

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE



**Texas District
Chapter N2
Humble. Texas**

South Central Region H

The N2 Buzz



February 2009

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Chapter N-2 Staff.....	2
News from the Chapter Director.....	3
Rider Education.....	4
Couple of the Year.....	5 - 6
Upcoming Events.....	8
A Word from the Assistant Chapter Director.....	8
Texas District Staff.....	11
Region H Staff	11
Chapter Calendars.....	12 & 13

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

The first month of the New Year is going strong. We started off with the Polar Bear Ride. Steve Fleming led a group on a short ride and then escorted them over to Jim and Beth's house for Gumbo.

We then had the Mid Winter Roundup the second week of January. This is where a lot of information is past on to the Chapter Directors so we can let the members know what is going on in the District and with GWRRA.

There were five couples that competed for District Couple of the Year. After a lot of interviews and decision-making, Chapter R's couple will be representing the District. This is also where Steve and Billie Fleming, our 2008 Chapter Couple of the Year passed on their title to the new 2009 Chapter Couple of the Year - Mark and Robin Smith. They are already planning the Sweetheart Party, and I can see the wheels turning for the Couple of the Year Basket for the District Rally.

We were given a packet with Riders Education information to give to our New Chapter Educator, Jim Hartley.

Robin Smith and Mike went to the bank to sign her up as the new 2009 Chapter Treasurer.

We have a lot of new projects to get ready for the District Rally. Mark and Robin will be getting with everyone to ask for their help with the Couple of the Year Basket. We also need ideas for a Windshield Cover to be entered in competition along with a wooden armadillo to be painted and designed. We need to come up with a BRAND of some kind to represent our chapter so Barbie can draw it on paper tablecloths. We are going to decorate a BOOT that cannot be over 18" high (real, wood or paper). Ohhh and we need a bandana to wear one of the days while were at the rally. Seeeeee a lot of stuff going on..

We would like to thank our new Assistant Chapter Directors for coming forward to pass on some new ideas and thoughts to make things exciting for the years to come. Steve and Linda Seligman are going to be great. I just listen to them and hear all the new ideas. They're going to be great.

The third weekend of the month was great fun at the Annual Wiener Roast and roasting marsh mellow and chocolate to make Smores. There was horseshoe and washer throwing going on, too.

It's getting that time of year to where every weekend is going to be full of rides.

The fourth weekend was our chapter meeting to plan rides for the month of February.

Mike and Robin Thacker-Master Tour Riders-6751 & 6162
Chapter Directors N2
Humble TX



Perils of Springtime

Question: What attributes do a dead armadillo, a soft cute little bunny rabbit and a big clod of mud have in common? Answer: They all squish when you hit them and run them over.

All right, I admit that picture could be a little graphic, but I want you to think about what that means to YOU as a motorcycle rider and the graphic helps in that understanding. When you are riding a motorcycle you are counting on maximum traction every moment of the ride. When a tire slides on a single track vehicle (a.k.a. motorcycle) the results can be disastrous. Of course, we should be applying our riding strategy at all times so we aren't confronted with that situation, right? Avoidance is always our first and foremost choice, but sometimes, no matter how careful we are, we have to deal with a situation such as an obstacle in our path. Why did I choose these particular examples? Here comes a graphic again; they can make a gooey and SLIPPERY mess. The mess we can wash off. The slippery part is the problem. Maximizing traction means staying away from slick and slippery spots such as fuel and anti-freeze spills; sand and/or gravel in the road; little bunny rabbits; and of course mud. We are entering the muddy season when vehicles pull onto the roadway from muddy fields carrying part of that field with them and depositing it inconveniently on the surface of the road that we want to traverse. This creates an instant slippery condition. We need to be especially vigilant using our scan techniques and applying our strategy to detect the hazard as soon as possible and take steps to avoid the hazard, in this case the mud encrusted slippery road surface, before we are placed in a dangerous situation. Early detection and early action will help keep us safe and upright. We all know that, but what about Peter Cottontail or Armand Armadillo, where do they fit it? We are rapidly approaching the time when little rabbits are scurrying about hiding eggs. What rabbits have to do with eggs is a whole other issue. Anyway, they scurry to and fro and into the oncoming path of your motorcycle. You may not have much time at all to avoid the little furry critters. Not only that, it is a moving target. Just when you act and swerve to avoid Peter he stops and turns around right into your path once again. The last thing you want to be doing is trying to turn or swerve when you hit the critter. They squish and leave a slippery spot. They also allow the tire to move as you cross over them. If you are swerving and the hit the rabbit it could reduce traction to the point where you may lose traction and crash (low side). Remember, as cute as the little bunny is, your safety, the safety of your passenger and the safe passage of your bike are more important. If hitting the rabbit is unavoidable, do so in a straight line traveling over the obstacle with as little change in position as possible. No abrupt moves - turns, leans, acceleration or braking. As for Armand Armadillo, I understand they make great motorcycle polo targets. Just kidding, follow the same rules you did for the rabbit. Folks, no animals were hurt in the generation of this article.

