Ghost Rider bike show. There were 7 bikes that made the trip. We hung out at the theater for a bit checking out all the different bikes that had shown up. We also showed our support to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation booth by buying snacks and drinks from them. Being so close to Kemah, we then rode over for burgers at Tookies. Great Food! After dinner, we headed home, but not before stopping in Baytown at Dairy Queen for dessert. We rode a total of 150 miles for the full day. The weather was fantastic even with the chill and the wind.

We had nothing but sunny skies to ride under. Along with all the fun, we helped Ricky & Karen Frazier celebrate their 23rd wedding anniversary. Hopefully, we made it one to remember! I can honestly say, there is nothing like a great ride with great friends! I am really new to participating in a riding Chapter, but I am definitely happy Mark and I found N-2. We enjoy the kinship and the activities more than I can express. I feel once again that I have an extended family! Looking forward to more.....

Robin Smith



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!!

Dolly Ards	March 10	David Sanborn	March 15
Gary Young	March 10	Jeff Ingram	March 18
Carolyn Burgess	March 14	Marie Rabalais	March 20



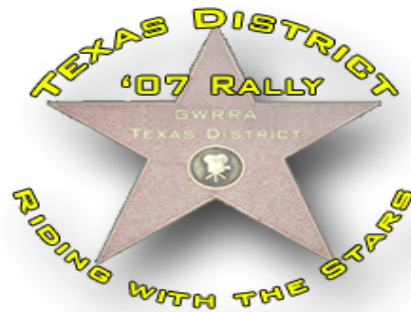
Happy Anniversary

Randy and Anna Carroll	March 21
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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.



First Trike Riding Lesson

Well, I finally got my first lesson on how to drive the trike. Steve decided it was time I bite the bullet. So, one Sunday morning we headed out – of course, first I had to build my courage by filling up on pancakes at IHOP. Once we got to the old Kmart parking lot on 1960, Steve stopped the trike, got off and told me to ‘Move on up’. Now I was nervous, I was really going to drive this machine. After a few minutes of Steve explaining to me the clutch, the gears, the gas and most important THE BRAKE, he climbed in the back seat. All of a sudden this little voice came through my headset to start her up. After a few minutes of sputtering we were off. I mastered stop and go then circles. Nothing to it. Huh!! Now it was time to circle the light posts. I think one time Steve almost flew off the back seat. You know, I am an intelligent woman, but putting all the stuff together is hard. I had to remember to clutch before I changed gears, clutch and downshift, as I slowed down, to use the breaks, watch my speed and watch for obstacles in the road. Steve did a great job. I drove for about an hour and a half. Then Steve was back in control. You know, for now, I think I will remain the ‘Dead weight in the back’.

Lind Seligman



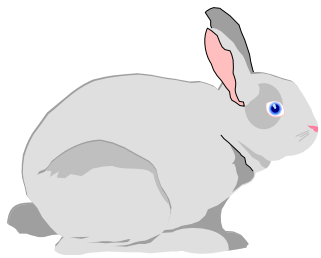
March 2007
GWRRA CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS

Sun

Tue

Wed

				1	2	3 Chapter S Armadillo Round Up in Montgomery 9AM Flying J Pre fed
4 Ride to Brenham Airport for lunch. 10AM Flying J	5	6	7	8	9	10 Chapter C Luck of the Irish at East Side Honda., Baytown. 9AM Flying J Pre fed
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Chapter X2 Birthday Party Bear Creek Park 10AM Flying J Maintenance Day – Jim and Lynn Flourney’s 8AM 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall.
18	19	20	21 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner. Fuddruckers in Kingwood	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 Washington on the Brazos 9:30AM LilMexico	26	27	28	29	30	31 Chapter J ‘s Fool Run Rally, Winnie, TX 8AM Flying J prefed



<p>April 2007</p> <p>GWRRRA CHAPTER N2</p> <p>HUMBLE, TEXAS</p>

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 April Fool's Day Trailer class	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Easter Sunday	9	10	11	12 Louisiana Rally	13 Louisiana Rally	14 Lindsay Foundation "Ride for the Bear." Humble Oil Days 10 -5 Louisiana Rally
15	16	17	18 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner. Hosted by: Don & Carla Withdraw	19	20	21 Painted Churches ride. Flying J 7:00 AM
22	23	24	25	26 Ride for Kids premium training	27	28 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall. Ride for Kids set up
29 Ride for Kids	30	31				.

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 at 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

The Lindsay Foundation ‘Ride for the Bear’

Lindsay Nannet McMillan was born on February 25, 1984. She was a beautiful, happy child. It soon became apparent that Lindsay was not going to lead a healthy life. Numerous hospitalizations, doctors, specialists and therapy became part of "normal" life for Lindsay and her family. What also became part of normal life was the constant battles to gain the necessities of her life. Expensive formulas, therapies, medical equipment, non-covered medical procedures, and later nursing care, led to fights with insurance companies and bureaucracies. On March 3, 1999, Lindsay lost her fight for life. She touched so many people in her life that The Lindsay Foundation was formed in her memory. The hope is that no other family will have to fight so hard to receive the assistance that is needed in order to provide for the children that they love. It is a parent's worst nightmare to realize that their child has needs that cannot be met. The 2007 "RIDE FOR THE BEAR" charity motorcycle ride is scheduled for Saturday April 14. Entry fee is \$35.

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