

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE



**Texas District
Chapter N2
Humble. Texas**



South Central Region H

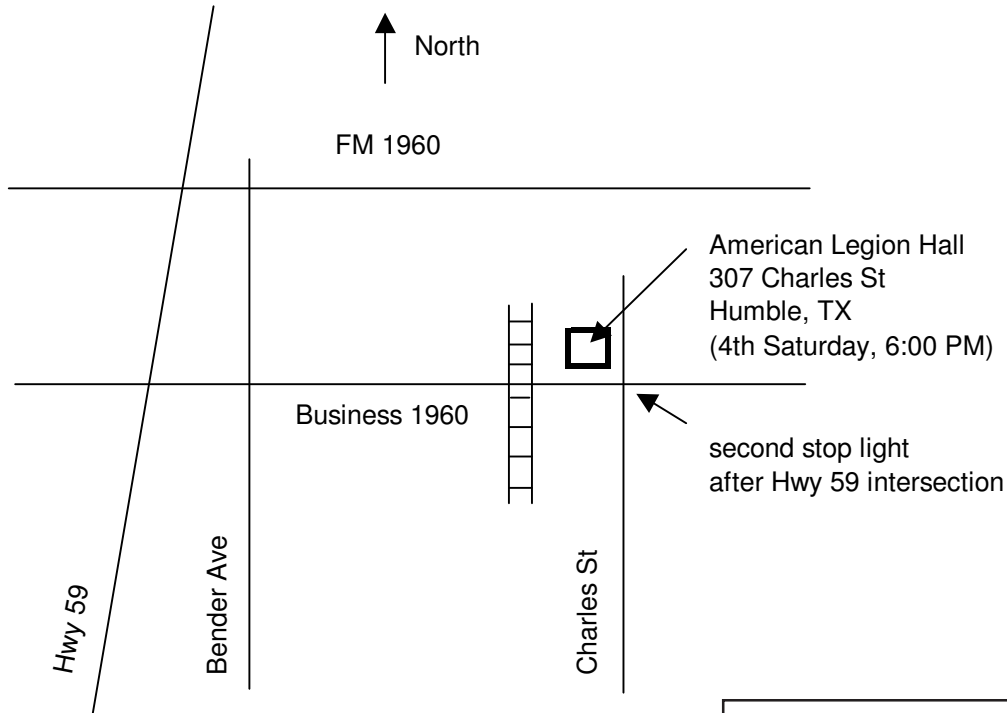


The N2 Buzz

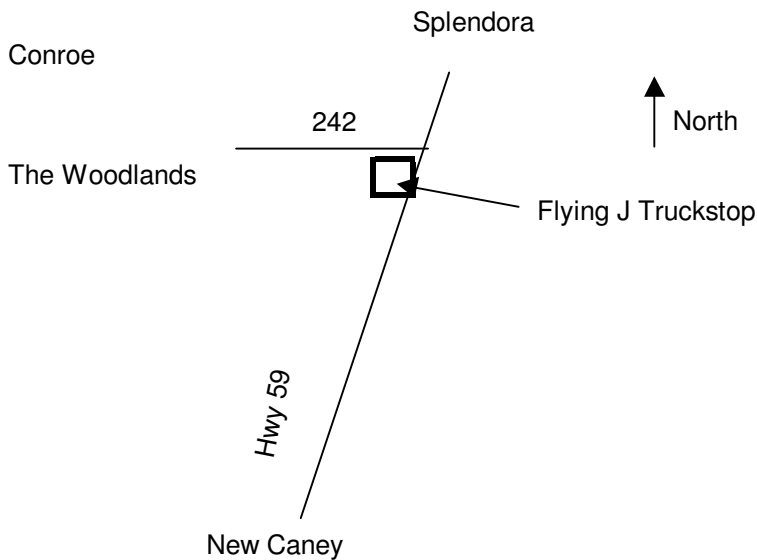


April 2010

MONTHLY MEETING PLACE



RIDE MEETING PLACE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

- Monthly Meeting/Ride Location Maps
- Chapter N-2 Staff
- Texas District Staff
- News from the Chapter Directors
- 2010 Couple of the Year
- Rider Education
- Things You'll Need to Fly a Kite
- TX District Rider Education Drawing
- MSF's Guide to Group Riding: Hand Signals
- Subject: Washington on the Brazos
- Pine Tree Ride
- Kelley's Breakfast Ride
- Northwest Honda Ride to Washington on the Brazos
- Boucherie
- 10 Places Not to Use Your Debit Card
- Recycling
- Recipes
- This & That
- Chapter Calendars
- Newsletter Sponsors