RIDE SAFE

Jim Hartley
Chapter N2 Rider Educator
Humble, Texas



Couple of the Year Corner

Passing of the Torch

By now the cat is out of the bag, Mark and I have been given the honor of Couple of the Year and we are very excited. Although we have some large shoes to fill, I believe we are up to the task. We were given the position at Mid Winter Round-up in Kerrville. The best part of the whole ceremony was that Steve and Billie Fleming were able to come up and give us our medallions themselves. WOW, what a treat!

The trip starts off Friday morning the 5th around 9am with 4 bikes and 6 people. There was Mike and Robin Thacker, Steve and Linda Seligman and Mark and myself. We stopped for breakfast in Magnolia at Magnolia Diner. The food was good as usual. We started back on the road around 10:00am and headed towards Kerrville. The weather was fantastic for the ride. A little cool, but sunny. We rode straight through and arrived around 3:30pm. Once we all checked in and got our bikes and trailers unloaded, we ventured down to Mamacitas for dinner. The food was great and we had a fun time just chilling and relaxing from the long ride. Once back at the hotel, we all just hung out watching who was checking in and who was walking around. It was nice to see old friends (The Elrods) and meet new ones! We all called it a night early because we had an early start on Saturday with a whole day of activities.

Steve and Billy Fleming made it in early enough Saturday morning to have breakfast with us. After breakfast we went to the Opening Ceremony and then we broke out into the seminars. The boys of course went to the Rider Education seminars while we girls went to learn about the new competitions that would be going on at the District Rally in Amarillo, which I can't wait for! There are going to be a lot of familiar things but a lot of new ones also. The District Staff explained how each one will work. Robin Thacker has already touched base with the Chapter requesting ideas for the Windshield Cover, Branding Iron, Boot and Bandana. We are hoping to come home with some certificates with the help of the Chapter. Everyone put your thinking caps on!! There was also a seminar on the Couple of the Year basket and we talked about some really great ideas. We are hoping that the Chapter will really get involved for the Amarillo District Rally. After all the seminars we had a small closing ceremony where they gave out some Level IVs and some awards for Article of the Year, Educator of the Year and Chapter of the Year. Our Chapter was recognized once again for being accident free for 2008. Yeah Chapter, keep up the great work!!

Saturday evening they had the District Couple Competition. There were only 4 couples that participated, but it was still fun. Chapter N2 gave our support to David and Christina from M2. They did great but sadly didn't win. Chapter R took the District Couple again. We definitely wish them the best!! Fred and Mandy Mew officiated the competition. It was great fun to watch. Then came time for the Couple of the Year Medallion Ceremony, there were 13 couples all together. The 2008 Couples were called up to the stage and given a round of applause for all that they did for their chapters. They then called all of the 2009 couples up on stage and that is when we had the honor to receive our Couple of the Year medallions from Steve and Billie Fleming. I would not have wanted it any other way. It was a surprise to us that Steve and Billie were even coming, but Steve being the awesome person he is, figured a way for them to be there for us. As I stated earlier, that was the best part of the ceremony. Mark and I will strive to represent Chapter N2 honorably like the fantastic couple we are replacing. We definitely have some ideas for rides and continuing the invasions with a twist. We welcome any suggestions and hope that if

we can be of assistance to anyone that they will ask. We look forward to a wonderful year of fun, safety and knowledge. But most of all, we look forward to another year with great friends!

