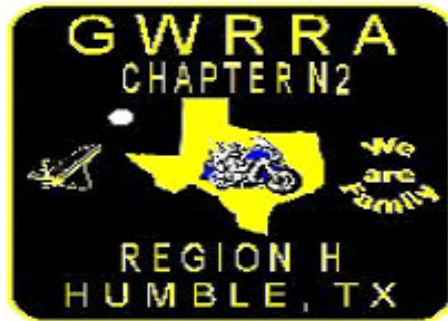


# Gold Wing Road Riders Association

*FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE*



**Texas District  
Chapter N2  
Humble, Texas**

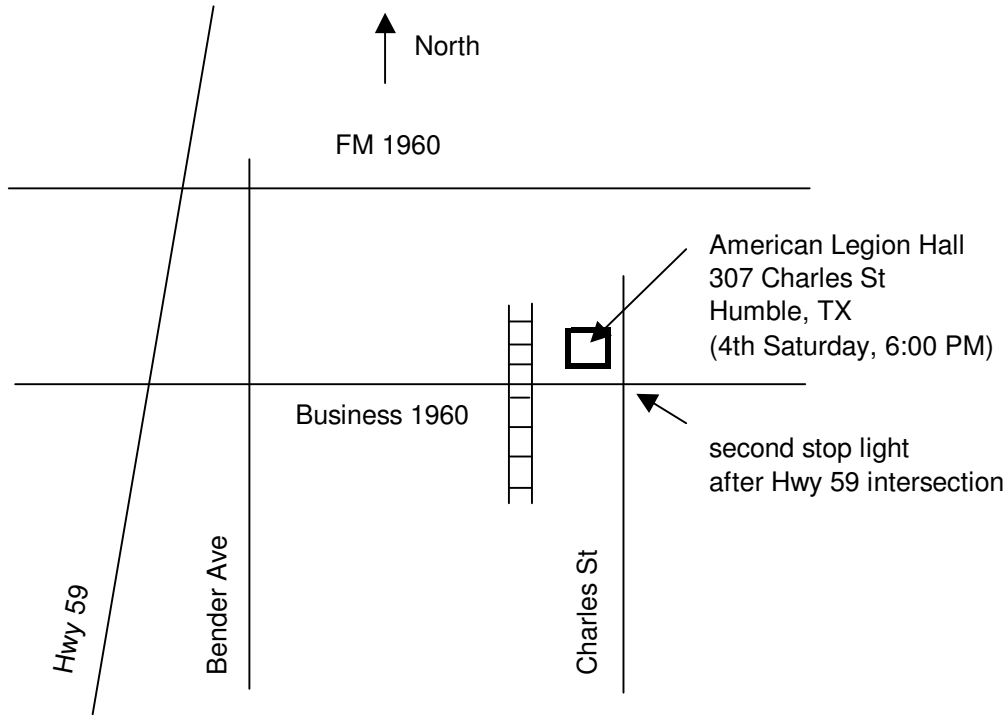
**South Central Region H**

## The N2 Buzz

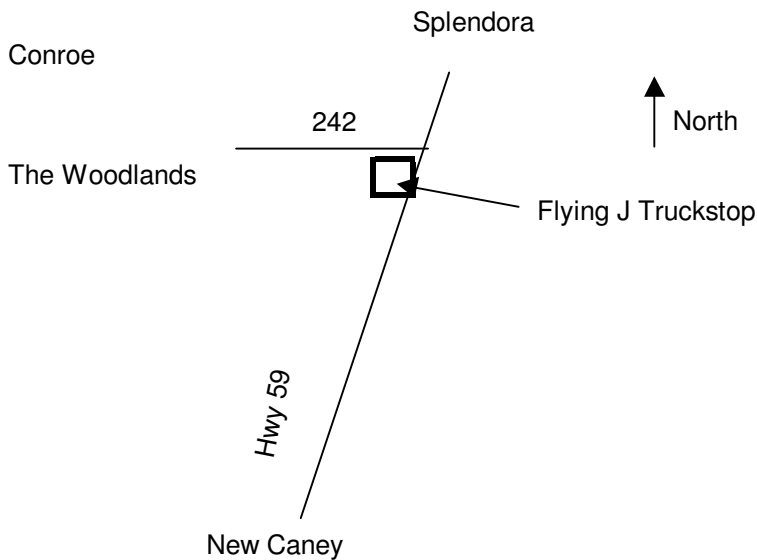


# December 2009

**MONTHLY MEETING PLACE**



**RIDE MEETING PLACE**



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE...265569**

- Monthly Meeting/Ride Location Maps
- Chapter N-2 Staff
- Texas District Staff
- News from the Chapter Directors
- Assistant Chapter Directors
- 2009 Couple of the Year
- Rider Education
- Wee Bee Cruzin'
- Florida's Kitchen Ride
- Brazos Cattle Company Ride
- Recipes
- Bucket List
- Games
- This & That
- Chapter Calendars
- Newsletter Sponsors

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## NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Mike & Robin Thacker  
Master Tour Rider 6751 & 6162  
Chapter N2 - Humble, TX



since we became Chapter Directors.

Mike had a dear friend named Harold who he used to ride with. He had a teal green Goldwing and was a GWRRA member. He passed away in 2001 and Mike stopped riding for a while, because he felt like he had no one to ride with any more. He missed riding with his friend. I signed him up in May 2004 as a birthday gift in June. We received the packet in June just before his birthday. He used the Gold Book and made some phone calls to members from the closest Chapter (Humble). We made our first meeting in June of 2004.