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Couple of the Year

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NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Steve & Linda Seligman
Master Tour Rider 6748 & 6747
Chapter N2 - Humble, TX



The first weekend in March Linda and I headed to Killeen to participate in the Officer Certification Program. We both had mixed emotions about going away for the weekend. We knew we were going to miss some great Chapter events--game night, the pine tree ride, and breakfast at Kelley's. But, we were also excited to learn all we could about GWRRA and how to be better Chapter Directors.

In January 2010, GWRRA rewrote the Officers Guidebook to clearly define many of the guidelines and policies of GWRRA. In order to make sure that all officers were familiar with the Guidebook, GWRRA instituted the Officer Certification Program. The class is for 1 ½ days consisting of 9 modules, a knowledge exercise and 4 modules consisting of expanded, advanced seminars especially for the GWRRA Officer.

It is amazing how much you think you know about GWRRA. Linda and I learned that we probably had a grasp on 50%--we knew the motto, when it was created, that the priority was rider education, when the financial reports were due, the amount of the charter fees and more. But we did not totally understand the policies and the reasons behind the policies. After 1 ½ days of seminars, we had crammed so much GWRRA into our brains, our heads hurt. It is funny, all the way home to Porter, Linda and I would quiz each other on what we had just learned. We now have a better understanding of the world of GWRRA, feel we can use this knowledge to better represent the organization, and, hopefully, use the skills to be better leaders. We both had a great time in Killeen, enjoyed the fellowship of the other Chapter Directors, District, and Region Staff. Linda and I encourage any member of GWRRA, who is interested in becoming an officer or just wants to better understand GWRRA, to take this course.

MARCH 2010 RIDE/EVENT PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>#OF BIKES</u>	<u>#OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
3/05/2010	Game Night		21
3/6/2010	Pine Tree Ride	4	5
3/07/2010	Chapter Breakfast/Ride	4	15
3/13/2010	Boucherie	7	35
3/14/2010	Washington on the Brazos	19	24
3/17/2010	Chapter Dinner (Zio's)	4	18
3/20/2010	Chapter Gathering	4	26
3/21/2010	Ride to Rudy's BBQ	6	13
3/25-27/2010	Region H Rally	7	9
3/27/2010	Maintenance Day	5	10

2010 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

Rex & Ann Nix
Master Tour Rider 4167 & 5964
Chapter N2 - Humble, TX



Wow! Another month has gone by and it seems just like yesterday that the year started. I want to say to everyone, thank you for your support and prayers for us thru this difficult month that

Rex and I have had. His dad got sick and went into the hospital the day before Valentine's Day. So we spent most of February going everyday to the hospital to visit him and make sure everything was being done that could be. But unfortunately, things did not work out and his dad passed away on March 5. Which is the reason we have not been very visible in the past month. But we are so blessed with our chapter family and friends; we never felt we were doing this by ourselves. Just knowing that someone was just a phone call away, if needed, was a great help. So our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone.

But now things are getting back to normal and we are gearing back up to get things done for the Texas District Rally. It was suggested to do a camping theme for our basket and we now have a plan for what the basket is to look like. I am excited and hope we get to show the whole chapter before we take it to the rally. We have already been getting things for the basket, but still need a lot more!

So we are asking for the chapter's help in donating items for our basket and, if you can't, we are more than happy to take monetary donations and we will buy the items for you. I have always enjoyed looking and admiring all the baskets at the rallies and now I get to participate in making one! It has been, and is a lot of fun! But of course, I have to rein in someone's creative juices (unnamed of course), to help keep his feet on the ground. Sounds like the District Rally is going to be really great this year with all that will be going on! Looking forward to seeing you there.