Till we meet again,

Mark and Robin Smith
2009 Couple of the Year N2



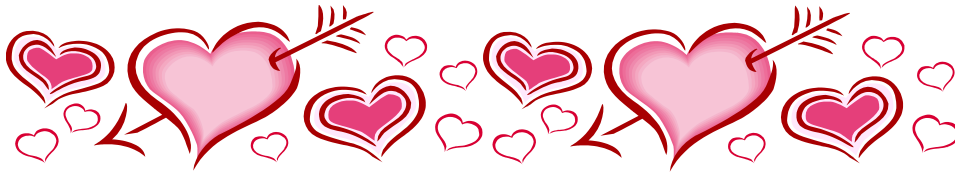
N2 Brag book:



Brad Rodger has invented a new way to protect our environment. When one of his company's oil rigs experienced loss of drilling fluids following a hose failure, Brad created an automated backup system that cuts reaction time to about four seconds versus the human intervention that used to be necessary to activate another packer.

Congratulations to Steve Fleming on his promotion at work. Steve has been with the State of Texas for a year and has been promoted to Supervisor





2009 Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner

Place: Hofbrau Steaks & Seafood, 24890 FM 1314, Porter Tx 77365

Date & Time: February 8, 2009 at 6pm

Price: \$17.00 per person plus tax & 20% gratuity

Menu

Entrée Choices

Country Chicken Fried Steak (Regular Size) w/Gravy

Smothered Chicken – Grilled chicken breast smothered w/swiss cheese, grilled onions and mushrooms

Southern Fried Catfish – 2 5oz filets

Fried Gulf Shrimp – (9 regular size)

8oz Top Sirloin Steak

All Dinners are Served with:

**Choice of Baked Potato or Mixed Grilled Vegetables

**Tossed Salad

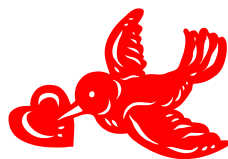
**Fresh Baked Bread

**A Nonalcoholic Beverage

Dessert

Choice of a slice of NY Cheesecake or White/Dark Chocolate Mousse Cake

We will be playing some games, winning door prizes and having a good time. Bring your sweetheart and join the fun!!!!!!



A word from the Assistant Chapter Director

Linda and I are honored and excited to be your Assistant Chapter Directors. In 2005 when we joined Chapter N2 we were happy being JAMs (just a member). Linda and I enjoyed going on the rides, eating at new places, seeing different scenery and meeting some new friends. In January 2006 we decided to take a ride with a group to the District business meeting in Kerrville. We both were curious about what went on but basically just wanted to enjoy the ride and hill country. Well, we learned so much about the District and GWRRA that we were hooked. By March of 2006 we were on staff. Carolyn Thomsen asked Linda to be the scrapbook coordinator and I was Linda's sidekick. In January 2007 Mike and Robin Thacker asked us to take new positions on the staff – Linda was treasurer/newsletter editor and I was meeting coordinator. Meeting coordinator is just a fancy title for table and chair set up guy!! Oh well – it was fun. For the next couple of years we enjoyed the rides, overnight trips, our friends and our positions on staff. We were very happy and content. In the Fall of 2008 Mike and Robin came knocking on our door (kind of). They asked us to step up and become ACDs. Linda and I talked for many weeks, we said yes then we said no in our heads. - but in our hearts we knew this is what we wanted to do for ourselves and especially for the Chapter. So, here we are, we have now taken on another staff position with more responsibility but with more fun. So, as the year begins we are full of ideas and excitement – please let us know what we can do to help you enjoy Chapter life. We are here to serve.