We remember our first day at a N2 meeting in June 2004. It was being held at Kingwood Hospital. With our profession, we tend to not let people get in our personal space, but that evening, a lot of people did, by all the hugs we received. Everyone made us feel so welcome. We sat and listened to Carolyn Thomsen, Chapter Director, talk about rides they had taken and the rides they were going to take. She was talking about something called a WING DING that was going to be in Grapevine, Texas. We thought to ourselves, now these people like to ride their motorcycles. We then realized that this is where we belonged. We jumped in with both feet.

At this time, Mike had a 1500 black 1994 GoldWing and, yes, I was a passenger. We began to go on a lot of rides. We took a Road Captain's

Look how time flies when you are having so much fun. We can't believe it has been three years,

Course and Mike began to lead rides to different locations. At this point, we were hooked on the people and this thing they called CHAPTER N2. I bought my VTX 1300 in 2005 and that was all she wrote. We have not been home much in three years, because we're always gone on a ride.

We were so happy to find a group of people that became our second family. We have met so many good people all over the world that we might only get to see once a year at rallies, but look forward to seeing them again. We have made life-long friends through are journey with GWRRA and hope to continue to make new friends.

We both remember when Carolyn asked us to be the Assistant Chapter Directors. We asked ourselves, what do they do? We began to get on the computer and look up anything and everything about GWRRA. We became Chapter Directors in January of 2006. We found that it's a learn-as-you-go type of Association. We had a lot of questions and everyone we asked had an answer or would help us find the answer.

After three years as Chapter Directors, it is time for us to bring some new ideas and new faces to the Chapter. As our tenure comes to an end, we would like to say thank you for all the support we received from our Chapter and, especially, our Staff. It has been a pleasure serving as Chapter Directors. We know as Steve and Linda Seligman take over in January, that all of you will give them the same support that we received. When they come to you to be a part of their staff, or asked you to help with an idea they have, DO IT. It is an honor and it gets people involved and the more people involved, the more fun you will have.

## NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Steve & Linda Seligman  
Chapter N2  
Humble, TX



I am sure you have heard a lot about the first Chapter N2 cruise to M e x i c o . Linda and I happened to be among the group of 24 who set sale on October 31...yes, Halloween. It is funny that when we began talking about the cruise, we all decide we would just wear masks--no one was interested in dressing up. Who needs the extra weight in their suitcases?

Then about three weeks before the cruise, we got an email from Shirley Rodger informing us about the bumblebee costumes she and Brad had found.

The email also included Brad and Shirley modeling the costumes. Well, the buzz was on to find the costumes. By the time we left for the cruise, all 18 members from the chapter plus Carolyn and Bubba Tice from Chapter Z had their costumes. I have never heard so much talk and excitement about putting on costumes and buzzing around the ship.

As in Chapter N2 fashion, we were selected for the costume contest. We did not win, but had a great time buzzing around and taking pictures with other shipmates. The rest of the cruise was great fun. Hopefully, next time all of the chapter will get to go along.

Before we close, Linda I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## XEROX IS DOING SOMETHING COOL

*(Submitted by Mark S.)*

On behalf of all of the other military men and women who are deployed overseas, I hope that you will take a minute to do this.

If you go to this web site, [www.LetsSayThanks.com](http://www.LetsSayThanks.com), you can pick out a thank you card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq . You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to a member of the armed services.

How AMAZING it would be, if we could get everyone we know to send one!!!

It is FREE and it only takes just 10 seconds.

Wouldn't it be wonderful, if the soldiers received a bunch of these? Whether you are for or against the war, our soldiers over there need to know we are behind them.

It's a wonderful way to say thank you. Please take the time and please pass this opportunity on for others to do as well.

We can never say enough thank you's. Thanks for taking to time to support our military!



## FROM 2009 COUPLE OF THE YEAR CORNER

Mark & Robin Smith



Here it is already, December, the last month of the year and the last month that Robin and I get to be N2's Couple of the Year. It's hard to believe it has

been a year, since we were given the honor. It seems like it was just yesterday that we were in Kerrville, getting our medallions from the Flemings. But now the time has come for us to step down and give the opportunity to a lucky new couple. It will be Robin and I in Killeen giving the new Couple of the Year their medallions. I can't wait!

We would like to take this time to thank each and every one of you for the support you have given us throughout the year. We could not have done some of the events without the Chapter behind us. We would also like to take the opportunity to personally thank some people, *Mike & Robin Thacker, Steve & Linda Seligman, Steve & Billie Fleming, and Ricky & Karen Frazier* for their personal guidance and support. Each one of them helped us bring our ideas to reality. If we needed help with anything, they were there for us as we will be for the new couple.

We look forward to the new ideas that the new Couple of the Year will bring with their reign. We hope the Chapter will support them the way they supported us. Our reign as Couple of the Year might end, but our participation will not. So we hope to see you at the Christmas Party--be sure to bring your decorated house shoes and crazy hats. Robin and I judging will be our last official duty as your Couple of the Year. **(BRIBES WELCOME)** HA HA.

We have thoroughly enjoyed representing Chapter N2. I can't tell you how proud I am to be a part of Chapter N2. As the year ends, we look back on all the fun we had and memories that were made. We have met some new friends and lost some old ones along the way. But all will be remembered in our hearts.