CHAPTER N2 MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

APRIL 14

Mike & Robin Thacker

Wed., April 14, 2010 - (Fuddruckers - 4360 Kingwood Drive)

MAY

Carolyn Thomsen

JUNE

Mark & Robin Smith

JULY

Gary & Stormy Young

AUGUST

Dolly Ard

SEPTEMBER

Jim & Lynn Flournoy

OCTOBER (128711)

Paul & Marie Rich

NOVEMBER

Gary & Marie Rabalais

DECEMBER

Marty & Donna Uphoff

ALTERNATES: *Ricky & Karen Frazier, Rex & Ann Nix, and Bob Moorehead*



RIDER EDUCATOR

Mark Smith

Master Tour Rider 7153

Chapter N2 - Humble, TX

Motorcycle Riding Hazards

Road Conditions:

Spring is here, Summer is on its way, and so are the orange barrels that indicate road repair. Keep on the lookout for motorcycle hazards such as uneven pavement, differences in surface heights, repaving, road debris, and temperature changes.

When navigating on uneven pavement from stripping and paving roadways, keep a firm grip on the handlebars, maintaining control of your motorcycle. You may feel like you are in a blender, but don't panic. The key is to ride it out and know that the motorcycle is not moving as much as you think it is. For differences in surface heights, remember to cross with the most angle you can and roll on some throttle to get your motorcycle up and over.

Another motorcycle riding hazard is dehydration. When the temperature soars, remember to keep yourself hydrated by drinking plenty of water. With the wind and sun, it is easy to get dehydrated and do stupid things on the motorcycle. Another motorcycle hazard is known as "tar snakes" or black tar that has been poured on the asphalt cracks for repair, become very slippery when warmed by the hot sun and doesn't lend themselves well to fast movements or high speeds. If you find yourself on a web of tar snakes, remember to keep your speed and angle constant until you can ride to a safer area.

Motorcycle road debris hazards come in many forms such as gravel, sand, oil, potholes, brush, and trash. The best course of action is to try and avoid the obstacle by choosing a better path or swerving. For slick obstacles, reduce your speed before your encounter, because slick surfaces

require more stopping time. Maintain a firm grip on the handlebars, keeping it straight and steady.

Weather Conditions:

Strong winds means reduced riding control. If you are riding and wind gusts start pushing your bike, keep a firm grip on the handlebars, lean your bike into the wind by countersteering, keep an upright posture, and keep plenty of distance between you and other vehicles.

Rain storms mean slick road conditions, because of oil buildup and slick lane markers. When a rain first begins, the road becomes the slickest from the oil and other debris mixing with the rain. After a rain, the center of a lane is where the oil tends to build up, so gently change lane position to avoid the center. Be aware of slickness when stopping and wear oil-resistant riding boots to help alleviate slippage.

Wildlife Conditions:

Summer is not only prime time to ride, but it's prime time for groundhogs to sun themselves on the side of the road and for deer to drink from roadside creeks.

Look for the deer crossing signs and reduce your speeds in these areas. Remember that deer are unpredictable and appear calm until you get right up on them, when they suddenly take flight. If the deer are on the road, be prepared to brake and allow the deer to cross, rather than assuming you can speed up or swerve to miss them.

Dogs are more predictable. The rule of thumb for dogs is to vary your speed, it distracts them and throws their timing off. A dog will go for the front

(*Motorcycle Riding Hazards, cont.*)

tire in a herding response, so make sure the dog doesn't make it there by varying your motorcycle speed. I have dogs in my neighborhood that run free and chase me everytime I get on my bike. My first thought is to kick and try to keep the dog from getting to close, but as mentioned earlier, that is the worst thing I can do. So just be aware and alternate your speed and, eventually, the dog will give up.

These are only a few of the hazardous motorcycle road conditions that summer roads hold in store. Be prepared and practice your motorcycle riding maneuvers until they are an automatic riding habit. So until next time, ride safe and have fun. Live life to the fullest, because there is no guarantee there will be a tomorrow!

See if you can find your GWRRA number in the newsletter. Let *Steve Seligman* know before the next chapter meeting and win a little something!

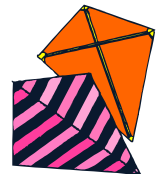
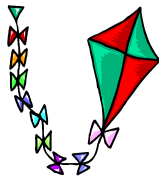


GOT NEWS...Forward your articles, etc., to Sharon Rainwater at rainwatersharon@yahoo.com.