Steve and Linda Seligman
Master Tour Ride 6747 & Master Tour Co-rider 6748
Assistant Chapter Directors N2



Upcoming Region/District events:

February 28, 2009	Chapter C, Luck of the Irish, Cove Community Center, Baytown
March 19, 20 & 21, 2009	Region H Rally, Marshall, TX
April 16, 17 & 18, 2009	Louisiana District Rally, Lafayette, LA
May 14, 15 & 16, 2009	Texas District Rally, Amarillo, TX
May 21, 22 & 23, 2009	Arkansas District Rally, Rogers, AR
July 2 – 5, 2009	Wing Ding 31 in Tulsa, Oklahoma
October 31	Texas District Education Weekend, Marshall, TX

Have any great recipes???? Chapter N2 is putting together a Chapter cook book to sell to help us raise money for The Pediatric Brain Tumor Association. We will be compiling the recipes until about August of this year and are planning to have the books completed by December. Send you recipes to Linda Seligman at lselig@gmail.com or bring them to a chapter meeting.

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2009 Chapter Dinner hosts

January	Mark & Robin Smith	July	David & Brenda Sandborn
February	Oliver & Rita Rathmann	August	Steve & Linda Seligman
March	Paul & Mari Rich	September	Randy & Anna Carroll
April	Jeff & Darla Ingram	October	Randy Talbutt
May	Steve & Billie Fleming	November	JR
June	Donald & May Noel	December	Gary & Stormy Young



What is a Be a Sport Rally?

The rally theme is **TEAM**. How the Region, Districts, and Chapters operate as a TEAM to the benefit and **FUN** of all Members Everyone has their favorite professional or college team or player. Wear your favorite sports gear and be in character for the Be a Sport Rally. We hope you'll come join us for lots of GWRRA **FUN** and Region H Hospitality. Theme Dress is anything sports related, from a cap to a full sports outfit.

Marshall is a growing community on Interstate 20 just a few miles west of Shreveport, Louisiana. The local businesses and the city really support GWRRA when we are in town.

The Marshall area has many great eating places. Whether your tastes run to Steaks, Italian, Mexican, Bar-B-Que, or Catfish you'll find the city has some great dining.

- Sites to see in the area:
- Caddo Lake & a working steamboat
 - Lake of the Pines
 - Historic Downtown
 - County Court House
 - Motor Trike and Stallion Factory
 - Marshall Pottery

- Possible activities that we're working on:
- Bus trip to Shreveport – Thursday evening
 - Tour of historic sites and shopping
 - Tour of Marshall Pottery
 - Tour of Motor Trike and Stallion Factory

Tentative schedules, vendor listings, and other up to the minute information will be posted on the Region website - <http://gwrra-h.org>



Be a Sport in Marshall
The Region H Rally
March 19 - 21, 2009

Marshall, Texas



Mini-Grand Prize \$250
 Daily 50/50 Drawings
 Grand Prize \$750

Full Registration Includes:	
Rally Pins for first 500 Registered	
COY Selection	Bike Show
On/Off Bike Games	Competitions
Light Show & Parade	Tours
Seminars	Participation Prizes
Trike Class	Poker Walk
Talent Show	Special Prizes
Vendors.....Vendors.....Vendors.....Vendors.....Vendors	
And all the Region H FUN you can stand.	



The 2009 Texas Region Rally will be held in Amarillo, TX from May 14 – 16, 2009. There will be a special Friday night event – a ride into the Palo Doro Canyon (Texas Grand Canyon). While in the Canyon we will have dinner provided by the Big Texan Steak House of Amarillo and a 20 preview of the musical Texas.

For hotel information and registration sign on to the Texas District website at <http://www.gwrra-tx.org/09Rally/rally.php>

It's time to put your thinking caps on!! We need your help in coming up with some great ideas for several items for the Texas District Rally in Amarillo.

We will be coming to the Chapter to get several people to judge your ideas.

We need a design on a Boot of some kind for our Chapter. The boot can be a real boot – cowboy, working, motorcycle. The boot can be wood, plastic, paper mache, etc. It cannot be over 18" high. The boot needs to represent our chapter.