Along with getting a new Couple of the Year, there will be a lot of changes happening. The Thackers will be leaving as Chapter Directors and becoming JAMs (just a member) and at the same time the Seligmans will be stepping up to become the new Chapter Directors. So as a Chapter, I hope everyone gets behind our new leaders and staff and give them some great ideas for rides and fellowship. I know that Robin and I will be trying to fit in some fun, hope everyone joins us. So until we meet again, Ride Safe and Take Care.



**Our Deepest Sympathy...**To the family of **Sandy Hannon** who lost her brave fight with pancreatic cancer on Saturday at 1:20 a.m. Leo and her children were with her along with other close family friends. Sandy was born in Detroit, Michigan, and would have celebrated 64 years on Christmas day. She was immediately cremated after passing (*a request on her part*). She is survived by husband, Leo; daughter and son-in-law, Monica & Eric Braune; and granddaughter, Piper Braune. Her memorial service will be held Saturday, December 5, at the Living Way United Methodist Church located at 17555 Highway 242 @ Old Houston Road at 4:00 p.m.

Leo and Sandy met in March 1988 on a blind date. Leo said that according to "the book" it was suggested that couples meet in an area surrounded by other individuals...for safety. They chose to meet at the I-

Hop Restaurant in Humble. What was originally slated to be a 15-minute chat over coffee lasted about three hours. They were together for 21 years and married for 15.

Sandy loved her family and friends and enjoyed traveling when time and money allowed. She spent many years employed by Northeast Hospital as a LVN, until she was forced into early retirement (*hospital cutting expenses*). Leo plans to honor Sandy by scattering her ashes at a later date (*possibly in the Hill Country*). He also plans to visit a few of their favorite hangouts that Sandy didn't get to revisit due to her illness.

She will be greatly missed! Please keep the family in your prayers. Cards may be sent to Leo at 18446 Hollow Oaks Circle, Porter, TX 77365.

## RIDER EDUCATION

Jim Hartley  
Chapter N2 Rider Educator  
Humble, TX

I've been guilty of the following and will try not to be doing it anymore.

When you stop at a service station, shut off your engine, remove your helmet, and get both you and your passenger off the motorcycle! Why you ask? Because your gas tank is located right above your hot engine! If you should happen to spill any gasoline, it's probably going down to where it's hot. **HOT ENGINE + GASOLINE = A REAL GOOD CHANCE FOR FIRE!** Also if you spill

any of it on your clothes, it will irritate your skin, even if it does not catch fire. If you are sitting on the bike with your co-rider behind you, how do both of you get off the bike and out of the danger area? If you should happen to spill fuel on your clothes, do not walk around, because static electricity can be generated, which is not a good thing! Have someone get some water and soak you down, then get out of those clothes as soon as possible. Remember gasoline is looking for a way to ignite! Be safe around it.



## History in the Making 1992 Style

I was going through the Chapter Newsletters that I have and the earliest was dated July 1992. That's right, this was the first chapter meeting that Tommy and I attended. The newsletter was called "*The Golden 'N' ugett*" and the chapter staff consisted of:

**Area Representative** - *Bill Burgess*  
**Assistant Area Representative** - *Travis Skinner*  
**Correspondence Secretary** - *CB Burgess*  
**Secretary Treasurer** - *Carol Fleming*  
**Newsletter Editor** - *CB Burgess*  
**Meeting Coordinator** - *Ronnie Barnette*  
**Rider Education Coordinator** - *Richard Dozier*  
**Ways & Means** - *Diane Dozier*  
**Special Awards Coordinator** - *Richard & Michelle Conklin*  
**Scrapbook** - *Kathryn Walker*

This was when Area Reps/Assist Area Reps were the leaders of the chapters.

Some of you have heard of the names on the list, while some of us remember the rides and all of the good times we all had together. While I was going through the newsletter, I read the following column that was written by Don Langfeld in the August 1992 newsletter. Another name that some of you remember well.

### Steaks in Somerville By Don Langfeld

After a hot afternoon's ride from Kingwood to Somerville, 22 Wing Riders stopped at the Country Inn--our destination for this mid-July Dinner Run.

We enjoyed the usual comraderie, joshing and bantering that goes into making a successful run. The food was unbelievable. Great tasting, gargantuan in size, and reasonably priced. Service was relatively fast and Texas friendly. All combining to make this ride high on my "Let's do it Again" list!!!

We left Somerville just as darkness was beginning to settled in; 12 bikes in two staggered columns, 6 bikes to a group. We soon cleared the swarms of gnats and turned onto FM 390 (posted as a scenic route). But, fear not, for even in darkness the ride home was a sensual experience.

We switched to a single-file column and rode in the light of an almost full moon. It has been said that when you ride a motorcycle, you do not simply "see" the scenery, you rather experience it to the point that you

actually become a part of it. You are, in fact, one with nature.

The silver face of the moon kept playing hide-and-seek as the night clouds floated past on their slow, lazy journey. The Old Man changed position in the sky as he advanced and fell back, while we gently traversed the curving roads and swayed up and down the bobbing hills. The heat of the day had diminished and we were now refreshed by the cool night air as we smoothly rode along.

I became aware of a number of transient odors, some vanishing as quickly as they had appeared while others lingered on: the sweet smell of clover growing in the fields; the invigorating aroma of new-mown hay; the pungent crispness of a wood-burning fire; and an occasional country "Pole-Cat."