Things You'll Need to Fly a Kite

(Kite spool, kite string, and strips of cloth for tail)

- 1) Check your local weather report to determine if conditions are favorable for kite flying. Look for light to moderate winds if you're a beginning kite flier or gustier winds if you are more experienced. A wind speed of 5 to 15 mph is bet for kite flying.
- 2) Find a large and windy open area free of trees and power lines – two things that are notoriously dangerous for kites and their owners.
- 3) Hold the kite in both hands and toss it lightly into the wind until the wind catches it. This works well when the wind is moderately strong.
- 4) Alternatively, let out a small length of kite string and holding the string in your had, run with the kite behind you until the wind lifts it.
- 5) Begin letting out string until the kite reaches a height with which you are comfortable. Good heights generally range from 50 to 100 feet.
- 6) Keep an eye on your kite, as it may come crashing down because of sudden changes in wind. If it dips, run or pull in the string a bit to give it some lift.
- 7) Bring the kite down by slowly winding the kite string around a kite spool.
- 8) Reach out and grab the kite before it hits the ground to avoid damaging it.



Win A Hill Country Get Away Texas District Rider Education



Garmin Zumo 660

- 👉 **A Garmin Zumo 660**
- 👉 **A coupon for 3 days and 2 nights at a Fredericksburg Bed and Breakfast.**
- 👉 **A coupon for lunch at Cooper's In Llano**
- 👉 **A coupon for dinner at the Cotton Gin Restaurant in Fredericksburg**
- 👉 **A coupon for a package at a day spa in Fredericksburg**

**Tickets - \$10
at the Rider Education table**

Drawing will be held at closing ceremonies Saturday
Winner does not have to be present

If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, please contact Mark Smith.

MSF's Guide to Group Riding: Hand Signals

www.msf-usa.org

4/05

Stop - arm extended straight down, palm facing back



Single File - arm and index finger extended straight up



Slow Down - arm extended straight out, palm facing down



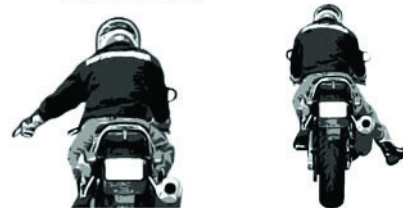
Double File - arm with index and middle finger extended straight up



Speed Up - arm extended straight out, palm facing up



Hazard in Roadway - on the right, point with right foot; on the left, point with left hand



You Lead/Come - arm extended upward 45 degrees, palm forward pointing with index finger, swing in arc from back to front



Highbeam - tap on top of helmet with open palm down



Follow Me - arm extended straight up from shoulder, palm forward



Pull Off - arm positioned as for right turn, forearm swung toward shoulder



Turn Signal On - open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



Refreshment Stop - fingers closed, thumb to mouth



Fuel - arm out to side pointing to tank with finger extended



Comfort Stop - forearm extended, fist clenched with short up and down motion



DATES TO REMEMBER...

4/8 - 10/2010	Louisiana Rally
5/6 - 8/2010	Texas District Rally, Killeen, TX
5/27 - 29/2010	Arkansas Rally

SUBJECT: Washington on the Brazos



A big thanks to everyone that came on my Washington on the Brazos ride and help sell raffle tickets, set up tables and chairs, sign in everyone, do the live auction as well as buy raffle tickets and bid on items!

Spring is here and, I think everyone has housatosis, we ended up with 360 people, that all got to hear the Ride for Kids story and get personally invited to our Ride for Kids event on April 25...that is the most people I have ever had at one of my rides, which of course presents some issues in itself. So thanks to everyone's patience as well.

Fred Rau from Motorcycle Consumer News, long-time Ride for Kids supporter, just happened to be

passing through Texas and heard about the event and showed up on his Spyder to enjoy some good old Texas BBQ.

It was great to see a huge turnout and when the dust settled, we had raised over \$3000 for our Ride for Kids event. Also good to see some of our long-time Ride for Kids supporters win some of the raffle prizes.

Thanks again for all your help and support.

Running on empty,
Ronnie Lunsford





PINE TREE RIDE

Robin Thacker

Master Tour Rider 6162

Mike and I were at Game Night at the American Legion Hall, when we had heard some sad news about Rex's stepdad pasting away. We were all sorry to hear about Rex's sad day.

Rex was going to lead the Chapter on a nice ride on Saturday through some roads that had a lot of pine trees. Of course he had a change of plans. Steve and Linda were out-of-town, so they could not lead the ride. Steve got a hold of Mike, one of his Ride Coordinators, and asked if he could meet the Chapter at the scheduled meeting location and lead the ride.