We need a design for a drawn out brand for our Chapter. Just a drawing – the brands will be used to decorate the tablecloths at the special Friday night event.

We need a design for a Wind Shield Cover that will be in competition. Anything goes!!

We have a wooden Armadillo that needs designed to represent our Chapter and District.

Bandana design – each Chapter has been asked to design and wear their bandanas. The bandanas should represent the chapter.

Start thinking so we can get some ideas at the chapter Meeting in February or email your ideas to Mike and Robin Thacker.



Texas District Staff

Ken & Barbie Peterson
District Directors

Fred & Mandy Mew
Assistant District Directors

Pamela Meyer
District Treasurer/Newsletter Editor

John & Lydia Bourg
District Educator

Michael & Suzanne Elrod
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

Don & Linda Holley
2009 Couple of the Year

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

Mike & Pam Jastram
Region H Couple of the Year
2008-2009

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



February 2009
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 Super Bowl Party 2 pm Marty & Donna Uphoff's home in Conroe	2	3	4	5  Mike & Robin Thacker anniversary	6	7 Ride to Florida's Flying J 9:30 Thacker
8 Sweetheart Dinner – Hofbrau Steakhouse in Porter on FM 1314 at 6 PM	9	10	11	12	13	14 Road Captain's Course 10 am American Legion Hall – Mark Smith  Oliver Rathmann birthday
15	16 President's Day ride for lunch 8am Flying J Rainwater	17  Ricky & Karen Frazier anniversary	18 Chapter Dinner 7 PM	19	20  Robin Thacker birthday	21 Blessing of the Bike's at Rudy's Barbeque Meet at Flying J
22	23	24	25	26	27  Doris Ryals birthday	28 Chapter C – Luck of the Irish, Cove Community Center 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall  Aileen Hess birthday



<p>March 2009 GWRRRA CHAPTER N2 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	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Chapter Dinner 7 PM	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 6:00 PM Chapter Meeting – American Legion Hall
29	30	31				



The gang at 2009 Mid Winter Round Up

"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

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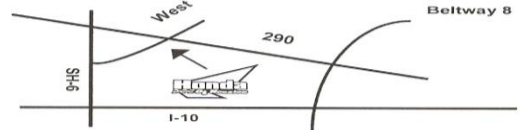
Monday - Friday - 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday - 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

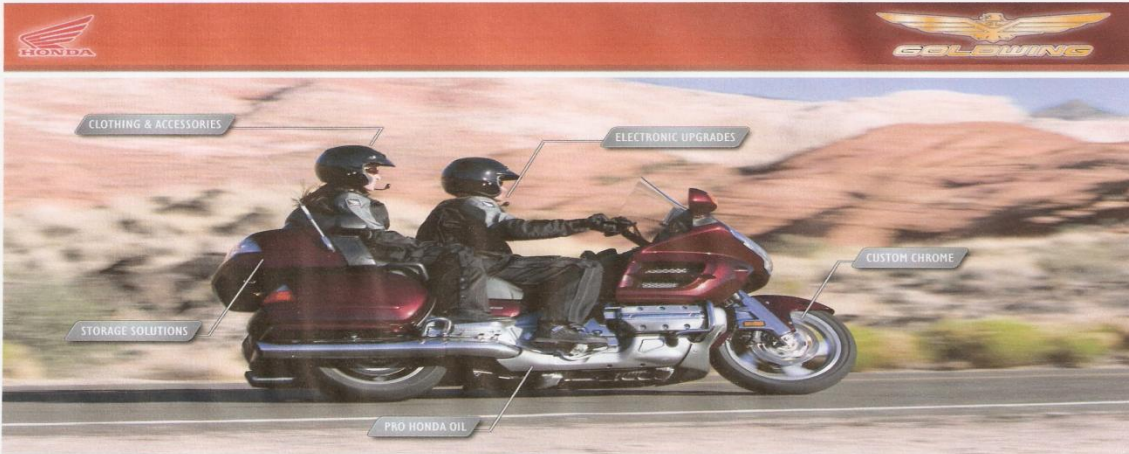
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