The trees seemed to come to life as the headlight of each bike caught the encroaching branches making them dapple and dance, then move past again immersing them in only moonlight. It almost seemed as if each tree (longing for the freedom to travel, yet rooted in immobility) was waving "Farewell and Bon Voyage" as one bike after another passed beneath their arching branches.

We reached a long, gradual curve which moved uphill and to the left. I glanced back and viewed a string of evenly spaced headlights spread across the lengthy expanse of velvet darkness. I was immediately reminded of Dorsey's 1940's hit song "String of Pearls."

My senses are constantly tantalized by the various experiences of each ride. I try to remain receptive enough to accept them, for they make each ride a unique and memorable occasion.

GOOD FOOD...GOOD FRIENDS...GOLDWINGS...  
 GOD IS IN HIS HEAVEN AND ALL IS RIGHT WITH  
 THE WORLD. HAPPY RIDING!! AND  
 THANKS...FOR THE MEMORIES.



Until next time,  
 Carolyn Thomsen, Chapter Historian



**Wee Bee Cruzin'**  
Steve & Billie Fleming  
Couple of the Year '08



Wow...who knew that cruises could be so much fun? This was not our first trip, but it was the first time we were able to go with so many friends at the same time. Billie and I were able to go on this ship last year with our daughter, her husband, and a couple of our cousins. We had a blast with them but it was a whole different experience with so many of our friends sharing this same adventure. Everyone I have spoken with has shared that they had a great time.

The nightly feasts were sumptuous and always highlighted by the company of good friends.



Leaving on Halloween made this even more special and 20 of our group all had bee costumes. We swarmed the ship in them. We drew attention everywhere we went, especially the karaoke bar. With nerves of steel, and the courage of a few libations, I sang a Frank Sinatra song with the assistance of my hive mates. It really was all the buzz and the side effects of two double Manhattans are never more abundantly clear than when you get someone like me to sing in front of a crowd.



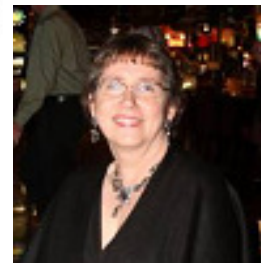
Members were often seen scouting the ship and participating in such things as line dance and limbo classes.



Mike was even caught in the pole dance class, but he was the only participant.



Our second night at sea was "Formal Night" and this group cleaned up very nicely. The Prime Rib and Lobster were pretty good too.





food, and the people are very friendly and warm. On Sunday evenings, the town square is filled with islanders who celebrate life with music, food, and dancing. Most tourists and cruisers miss this wonderful family atmosphere. It's like one big block party.



Then we stormed the island of Cozumel. I heard that some of our group was accosted by over enthusiastic entrepreneurs, but I think that, for the most part, there was an overall good time had by all. I had my "Peanut Butter" Margarita, coconut shrimp and heard my favorite song, "Cozumel," so I was sure a happy tourist.



Cozumel is one of our personal favorites. There is not enough time on a cruise stop to really enjoy all that the island has to offer. Billie and I have stayed there for a week on two occasions and still have not had enough of the place. The snorkeling, the





We were back on ship and leaving by sundown with Progreso the next day's port-of-call with the world's longest pier, five miles.

This was our second time at this port-of-call and it was vastly improved, since Billie and I were there two years ago. They are working hard to make it a nice stop and we had a really good time there. The people were friendly, especially the children. They were waving frantically at us as we went by on the \$2 tour bus. It was quite an experience. We had to duck a power line that crossed the street as we toured the town on the double-decker bus. What fun!

There were excursions to Mayan ruins at CHICHEN - ITZA but that was an all day bus ride. I don't know if anyone took that tour.

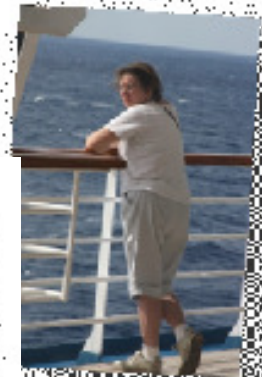


I think I saw the largest bottle of Tequila in the world on this tour. They were offering free shots to patrons at a lot of the restaurants along the water front. We settled into one restaurant for some

drinks and snacks. It turned out to be a lot of fun and the food was outstanding.



Our last day was spent with activities and relaxation all over the ship. The weather was nice and the temperatures were conducive to dips in the pool or hot tubs. We really enjoyed this event and it could only have been enhanced by the company of more of our GWRRA friends and family. This was a great time of getting away with friends and loved ones; building memories to last a lifetime. There was talk about looking into doing one out of Miami or some other port to include a road trip on the Wings. Billie and I did one out of Miami after the Biloxi Rally in '07 and it was a blast. So if you have an interest, talk it up. It takes a lot of planning to make thee thing happen, but they are so worth it.



See you soon, somewhere down the road of life...safe mile with lots of smiles. 😊

## FLORIDA'S KITCHEN RIDE

By Randy Rainwater

Six bikes and ten riders met at the Flying J (Hwy 59 and SR 242) at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 7, for a 180 mile ride and lunch at Florida's Kitchen. With the Honor Ride to San Antonio being scheduled on the same day, I had told Sharon that if it was only the two of us, we were going anyway. I was a little shocked to see that the folks assembled for the ride were the ones that were planning to go on the Honor Ride. I guess they were still recovering from their cruise that ended on Thursday of the same week.