There were five people and four bikes that took off at 8:00 a.m. for a day ride. I had made a suggestion that we go to a place where Carolyn and I ate last year on a benefit for Ride For Kids with Chapter C. It was in Jasper, Texas at a little country place called the Lone Star Café.

We rode to 59 to FM 2090 then turned onto 1010 to head towards Cleveland. We rode on 787 to 1293 and over to FM 327 to 69. We rode through a lot of little towns like, Cleveland, Kountze, Evadale, Silsbee, and Buna, then to Jasper where

we stopped for lunch. We arrived at the Lone Star Café around 11:00 a.m.

If you have never eaten at this little buffet-style café, you really need to give it a try and you have to try their potato rolls. They had a nice salad bar with all the salad fixings. Their lunch menu offered several items from baked fish, fried fish, smothered steak, liver and onions, BBQ ribs, fried chicken, mac and cheese, rice, and mashed potatoes. Their veggies were cabbage, green beans, mustard greens, and corn. Oh and lets not forget the gravy and their awesome potato rolls. Oh, and the dessert was cookies, lemon pie, chocolate pie, brownies, bread pudding, and coconut pie. I'm getting hungry just thinking about all that food.

Mike and I, along with Randy, Sharon, and Bob left just before 1:00 p.m. to start our trip back. Believe it or not we saw a lot of pine trees on our ride. It was a beautiful day for a ride. We rode back Hwy. 190 to 59 and then we road southbound. I think we arrive home somewhere around 3:00 p.m. We all had a great ride with great company and great food. What more can a person asked for?

Rally the Troops Pictures in Killeen

If you were a military person, once again we'd like to feature you. Please send your picture with the appropriate information on the back. They will not be returned. Submit your pictures as follows: 3 x 5 pictures only - no original copies. On the back of the photo write:

- Name
- Rank
- Branch of Service
- Chapter affiliation



Kelley's Breakfast Ride & Independence Park

On Sunday, May 7, I led a ride to Kelley's for our chapter breakfast. We had two bikes and two four-wheelers show up for the ride and we were later joined by two of Houston's finest, two more bikes and another four-wheeler. The weather really cooperated, as the temps were cool but not cold and even though overcast, it did not rain the whole day.



The breakfast at Kelley's is still that same awesome stuffing of great food that you cannot find anywhere else. Sure, there are some good eatin' places and we have been patrons at many but when it comes matchin' biscuit to biscuit, Kelley's is second to none in my humble opinion, or should I say near Katy opinion. I did not hear any complaining about skimpy portions or bad tastin' food from any of the 15 in our group. There were a few complaints but they were things like, "I shouldn't have eaten that much," or "next time we're gonna split that, right?"



After the stuffing and swearing that we will not do that again, some of us rode over to Independence Park to the San Jacinto Monument and Battleship USS Texas. I didn't know it was the Texas Independence Relay day. There were Texas flags lining the street and teams of runners coming in from their run.

I had not been to the monument in years and it was good to see the updates and finally get to the observation floor near the top. The view up there is really nice. We also watched the award winning presentation, Texas Forever, which details the history of Texas and the fight for independence. Even though I've been in Texas over 30 years, there was a lot of information shared in the film that I



did not know. I had heard of the Alamo since childhood and I had heard of the murder of the Texas Freedom fighters in Goliad, but I did not know that Santa Ana had come to fight with less than a thousand troops ahead of his main forces. The battle of San Jacinto was so decisive and the outcome could have been so different if Santa Ana had come with his full force or had at least posted a guard detail. We may not have attained that independence at all. It was very entertaining and enlightening. We are looking at maybe planning a ride down for the re-enactment in April if there is enough interest.

We also went over to the Battleship Texas but did not go on board this time. The day was getting away from us and we had to get back home.



I may not be a Texan by birth, but I sure am a Texan by choice. I love our state and its rich history and proud heritage.

Until next time...
Safe miles with lots of smiles.



Steve & Billie - 2010 MEC - 2008 COY

SAN JACINTO DAY 2010

Festival and Battle Re-enactment

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 24

San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park

Battle Re-enactment @ 3:00 p.m.

Northwest Honda Ride to Washington-on-the-Brazos

by Randy Rainwater

Each year Northwest Honda has an all bike ride to Washington-on-the-Brazos with a barbecue lunch from Mikeska's in Columbus, TX, for a small fee of \$5.00 per person to help offset the cost. Believe me you get more than your money's worth of sliced brisket, sausage, boiled potatoes, green beans, slaw, pickles, onions, jalapenos, bread, ice tea, and soft drinks. This was a 200-mile round trip and N2 was represented well with 23 of the 360 total participants. N2 was also publicly thanked for their large attendance. This year there was an auction for several items to raise funds for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation "Ride for Kids." They raised over \$3,000 at the auction. One of the auction items, a Ride for the Kids quilt has been sold several times in the past and I would imagine you might see it up for sale again in the future to raise more funds for this charity.



Historically, there is also an egg toss competition after lunch, with two \$50 gift certificates from Northwest Honda for the winning team. There were several teams of two that participated. Sharon and I participated, but our egg was broken, when it contacted the ground, on the fifth throw.

The weather was perfect, the food was better than ever, the DQ stop in Navasota was refreshing, and as always it's a great way to share a day on the road with our friends.

I thought that a little Texas History from Wikipedia might be of interest.

Washington-on-the-Brazos is known as "the birthplace of Texas," a distinction it earned when on March 1, 1836, it became the meeting place of the Texas delegates who formally announced Texas' intention to separate from Mexico and who drafted the [constitution](#) of the new [Republic of Texas](#), organizing an interim government to serve until an officially elected government could be put in place.

There is a replica of the building at Washington-on-the-Brazos where the Texas Declaration was signed. An inscription near this building reads: "Here a Nation was born." The delegates declared independence on March 2, 1836. Their constitution was adopted on March 16. The delegates worked until March 17, when they had to flee, along with the people of Washington, to escape the advancing Mexican Army. The townspeople returned after the Mexican Army was defeated at [San Jacinto](#) on April 21. Town leaders lobbied for Washington's designation as the permanent capital of the Republic of Texas, but leaders of the Republic passed over Washington in favor of Waterloo, which later was renamed [Austin](#).

[Washington County](#) was created by the legislature of the Republic of Texas in 1836 and organized in 1837 and Washington-on-the-Brazos became the county seat. Although the county seat moved to [Brenham](#) in 1844, the town continued to thrive as a center for the [cotton](#) trade until the mid-1850s, when the [railroad](#) bypassed it. The strife of the [Civil War](#) took another toll on the town, and by the turn of the century it was virtually abandoned.

The State of Texas purchased 50 acres of the old townsite in 1916 and built a replica of the building where the delegates met. The state acquired more of the site in 1976 and 1996.

Located between Brenham and [Navasota](#) off [State Highway 105](#), the site is now known as Washington-on-the-Brazos State historic Site. It covers 293 acres and features three main attractions, Independence Hall, Barrington Living History Farm and the Star of the Republic Museum administered by [Blinn College](#). The site's visitor center is free and includes interactive exhibits about the [Texas Revolution](#) and the park's attractions, a gift shop, a conference center and an education center.

BOUCHERIE*By Sharon Rainwater*

Who could have asked for a better day to enjoy our second chapter “pig roast” under a canopy of blue sky surrounded by a gentle breeze and a hungry audience.

When we arrived, the pig was a-cookin, the jambalaya a-stirrin, and the people a-jivin to the beat of the music. Ted and his family had traveled from Celeste, La and were busy attending to the main course. Ted was telling us that as the pig cooked the juices dripping into the collection cup would indicate that the meat was done cooking. Appetizers of cheese and buffalo wings did their job of getting us ready for the main course.

While the meat and jambalaya may have been the star attraction, it was accompanied by a variety of delicious baked beans and potato salads. I even heard that Elvis Presley made an appearance (or better yet...his potato salad recipe). The meal would not have been complete without dessert...we are a sweet loving group. There was Ricky’s banana pudding, Shirley’s glazed orange bundt cake, Lynn’s brownies, my lemonade pie, and a swarm of bee cupcakes accompanied by its hive.

The talented Stormy used her cake decorating skills to create miniature bee mascots complete with wings. Many broke meal etiquette by consuming a bee before eating the main entree.

With our tummies content, we moved on to relaxation and games. What looked, at first, like an innocent circle of conversation turned out to be a circle of interesting revelations. Thanks to Cody, Marty’s son, we tried a game new to many of us called “I’ve never ...” The game produced lots of laughs and some revealing information (ask Mari). While this game involved some crazy footwork, it wasn’t the only activity going on. Another group was involved in a game of croquet followed by some kick ball. Both groups involved plenty of exercise and lots of laughter.

All of this could not have taken place without our gracious hosts--Paul and Mari. Their property allowed us room to spread out, relax, and, of course, access to the “necessity” room...ha! Thanks to Steve and Linda who scheduled this activity and to everyone who attended. Can’t wait for the next one!



10 Places NOT to Use Your Debit Card

by Dana Dratch
Friday, March 19, 2010



Debit cards have different protections and uses. Sometimes they're not the best choice.

Sometimes reaching for your wallet is like a multiple choice test: How do you really want to pay? While credit cards and debit cards may look almost identical, not all plastic is the same.

"It's important that consumers understand the difference between a debit card and a credit card," says John Breyault, director of the Fraud Center for the National Consumers League, a Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group. "There's a difference in how the transactions are processed and the protections offered to consumers when they use them."

While debit cards and credit cards each have advantages, each is also better suited to certain situations. And since a debit card is a direct line to your bank account, there are places where it can be wise to avoid handing it over--if for no other reason than complete peace of mind. Here are 10 places and situations where it can pay to leave that debit card in your wallet:

1. Online

"You don't use a debit card online," says Susan Tiffany, director of consumer periodicals for the Credit Union National Association. Since the debit card links directly to a checking account, "you have potential vulnerability there," she says. Her reasoning: If you have problems with a purchase or the card number gets hijacked, a debit card is "vulnerable because it happens to be linked to an account," says Linda Foley, founder of the Identity Theft Resource Center. She also includes phone orders in this category.

The Federal Reserve's Regulation E (commonly dubbed Reg E), covers debit card transfers. It sets a consumer's liability for fraudulent purchases at \$50, provided they notify the bank within two days of discovering that their card or card number has been stolen.

Most banks have additional voluntary policies that set their own customers' liability with debit cards at \$0, says Nessa Feddis, vice president and senior counsel for the American Bankers Association. But the protections don't relieve consumers of hassle: The prospect of trying to get money put back into their bank account, and the problems that a lower-than-expected balance can cause in terms of fees and refused checks or payments, make some online shoppers reach first for credit cards.

2. Big-Ticket Items

With a big ticket item, a credit card is safer, says Chi Chi Wu, staff attorney with the National Consumer Law Center. A credit card offers dispute rights if something goes wrong with the merchandise or the purchase, she says. "With a debit card, you have fewer protections," she says.

In addition, some cards will also offer extended warranties. And in some situations, such as buying electronics or renting a car, some credit cards also offer additional property insurance to cover the item. Two caveats, says Wu. Don't carry a balance. Otherwise, you also risk paying some high-ticket interest. And "avoid store cards with deferred interest," Wu advises.

3. Deposit Required

When Peter Garuccio recently rented some home improvement equipment at a big-box store, it required a sizable deposit. "This is where you want to use a credit card instead of a debit," says Garuccio, spokesman for the national trade group American Bankers Association. That way, the store has its security deposit, and you still have access to all of the money in your bank account. With any luck, you'll never actually have to part with a dollar.

4. Restaurants

"To me, it's dangerous," says Gary Foreman, editor of the frugality minded Web site The Dollar Stretcher. "You have so many people around." Foreman bases his conclusions on what he hears from readers.

(10 Places NOT to Use Your Debit Card, cont.)

restaurant,” he says. The danger: Restaurants are one of the few places where you have to let cards leave your sight when you use them. But others think that avoiding such situations is not workable.

The “conventional advice of ‘don’t let the card out of your sight’--that’s just not practical,” says Tiffany. The other problem with using a debit card at restaurants: Some establishments will approve the card for more than your purchase amount because, presumably, you intend to leave a tip. So the amount of money frozen for the transaction could be quite a bit more than the amount of your tab. And it could be a few days before you get the cash back in your account.

5. You’re a New Customer

Online or in the real world, if you’re a first-time customer in a store, skip the debit card the first couple of times you buy, says Breyault. That way, you get a feel for how the business is run, how you’re treated and the quality of the merchandise before you hand over a card that links to your checking account.

6. Buy Now, Take Delivery Later

Buying now but taking delivery days or weeks from now? A credit card offers dispute rights that a debit card typically does not. “It may be an outfit you’re familiar with and trust, but something might go wrong,” says Breyault, “and you need protection.” But be aware that some cards will limit the protection to a specific time period, says Feddis. So settle any problems as soon as possible.

7. Recurring Payments

We’ve all heard the urban legend about the gym that won’t stop billing an ex-member’s credit card. Now imagine the charges aren’t going onto your card, but instead coming right out of your bank account. Another reason not to use the debit card for recurring charges: your own memory and math skills. Forget to deduct that automatic bill payment from your checkbook one month, and you could either face fees or embarrassment (depending on whether you’ve opted to allow overdrafting or not). So if you don’t keep a cash buffer in your account, “to protect yourself from over-limit fees, you may want to think about using a credit card” for recurring payments, says Breyault.

8. Future Travel

Book your travel with a check card, and “they debit it immediately,” says Foley. So if you’re buying travel that you won’t use for six months or making a reservation for a few weeks from now, you’ll be out the money immediately. Another factor that bothers Foley: Hotels aren’t immune to hackers and data breaches, and several name-brand establishments have suffered the problem recently. Do you want your debit card information “to sit in a system for four months, waiting for you to arrive?” she asks. “I would not.”

9. Gas Stations and Hotels

This one depends on the individual business. Some gas stations and hotels will place holds to cover customers who may leave without settling the entire bill. That means that even though you only bought \$10 in gas, you could have a temporary bank hold for \$50 to \$100, says Tiffany. Ditto hotels, where there are sometimes holds or deposits in the hundreds to make sure you don’t run up a long distance bill, empty the mini bar or trash the room. The practice is almost unnoticeable if you’re using credit, but can be problematic if you’re using a debit card and have just enough in the account to cover what you need. At hotels, ask about deposits and holds before you present your card, says Feddis. At the pump, select the pin-number option, she says, which should debit only the amount you’ve actually spent.

10. Checkouts or ATMs That Look ‘Off’

Criminals are getting better with skimmers and planting them in places you’d never suspect--like ATM machines on bank property, says Foley. So take a good look at the machine or card reader the next time you use an ATM or self-check lane, she advises. Does the machine fit together well or does something look off, different or like it doesn’t quite belong? Says Foley, “Make sure it doesn’t look like it’s been tampered with.”



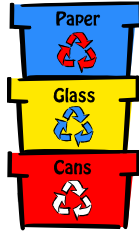
RECYCLING

Recycling: When something is made into something else.

Reducing: When you can reduce or limit the use of a material--less packaging.

Reusing: When you can use something for another purpose than it was originally designed for.

Family Challenge: Think of one item or thing you can do each week that represents each of the three "R's." **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



Did you know that...the energy saved from ONE recycled aluminum can will operate a television set for 3 hours!

Paper Recycling: For every 2000 pounds of newspaper and paper you are recycling 17 trees are saved. Help your local church or school by dropping off paper, magazines, and crushed boxes for recycling in the yellow bins. The Recycler pays them for the waste paper received.

Did you know that...if we recycled just half of the magazines printed in the US each year, it could save about 12 million cubic yards of landfill space.

Plant Trees: This will help our air quality; also they can reduce your electric bill when placed in an area that cuts the direct light from the sun hitting your home.

CONSERVATION...HOW CAN THAT HELP?

Reducing is the one way to make a difference that does not have to cost your family anything. Here are a few things that can be done in your home:

- 1) Turn off the water when brushing your teeth. This will save water and lower your water bill.
- 2) Fix small water leaks...they add up quickly. they can waste thousands of gallons of water in a year's time.
- 3) Turn off electronics when not in use. You can save \$50 a year by turning off your computer and monitor each night.
- 4) Empty the lint basket each time you use your dryer. This will save you \$50 a year.
- 5) Turn OFF the lights, when you leave a room. You could see a big drop in your electric bill each month.



- 6) Learn to think GREEN!

(article from the Hunters Ridge Gazette dated March 2010)

NEW CHAPTER N2 SHIRTS

If you missed the last Chapter gathering, you may not be aware that new summer-weight polo shirts are now available for \$17.00. