

**Gold Wing Road Riders Association**

*FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE*

**Humble  
Chapter N2**



**Texas  
Region H**

**October 2007**

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23620 Oakwood  
Splendor, TX, 77372

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# Chapter N2 Staff – 2007

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## **Website**

[www.gwrra-n2-humbletx.com](http://www.gwrra-n2-humbletx.com)

Chapter meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## News from the Chapter Director

As you have probably heard from the District staff, due to a job change that is relocating him out of Texas, John Simonick has stepped down as District Director. Ken and Barbie Peterson will be taking over as the District Directors. We wish John and Sharon the best of luck.

Texas District Education Day is closing in on us. It is on November 3<sup>rd</sup> thru the 4<sup>th</sup>, in Lufkin Texas. You can view the GWRRA information for the Education Day on the District web site. It has a list of the courses offered and a list of the Leadership training. Early enrollment is required to ensure your place in class. You will find more information on Texas Education Weekend further down in the newsletter.

Ricky and Karen, our COY, will be participating in the District couple of the year selection process at Mid Winter Round Up in January 2008. In order to prepare them for the competition in January, during Education Weekend they will be getting assistance in reviewing their resume, a mock selection process, interviewing, vest (patch placement) sample questions and the oral presentation. If anyone has any suggestions about what they can place in their resume, please get with Ricky or Karen. The Mid Winter Round Up will be held in Kerrville Texas on January 5<sup>th</sup> 2008.

We have a lot of rides coming up in October, starting with the Poultry Festival in Center, Texas. Then we have the Mississippi State Rally - Touring the Tropics Rally in Biloxi, Mississippi, Sundaes in the Park with Chapter M2 in Montgomery Texas at the Community Building at 149 and 105. And of course the Honda Invitational ride to San Antonio Texas.

With the holidays coming up we have a lot of things planned for everyone. We will be handing out the Christmas gift list from the Harris County Foster kids for the Toy Run, riding in the parade for the Toy Run, the Cleveland Christmas Parade and our Chapter Christmas party.

Let's all start working on those ideas for decorating the bikes for the parades and the Christmas bike decorating show.

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



## Rider Education

### SAFETY SLOGANS

Most all of us are familiar with many popular safety slogans. While we may not give them much thought, they are recognizable. We may automatically associate the slogans with the actions they are asking us to do or not do.

Some of the slogans are retired, while others have withstood the test of time and are still being aired on radio, television, and billboards. One of the very first Public Service Announcements I remember is the old Civil Defense warning to “Drop and Cover” in the event of a nuclear attack. If you can remember these old drills, you just gave away your age. For you youngsters, that goes back to the Cold War days of the late fifties and early sixties.

Another slogan that came along about that time and is still with us today is our old friend Smoky the Bear. He is forever associated with the slogan “Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires” though he never uttered a word.

When the Government decided we needed to slow down they came up with the slogan “Drive 55 and Arrive Alive”. This brings us up to current slogans that are more relevant to driving. “Click It Or Ticket” is an attempt to get people to buckle their seatbelts. In 2004 there were 16,000 people killed from vehicle ejections during crashes. Guess the success of this ad campaign is questionable. Let’s take a look at an organization that is blitzing radio with their slogans.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving. We are all familiar with their slogan. “Friends Don’t Let Friends Drive Drunk”. Has their campaign been successful? I don’t know and that is not the subject of this article. I just want to study their mantra and compare its purpose with ours here at GWRRA. Madd has recently modified their slogan to reflect lower Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) levels. The legal limit in Texas is .08. Madd’s new ad campaign talks about one drink too many rather than being plastered. The new slogan is “Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving”. But, for this article let’s just stay with the original, more recognizable slogan.

“Friends Don’t Let Friends Drive Drunk”. What is Madd really saying with this slogan. They are asking friends, ordinary not professionally trained experts, to make judgments about their friends ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Madd is asking these same friends to act upon their personal convictions based on the facts, as they know them. Madd is asking these friends to say, with no reservations, no apologies, no compromise, NO you are NOT driving right now. I am not letting you drive right now because your ability to do so is questionable and you are my Friend. Because we are Family. Because I care about you. Now, let’s do that comparison thing.

G.W.R.R.A.’s slogan is “Friends For Fun, Safety, Knowledge”. Our Founders recognized the desire for like-minded folks to get together for fun filled rides on our wings. That takes care of the Friends for Fun part. Realizing early on that this group of friends represented a diverse level of experience and riding skills the Rider Education Program was quickly born. thus the Safety and Knowledge part of our mantra came to be. Now, with the tools and uniform training syllabus available to all riders the skill levels equaled out right. *WRONG*. Riders natural driving abilities, or lack of, still caused a disparity in riding skills. So, now we train in four Levels. This keeps new riders to the group riding atmosphere from becoming overwhelmed while increasing experience and skill levels.

Level I is basically the entry level for new GWRRR riders. Level I basically just introduces new riders to the concept of riding safely. By signing up for Level I, the rider is simply agreeing to practice and encourage safe motorcycle operation when ever they operate their motorcycle.

Level II requires the rider to take a riding course at least every three years. Now, we are working on raising the skill levels of our riders. Thanks to the mileage requirement we are also raising the experience level of the riders.

Level III requires additional training and for carrying first-aid kits in their bikes. Level three must be maintained safely for at least one year *and* 25,000 miles before graduating to the top level.

Level IV. Our Master Tour Riders. Here among these riders we have a wealth of experience and knowledge and a commitment to safety.

Let's all become mentors and good examples. Only then can we get our new found friends up to speed so they will have confidence in this group riding concept.

I hope all GWRRR riders will take pride in their organization and truly get behind our motto "Friends For Fun Safety and Knowledge". Let's get everyone involved in the Rider Education Program. Let's go out and ride with confidence, pride, and respect. Let's make our new found friends happy and safe in their new style of riding. *Let's be friends and family.*

Until Next Month Ride Safe--- Ride Aware-- Ride Respectfully

Michael & Suzanne Elrod  
Chapter Educators  
Chapter N-2 Humble, TX



## Raw Apple Cake

4 cup chopped apples	1 ½ teaspoon baking soda
2 cup flour	2 cup sugar
2 eggs	½ cup oil
1 teaspoon Vanilla	1 cup raisins (optional)
1 teaspoon cinnamon	1 cup walnuts (optional)
1 teaspoon salt	

Mix all ingredients in large bowl. Turn into a greased 9X13 pan and cook for 1 hour at 350 degrees

# POULTRY FESTIVAL RIDE - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

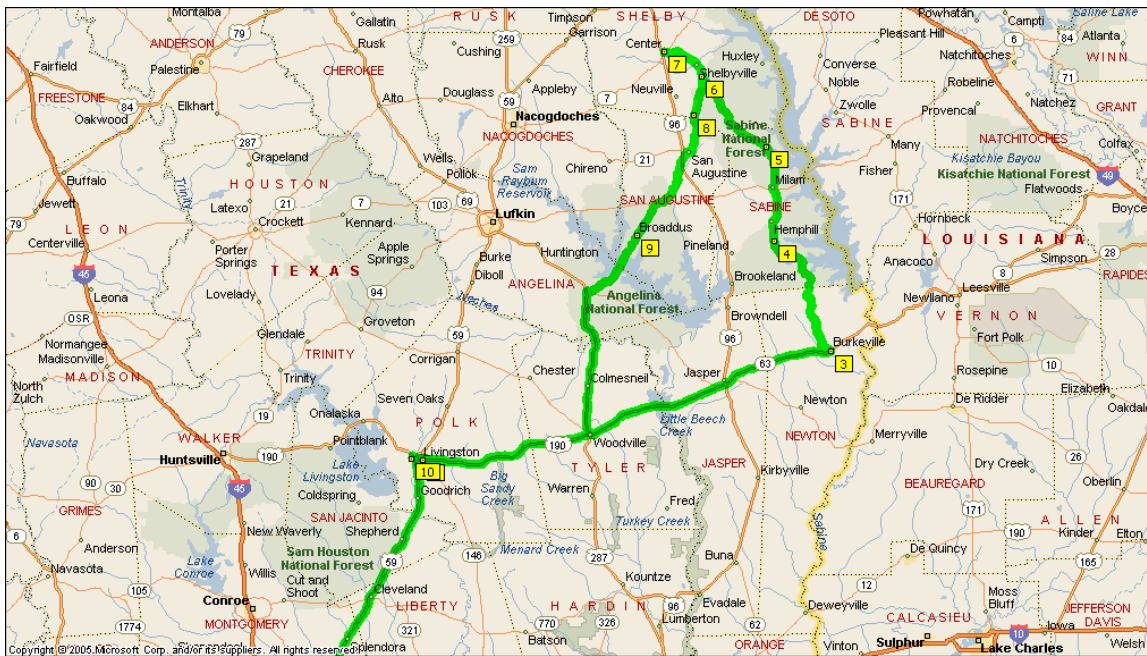
by Randy Rainwater

We will leave from the Flying J at the intersection of Hwy 59 and 242 on Saturday, October 6 at 7:00 am. Our first stop will be breakfast in Livingston at the Whistle Stop and Center will be our next stop after riding some of the East Texas back roads. We will spend a few hours checking out the Poultry Festival and then find a few more back roads on our way back home.



2007 East Texas Poultry Festival  
October 4-6

Held inside the historic courthouse square and courtyard in Center. Arts and crafts booths, 3-day carnival, with live entertainment day and night, parade, food booths, chicken clucking contest, chicken cooking contest, poultry judging\auction & more...



*It is good to have an end to journey toward, but it is the journey that matters in the end.*

Ursula K LeGuin

## **DREAMS COME TRUE**

*By: Paul Rich*

*GWRRA #128711, TRI #0815, Master Tour Rider #2669*

Even as a child I dreamed of attending the car speed trials on the Bonneville Salt Flats. As an adult I yearned to see the motorcycle speed trials that began on the Flats in 1956. (It was in August of that year that motorcycle International Speed Trials with official FIM requirements began on the salt flats in Utah.) My dreams became a reality this summer.

Meeting a new friend by the name of Kerry O'Day in GWRRA Chapter TX N-2 must have been a God-send. Kerry was going to run his motorcycle on the Bonneville Salt Flats! It only took a slight invitation from Kerry to ignite my fire of hope-- that of being able to go to Utah to watch him participate. And, it only took my mentioning such a trip to my friend Jim Flournoy to wet his appetite as well. That's how it all began. Soon we were off to ride 4,300 miles through six states to view the trials.

It was on August 30, that Jim and I began our sojourn to Utah. Packing my Hannigan trailer to capacity, we hitched it to my red Gold Wing trike. Yes, we were ready for the eleven day trip. Jim astride his gold 2006 Gold Wing and I on my red 2004 Gold Wing trike we rode out of my driveway at 6 A.M. on that Thursday morning. We were fulfilling our dreams as we headed for the Salt Flats in Utah.

Leaving Lubbock where we spent night one, we rode through New Mexico to Colorado. As is common on many long distance rides, we met a nice fellow biker by the name of Dennis in Cortez, Colorado who was on his way to the trials as well. Joining in the ride with us, he explained that he was on the pit crew for one of the participating bikes. Riding the rest of the distance with us, he, Jim and I arrived at our destination in Windover, Nevada on Saturday, September 1—approximately 15 miles from Bonneville Salt Flats.

Windover was where we had a rendezvous with our trials-participating buddy Kerry. Luckily Kerry had trailered his Kawasaki 650 behind his pickup truck from Texas to Utah. I say luckily because he let Jim and me ride to the Salt Flats daily with him from our hotel. Salt isn't the best thing to have our bikes travel through. Too, Kerry's truck provided a tad bit of shade to shelter us from the severity of the sun. We, with our heads covered with towels and a cap, looked like Arabs on the desert. Sun reflecting on the white salt was extremely hot and could burn one even under his nose or chin.

Being on the Salt Flats watching the trials was a real experience. Bikes of every make and configuration participated in the motorcycle speed trials but many racers were disappointed. Due to rains, the salt was wet and that prevented racers from obtaining the speed that they had anticipated. This included our friend Kerry. But Jim and I had fulfilled our dreams and Kerry was happy that he could be with two of his old school buddies Bob Caneftrini and Jim Brouw from Salt Lake City.

After three days observing trials on the Flats, Jim and I, with burned faces, headed south on Wednesday, September 5. Riding the length of Nevada the first day, we enjoyed riding through the Great Basin National Park. Gigantic mountains towered over the basin. Atop one such mountain with elevation of 9,886 feet (Wheeler Peak) Jim and I ate our picnic lunch. The day ended by our spending the night in St. George, Utah. The highlight of the trip was the following day when we traveled through Bryce, Zion and Capitol Reef National Parks, Glen Canyon and the Natural Bridges. For those who have never ridden in that area, it is a must! The most spectacular scenery in the world is located in Southern Utah.

Because we took one whole day admiring the gorgeous scenery in Utah, we spent the night in Hanksville, UT before heading out toward Texas. Spending a third night in Springerville, AZ and a fourth night in Big Springs, TX, we arrived home on Sunday, September 9.

Even with sun-burned faces we were happy bikers. We had been to the Bonneville Flats to see the motorcycle trials – although somewhat disappointing. Yet we were proud of our friend Kerry and his attempts to conquer the wet salt on his Kawasaki 650. His speed of 98.9 mph may not have met his expectations, but seemed fast to us novice spectators.

And as we continued to reminisce we knew that we had also met new friends. We had ridden through some of the most spectacular scenery in the world. We had fun! We had arrived home safely. Isn't that what it is all about – Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge?

But mainly, my dreams had come true.

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## Wing Ding 30

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) is pleased to announce its 30th annual Wing Ding will be in Greenville, South Carolina, next year. The international convention opens Thursday, July 3, and runs through Sunday, July 6, 2008, at the Carolina First Center, formerly known as the Palmetto Expo Center. Visit GWRRA's websites: [www.gwrri.org](http://www.gwrri.org) and [www.wing-ding.org](http://www.wing-ding.org) or call (800) 843-9460 or (623) 581-2500 (in Phoenix) for more information

## **Did Someone Say 'Camping'**

By Rex Nix

I love listening to the sound of airplanes landing and taking off. Or sirens blaring from some emergency vehicle off to help someone, and at my house the rumble of a train pulling untold products down a pair of steel rails. Or even the sound of some stereo going bump de bump de bump setting off every car alarm on the block. How can anyone not love the hustle and bustle of going to work in a wonderful place like Houston?

Over the years, I have traveled through a few states, many several times and around a lot of Texas. I have hoteled it, moteled it, stayed with friends, stayed with strangers, slept in a blanket on a park bench, camped in tents, small campers, large campers, and one night during a really bad storm a lot of folks trying to camp got together in a concrete building, the women's restroom, and we spent most of the night trying to stay dry. We all had a lot of fun just talking about the storms we have weathered over the years.

It seems to me that there is just something about camping that draws me. Maybe it is the openness of it. You are out there for everyone to say hi to you while giving you the opportunity to say hi back. In most hotels, trying to talk to strangers may only get you a weird look and a grunt if you are lucky. Maybe it is the waking up and taking a stroll to the facilities while enjoying the sound of waking birds, a light breeze traveling through the trees, the bark of a family pet happy to see someone moving around camp,

or the sound of a tree branch brushing against others while falling toward the ground, these are all great sounds we don't hear in a hotel.

How about smelling brewing coffee and cooking bacon drifting through the air from someone else's camping area to my smell buds. That is what I call them and I am sticking to the story. Maybe it is the smell of burning wood early in the morning that helps to warm us after a cool nights sleep. Or maybe it is the fire we had the night before while sitting around telling stories. You know, it is hard to cook a Smore in a hotel.

I remember with fondness taking our son Nathan when he was young for a camping trip through some Rocky Mountain areas for a week. One night we were on the road late and finally finding a place to set up camp we made dinner and settled in for the night laying 5 feet from a small brook that softly and soothingly helped us sleep with its wonderful sound. Nathan was up unusually early the next day when he started going on about some giant rock hanging on the side of a mountain. I got up to see and sure nuf, this rock was many times bigger than our house and looked like it was being held up by some magic. The morning sun was fully on it drawing out all the intense colors of the native stone. What a beautiful sight to start the day with.

I love being out with the critters, although, raccoons know how to open a cooler and they WILL steal your food. I have had deer, rabbits, different types of squirrels, an assortment of birds and many other wildlife visit us during a campout. And I have to say a few critters I was happy to see leave our campsites.

Please don't get me wrong; I realize camping is not for everyone or for every travel occasion. But when opportunity arises, I will make every attempt to spend some time in a campground hanging with folks from all walks of life that enjoy the outdoors.

With this longwinded opening finished, I have asked and have been given the opportunity to be the Chapters Camping Coordinator, if that is what you call it. I will be working on plans for a couple of outings before the end of this year and hope to get up to a half dozen set up for next year. The first trip opened to the group is a trip I am taking in the middle of September to Mountain View Arkansas to visit another group with the International Brotherhood of Motorcycle Campers. All I know is they like camping, I like the area they are going to be in, so why not.

Please understand that everyone is invited to our camping experiences whether you are camping or not. If there is a hotel close by for you to stay in and you want to visit the area we are in, come on and have fun. This is just one more thing to promote getting together and having fun while riding our bikes through this great country. If you would like to make suggestions of places to go and visit, just let me know. All it takes is a desire, a reason to go, a touch of ability and a little time.

Happy camping. Rex and Ann





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

Charles Cato	October 24	Kerry O'Day	October 1
Lynn Flournoy	October 29		



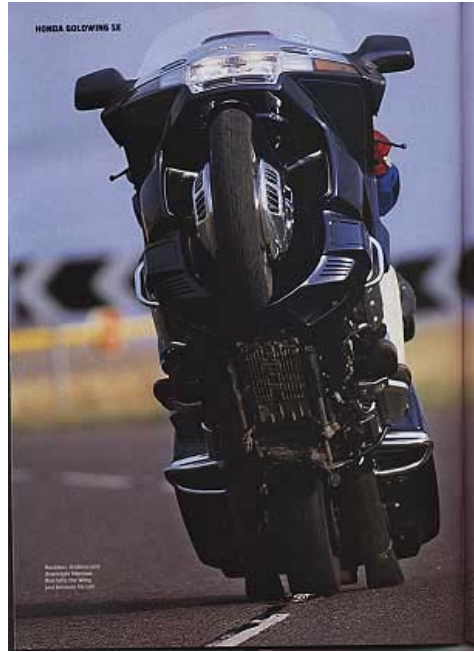
**Happy Anniversary**

Kerry & Carol O'Day	October 7
Brad & Shirley Rodger	October 22

**Upcoming Region/District events:**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| October 11-13, 2007 | Mississippi District Rally<br>Biloxi, MS   |
| October 21, 2007    | Chapter M2's Fifth Annual Rally<br>Sundae in the Park – Montgomery County Community Building |
| November 3 –4, 2007 | Education Day<br>Lufkin, TX  |
| November 17, 2007   | Chapter Z 18 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party<br>Challenger Park, Webster, TX                    |
| January 5, 2008     | Mid Winter Round Up<br>Kerrville, TX   |
| April 17 – 19, 2008 | Region H Rally, Marshall, TX   |
| May 8 – 10, 2008    | Texas District Rally<br>Corpus Christi, TX   |

## How to inspect the underbody of a Gold Wing



Help wanted !!!! Help wanted !!!! Help wanted !!!!

Chapter N2's Christmas Party is December 15. Volunteers needed for table and chairs set up, decorating, food set up, clean up and other committees. If you would like to volunteer please contact Mike and Robin Thacker.

I wanted to share with you one of my favorite pictures from our trip this summer to Wing Ding. Can you tell what the picture is and who took the picture? Guys – it is what the co-riders sees everytime we go for a ride!!!!



## GWRRA - Texas District Education Weekend

Date: November 3rd & 4th 2007  
Time: Saturday 8 –5 Sunday 8 – 12  
Hosted at: Angelina College, Lufkin, Texas

This event has been developed for the purpose of promoting Motorcycle riding safety, for GWRRA members. These courses are not only being offered for their safety aspect but to also provide the required training for those involved with /or interested in being involved with the GWRRA Rider Education Levels Program. The training opportunity is offered to all GWRRA members, but space is limited, once a course is full we will have to close enrollment for that course. So register early.

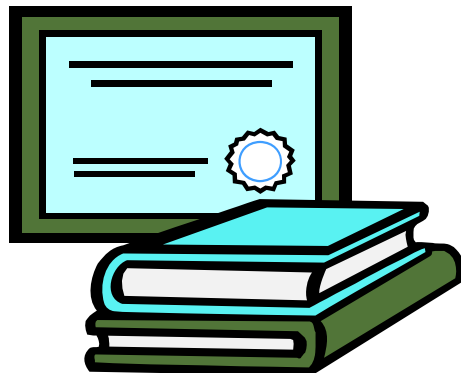
### Courses Offered

* GWRRA's Road Captain Course	FREE	
* GWRRA's Co-Rider Seminar	FREE	
* GWRRA's Trike Course	\$50.00	\$25.00 refund upon completion
* GWRRA's Trailering Course	\$50.00	\$25.00 refund upon completion
* First Aid/CPR Courses	\$25.00	
* ERC Experienced Rider Course – 1 UP	\$70.00	
* Leadership Training Knowledge		

### Enhancement Program – all FREE

- Leadership
- Chapter Structure & Organization
- Chapter Finance
- Newsletter
- Delegation
- Staffing
- Your are an Officer, Now What?
- Officer Appointment Procedures
- Interviewing Techniques

Registration form and map can be found at <http://www.gwrri-tx.org/07REDWeekend/Flyer.pdf>



## **Texas District Staff**

Ken & Barbie Peterson  
District Directors

Pamela Meyer  
District Treasurer/Newsletter Editor

John & Lydia Bourg  
District Educator

Collen Campbell  
Assistant District Educator

Ron & Magaly Griffis  
District Trainer

Dieter Meyer  
Chief Advisor

Jim & Ruby Seale  
Vendor Coordinators

John & Lena Bryant  
Assistant Membership  
Enhancement Coordinators

Carolyn Barton  
Assistant Membership  
Enhancement Coordinator

Gene & Carolyn Tice  
Couple of the Year  
2006-2007

Website: <http://www.gwrra-tx.org/>

## **Region H Staff**

Gliff & Donna Miller  
Region H Director

Harry & Joan Dollarhide  
Region H Assistant Director

Ed Nahl  
Region H Treasurer

Dale & Susan Wingrove  
Region H Trainers

Walt Smith  
Region H Educator

John & Lydia Bourg  
Region H Webmaster  
& Newsletter

Ken & Rhonda Holmes  
Region H Couple of the Year  
2007-2008

website: <http://region-h.org/>

October 2007  
**GWRRA 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	4	5	6 Poultry Festival, Center, TX Flying J 7:00 am NOT PRE FED
7	8	9	10	11 MS Rally – Biloxi. Leave Flying J 6:00 am NOT PRE FED	12 MS Rally – Biloxi.	13 MS Rally – Biloxi.
14 MS Rally – Biloxi.	15	16	17 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner	18	19	20 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall
21 Chapter M2 5 <sup>th</sup> annual Sundae in the Park Flying J 9:30 am NOT PRE FED	22	23	24	25	26 Chapter J Horroween Camp out Wolf Creek Park Lake Livingston at Cold Springs	27 Gold Wing Invitational leave Flying J 7:00 am PREFED  Chapter J Horroween Camp out
28 Chapter J Horroween Camp out	29	30	31 Happy Halloween			



November 2007  
**GWRRA 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 Texas District Education Weekend, Lufkin, TX
4 Texas District Education Weekend, Lufkin, TX	5	6	7	8	9	10 Texas Honor Ride to Brooke Air Force Base, San Antonio
11	12	13	14 7:00 pm Chapter Dinner	15	16	17 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall
18	19	20	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## **Office DEPOT**

Hwy 59 at  
FM 1960

281-540-9005



## **CREATIVE** ***MEMORIES***

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**24273 E. Terrace, Porter, Tx 77365**  
**281/354-8563 or 281/615-1365**

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**Yellow/black polo shirts** with logo: \$25.00

**Grey T-shirts** with logo:

Short sleeve \$10.00

Long sleeve \$12.00

**Yellow T-shirts** with logo:

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**Black denim vests** \$25.00

Contact Randy or Sharon Rainwater

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