As we were leaving for the ride, Sharon asked if we were going by some church friend's home in Splendora. I said that we were, but I also said that I thought that it was a little early. We stopped anyway for a quick visit and a few pictures. The Cooks have a lot of great stories and enjoyed our visit enough that they met us for lunch.



We rode through a little fog near the Trinity River area, but the rest of the day was a great day to be out riding with good friends. We got to Florida's Kitchen for lunch and made our selections.

Someone forgot to pay for his blooming onion so there was a little impromptu tire kicking session.



We ended the day by riding through Coldspring and down Hwy 1725 (Hollywood Blvd.) to end a great day of riding.

### SWEET POTATO PIE

*(with a twist - tomato soup)*

- 3 large sweet potatoes, peeled & cut into cubes (about 3 cups)
- ¼ c. heavy cream
- 1 can Campbell's Condensed Tomato Soup
- 1 c. packed brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- ½ tsp. ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp. ground nutmeg
- 9" unbaked pie crust



PREHEAT oven to 350°.

PLACE potatoes in medium saucepan. Cover with water. Heat to a boil. Cover and cook 10 minutes over medium heat or until potatoes are tender; drain. Place in mixer bowl. Add cream. Beat until potatoes are fluffy and almost smooth, using mixer at medium speed.

BEAT soup, brown sugar, eggs, vanilla, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Stir into potato mixture. Spoon potato mixture into prepared crust and place on baking sheet.

BAKE for 1 hour or until center is almost set. Cool on wire rack to room temperature.

## Brazos Cattle Company Ride

By Randy Rainwater

It had been a while, since we had a dinner ride, so we met at the Flying J (Hwy 59 & SR 242) at 4:00 p.m. for a 161 mile ride to the Brazos Cattle Company Steak House in Beaumont, TX. Eleven bikes, one car, and 16 people made the trip.



It did get dark just before we got to Beaumont. This is one end of the table.



And this is the other end of the table.



All the meals appeared to be appreciated.

After we played a game of “Marco” “Polo,” trying to find a couple of stragglers, we made our trek back to our homes through a little patchy fog in two separate groups. I think that I forgot to mention that it dropped into the mid-50’s, but it wasn’t too bad.

### Italian Sausage and Lentil Soup

- 1 lb. green lentils, rinsed
- 7 c. chicken broth
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 T. olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic
- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 carrots, sliced thinly
- 8 oz. spinach, chopped
- 1 (14 oz) can diced tomatoes
- 1 T. fresh parsley
- 1 lb. Italian sausage
- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning
- fresh shredded Parmesan cheese



In large pot, combine lentils, broth and bay leaf. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to a simmer. Cook, partially covered, about 30 minutes. In large skillet, heat oil. Add garlic, onion, and carrots. Cook over low heat until vegetables are tender. Add vegetables, spinach, tomatoes (with juice), and parsley to beans. Simmer 15 min, stirring often. (Add broth as needed.) Brown sausage and add to soup. Simmer about 20 minutes on low until all vegetables are tender. Take out bay leaf. Sprinkle each serving with Parmesan cheese. This soup is YUMMY!

Mike must be eating some good “groceries” as all these recipes came from the Thackers’ recipe box. Give these recipes a try and pass on “your” favorites to Sharon (rainwatersharon@yahoo.com) for future newsletters.

### **FIBER ONE MUFFINS**

*(Submitted by Robin Thacker)*

1 box Fiber One muffin mix

1/2 c. egg beaters

1 c. pumpkin

1 c. water

Beat together and place in sprayed muffin pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes. Makes 12 large muffins.

Weight Watchers - 3 points

### **CHILI**

*(Submitted by Robin Thacker)*

1 lb. lean beef

2/3 c. chopped onion

1 minced garlic clove

In skillet, combine ground beef, onion, and garlic; brown meat mixture and drain.

Add:

1 1/2 c. water

1 T. chili powder

1 tsp. salt

16 oz. can chili beans (undrained)

6 oz. can tomato paste

Cook together until warm. Makes 6 servings.

Weight Watchers - 5 points

### **COLA CHICKEN**

*(Submitted by Robin Thacker)*

4 - 3 oz Boneless chicken breast

1 c. Ketchup

1 can Diet Coke

Brown chicken in skillet and add ketchup and diet coke. Bring to a boil. Cover and simmer 40 for minutes. Remove lid and cook until sauce thickens. Makes 4 servings.

## CONFETTI SPAGHETTI SQUASH

*(Submitted by Robin Thacker)*

- 1 medium spaghetti squash (2 1/2 lbs.)
- 1 medium zucchini cut into 1/2" pieces
- 1 T. butter
- Grated Parmesan cheese (optional)
- 3 medium tomatoes (seeded and chopped - 1 lb.)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cut squash in half lengthwise and scoop out seeds. Place cut side down in shallow baking pan. Bake 30 to 40 minutes.
2. Use fork to scrape out spaghetti-like strands, set aside.
3. In saucepan melt butter over medium heat. Add zucchini and tomatoes; cook until just soft. Stir in spaghetti squash, season to taste with salt and pepper. sprinkle with grated Parmesan, if desired. (I added mushrooms to mine.) It was really good. Makes 4 servings.

Weight Watchers - 2 points per serving  
102 calories, 4g fat and 4 fiber

## NO CRUST PUMPKIN PIE

*(Submitted by Robin Thacker)*

- 1 can pumpkin
- 3/4 c. splenda
- 1 1/2 c. slim milk
- 1 1/2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 c. egg substitute
- 1/2 tsp. salt

Spray 9-inch pie dish with Pam. In a bowl, combine ingredients and pour into pie dish. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 minutes; reduce temperature to 375 degrees and bake for 30 to 45 minutes.

Weight Watchers - 1/4 pie = 1 1/2 points  
1/2 pie = 3 points  
whole pie = 6 points

## Identical Ingredients

- 1 cup milk = 1/2 cup evaporated milk + 1/2 cup water
- 1 square chocolate = 3 tbsp. cocoa + 1 tbsp. butter
- 1 tsp. baking powder = 1/4 tsp. baking soda + 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 cup sour milk = 1 cup milk + 1 tbsp. lemon juice or vinegar
- 1 cup cake flour = 1 cup all purpose less 2 tbsp.
- 1 clove garlic = 1/8 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 cup buttermilk = 1 cup yogurt

### COMMON FOOD EQUIVALENTS

Butter or other shortening = 1 lb. = 2 cups

#### Cheese

Cheddar or American = 4 oz. = 1 cup shredded

Cottage = 1 lb. = 2 cups

Cream = 3-oz = 6 tbsp.

#### Chocolate

Chips = 6-oz = 1 cup

Unsweetened = 8-oz = 8 squares (1 ounce each)

Coconut, shredded or flaked = 4-oz can = about ½ cups

Coffee, ground = 1 lb. = 80 tbsp.

#### Cream

Whipping = ½ pt = 1 cup (2 cups whipped)

Sour = 8-oz = 1 cup

#### Flour

All-purpose = 1 lb. = about 3 ½ cups

Cake = 1 lb. = about 4 cups

#### Lemon

Juice = 1 med. = 2 - 3 tbsp.

Peel, lightly grated = 1 ½ - 3 tsp.

#### Marshmallows

= 1 lrg. = 10 miniature

#### Nuts

Almonds = 1 lb. in the shell = 1 - 1 ¾ cups nutmeats

1 lb. shelled = 3 ½ cups

Pecans = 1 lb. in the shell = 2 ¼ cups nutmeats

1 lb. shelled = 4 cups

Peanuts = 1 lb. in the shell = 2 ¼ cups nutmeats

1 lb. shelled = 3 cups

Walnuts = 1 lb. in the shell = 1 2/3 cups nutmeats

1 lb. shelled = 4 cups

#### Orange

Juice = 1 med. = 1/3 - ½ cups

Peel, lightly grated = 1 med. = 1 - 2 tbsp.

#### Sugar

Brown = 1 lb. = 2 ¼ cups (firmly packed)

Confectioners = 1 lb. = about 4 cups

Granulated = 1 lb. = 2 cups



### EQUIVALENT MEASURES

3 teaspoons = 1 tablespoon

16 tablespoons = 1 cup

2 cups = 1 pint

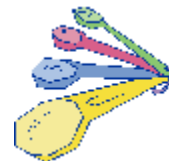
4 cups = 1 quart

2 pints = 1 quart

4 quarts (liquid) = 1 gallon

4 tablespoons = ¼ cup

5 1/3 tablespoons = 1/3 cup





## BUCKET LIST

(Submitted by Mark S.)

Below is just a sampling of someone's "Bucket List." Would yours be similar or different?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Gone on a blind date                                      | Driven across the United States (or at least half way) |
| Watched someone die                                       | Been in a hot air balloon                              |
| Been to Canada  | Been sky diving  |
| Been to Mexico  | Gone snowmobiling                                      |
| Visited all seven Continents                              | Lived in more than one country                         |
| Been on a plane   | Admired the stars while listening to the crickets      |
| Been on a helicopter                                      | Seen a falling star and made a wish                    |
| Been on a cruise  | Enjoyed the beauty of Old Faithful Geyser              |
| Visited all 50 states                                     | Seen the Statue of Liberty                             |
| Been lost   | Gone to the top of Seattle Space Needle                |
| Gone to Washington D.C.                                   | Traveled by train                                      |
| Swam in the ocean   | Traveled by motorcycle                                 |
| Cried yourself to sleep                                   | Ridden on a San Francisco cable car                    |
| Played cops and robbers                                   | Been to Disneyland and/or Disney World                 |
| Recently colored with crayons                             | Been in a rain forest                                  |
| Sang Karaoke  | Seen whales in the ocean                               |
| Paid for a meal with coins only                           | Been to Niagara Falls                                  |
| Done something you told yourself you wouldn't do          | Ridden on a camel or elephant or BOTH                  |
| Laughed until some kind of beverage came out of your nose | Swam with dolphins                                     |
| Caught a snowflake on tongue                              | Been to the Olympics                                   |
| Danced in the rain  | Walked on the Great Wall of China                      |
| Written a letter to Santa Claus                           | Saw and heard a glacier calf (a what???)               |
| Been kissed under the mistletoe                           | Been spinnaker flying (sailing spinnaker)              |
| Watched the sunrise with someone                          | Been water-skiing                                      |
| Blown bubbles   | Been snow-skiing                                       |
| Gone ice-skating  | Been to Westminster                                    |
| Gone to the movies  | Been to the Louvre                                     |
| Skipped school  | Swam in the Mediterranean                              |
| Been to the top of the St. Louis Arch                     | Been to a Major League Baseball game                   |
| Been down Bourbon Street in New Orleans                   | Been to a National Football League game                |
| Been deep sea fishing                                     | Ridden a horse/mule in the Grand Canyon                |

### DATES TO REMEMBER...

- |                |                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1/9/2010       | Mid-Winter Round Up, Killeen, TX  |
| 3/23 - 27/2010 | Region H Rally, Marshall, TX      |
| 4/8 - 10/2010  | Louisiana Rally                   |
| 5/6 - 8/2010   | Texas District Rally, Killeen, TX |
| 5/27 - 29/2010 | Arkansas Rally                    |

## WORD MAZE

(THINK OUT OF THE BOX)

A C L I O N E L T R A I N J F K A X D D  
 J O H N N Y E X P R E S S T R U C K P U  
 S F D O L L I N T R U N K R E Y Y N I T  
 G H R Y U J H F M E Y E N V A S R A E T  
 O O E D B W V A L S K E E E S N U G E S  
 L N D H A D X C A A V T G Y Y R R R N T  
 N D W E R A Y E B O A R B J B I I K I U  
 L A A W B C P A N D A A I U A F F C H F  
 O C G Q I O B E A R D C G D K L L U C T  
 C U O B E R W E A A W T W G E E E R A E  
 N B N A D E A T R D W O H E O M R T M D  
 I I L F O D G Y M A O R E J V A P R G M  
 L A E D L R O O Y E U L E O E N M E N O  
 A S R S L W N P M T D S L N N S U Y I N  
 C I V P E A B E E O X E S S S G D T W K  
 M O D E L X E A N W W P C O R V E T T E  
 V N I A R T C I R T C E L E S L I N G Y  
 R A G G E D Y A N N A N D Y S H O T V T  
 Y N S E W I N G M A C H I N E O I D A R  
 D N U O H C S A D Y K N I L S K C O L C  
 A A T U M B L I N G T O M B O Y R A I N

AIRPLANE MODELS  
 ARMY MEN  
 BARBIE DOLL  
 BICYCLE  
 BIG WHEEL  
 CORVETTE MODEL  
 DOLL  
 DOLL IN TRUNK  
 DUMP TRUCK  
 EASY BAKE OVEN  
 ELECTRIC TRAIN  
 GUNS  
 HONDA CUB  
 JOHNNY EXPRESS TRUCK

LINCOLN LOGS  
 LIONEL TRAIN  
 PANDA BEAR  
 RAGGEDY ANN ANDY  
 RED WAGON  
 RIFLEMANS RIFLE  
 SEWING MACHINE  
 SLING SHOT  
 SLINKY DASCHOUND  
 STUFFED MONKEY  
 TINY TEARS  
 TRACTOR  
 TUMBLING TOMBOY  
 TV RADIO CLOCK

WORD SCRAMBLE  
(Holiday Desserts)

YVTNIIID

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AYDCN RCNO

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AAIILNT ACEMR ACEK

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ADEELRY IKMNPPU EPI

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CDDEEIKLNOORSS

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ACDILOR ECEHIRSR

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ACCEHLOOT EPI

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IKMNPPU EPI

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ACENP EPI

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ACEEIMMNT EPI

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EEIMNPPPT CEI AEMCR

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BUTTERMILK PIE

CANDY CORN

CHEESECAKE

CHERRY PIE

CHOCOLATE PIE

COOKIES

CORDIAL CHERRIES

DIVINITY

FRUITCAKE

ICED SUGAR COOKIES

ITALIAN CREAM CAKE

LAYER PUMPKIN PIE

MINCEMEAT PIE

PECAN PIE

PEPPERMINT ICE CREAM

PUMPKIN PIE

RED LICORICE

SNICKERDOODLES



## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FIRSTAID

For many, the allure of Christmas is not strictly selfish (presents), but the oohs and ahas that come from admiring a festively decorated yard, home, and tree that takes on the homeowners' personality. To enjoy this holiday experience, safety steps need to be in place to avoid unexpected mishaps.

When putting up those Christmas decorations, be sure to follow these safety tips.

See the packaging to note the appropriate use of exterior or indoor lighting.

Inspect each set of lights for damage, whether new or used. Discard any sets with cracked or broken sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.

Use correct wattage, when replacing bulbs.

Never place lights on a metal tree. The tree can become charged with electricity and shock someone. The tree can also short out the lights and cause a fire.

All outdoor electrical decorations should be plugged into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI).

Use extension cords properly. Outdoor cords can be used inside or outside. Do not overload extension cords.

Secure outside lights with insulated holders (never use tacks or nails) or run strings of lights through hooks.

When you leave or go to bed at night--turn off your Christmas lights! (*Information taken from About.com First Aid.*)

---

**And...** practice safety tips when it comes to little ones and pets--

Do not use tinsel, foil, or artificial snow, or edible decorations like popcorn as these decorations can cause severe injury, if swallowed.

Secure ornaments to avoid breakage.

Remember that holiday foliage or plants are toxic--mistletoe, holly, and poinsettia. (*Information taken from WiseGEEK.*)

## FOSTER KIDS' CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Each year, Chapter N2 has an opportunity to select gift cards for foster children and help brighten their holiday. Below are the gift card guidelines:

1. Keep the cost to approximately \$40 per child.
2. If you get more than one gift for \$40, wrap ALL gifts into ONE box.
3. Circle the gift(s) you have chosen.
4. Wrap the gift, gently taping the card to the wrapping paper or bag.
5. Bows will get squashed.

6. If it needs batteries, install batteries and be sure it works.
7. If it needs assembly, assemble it.



Collection of these gifts for Chapter N2 will take place on **Saturday, December 12**, from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the Little Mexico parking lot in Humble before delivering to Chapter G. Please get your gift(s) to either Mike & Robin Thacker or Steve & Linda Seligman before hand, if you are unable to drop off your gift(s) on December 12.



## Christmas Lights in Suburbia – Prestonwood Subdivision

This is a great place to cruise with your family and friends and see all the extreme Christmas lights and decorations in this united subdivision. Every street has a different theme and almost every house partakes in this December-long event. A few of the houses are so heavily lighted; you can see them from space. Put Christmas music on the radio, turn off the headlights, and cruise through the neighborhood.

Directions: Take 249 north and exit Cypresswood Drive. Turn right (east) on Cypresswood to the Prestonwood Drive entrance on your right (south). There you are!

*Mark & Robin* have checked out this neighborhood before and said it is well worth the visit.

### The Woodland Car Club

Sunday, December 6

10:00 a.m. - noon



THE WOODLANDS, Texas - Members of The Woodlands Car Club will present their collection of vintage cars, from classic convertibles to hot roadsters at Market Street as part of the group's monthly Coffee & Cars for a Cause series. The event is free and open to the public.

While showcasing its collection of classic cars from years past, the club will collect contributions for Market Street's 2009 non-profit Change for Charity partners: American Cancer Society Relay for Life; Montgomery County; Habitat for Humanity - Montgomery County; the Montgomery County Food Bank; and Children's Safe Harbor.

The Woodlands Car Club was founded in 2001 by a local group of car enthusiasts to create friendships, fellowship, and foster relationships with local businesses and the community.

"The car club events have been some of our most popular gatherings, not only among car enthusiasts, but with families as well," says Market Street Marketing Manager, Jenny Taylor. "We greatly appreciate the club's support of our Change for Charities program."

Those interested in showcasing a vehicle at the December 6 event or any other of the club's gatherings can contact The Woodlands Car Club at 281 363-2977.



It's time to update our yearly GWRRRA Chapter N2 Directory. Please forward to *Brad R.* (bradrodger@comcast.net) the following information:

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Home phone number:**

**Cell phone number:**

**Email:**

**Birth date:**

**Anniversary date:**

**Spouse Info:**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Cell phone number:**

**Email:**

**Birth date:**

### FREE H1N1 SHOTS



New Caney ISD  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus  
22784 Hwy. 59  
Porter, TX

Saturday, December 5  
9:00 a.m. - noon

See if you can find your GWRRRA number in the newsletter. Let Mike Thacker know before the next chapter meeting and win a little something!



**GOT NEWS...**Forward your articles, etc., to Sharon Rainwater at rainwatersharon@yahoo.com.

### New Virus (<http://www.snopes.com/computer/virus/ups.asp>)

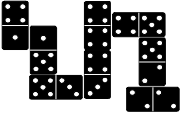

This is legitimate. Please pass this along to your friends. The newest virus circulating is:



*The UPS/FedEx/DHL Delivery Failure. You will receive an email from UPS/Fed Ex Service along with a packet number. It will say that they were unable to deliver a package sent to you on such-and-such a date. It then asks you to print out the invoice copy attached.*

**DON'T TRY TO PRINT THIS. IT LAUNCHES THE VIRUS!** Pass this warning on to all your PC operators at work and home. This virus has caused Millions of dollars in damage in the past few days.

## DECEMBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 PM 	Fruitcake & candy ride - Corsicana Flying J - 6:00 AM Breakfast & Lunch 
Breakfast Los Cucos 9:30 AM  Car show in The Woodlands Smith						Toys turned in for foster kids 10:00 - 11:00 AM Little Mexico
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Social Dinner Young Ranch Hand Café 24626 Hwy 321			Chapter N2 Christmas Party East Montgomery County Facility 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM Gift (gender specific) \$25.00 limit
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Toy Run Deerbrook Mall in front of Macy's 11:00-12:00					Christmas Day	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



***Birthdays***

Beth Hartley	12-7
Jason Ingram	12-9
George Stiech	12-20
Sandy Hannon	12-25
Robin Smith	12-31

***Anniversaries***

Paul & Marie Rich	12-26
Gary & Marie Rabalais	12-31

**JANUARY 2010**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					Polar Bear Lunch Ride - Rainwater 9:00 AM Flying J 242 & 59 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Leave for Mid-Winter Round Up Flying J 7:00 AM Seligman	Mid-Winter Round Up Killeen, TX Shilo Hotel
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						Wiener Roast & Campout Thackers 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
						Chapter Meeting American Legion Hall 6:00 PM Soup Competition 
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

***Birthdays***

Paul Rich	1/13
Sharon Rainwater	1/16
Mark Smith	1/17
Ryan Talbutt	1/21
Randy Talbutt	1/28
Larry Turnbull	1/29

***Anniversaries***

Jim & Beth Hartley	1/1
Jim & Lynn Flournoy	1/24
Steve & Billie Fleming	1/30

*Did you find your GWRRA number? Keep looking!*

**"N2" Apparel**

**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:  
Short sleeve \$10.00

**Black denim vests** \$25.00

Contact Randy or Sharon Rainwater

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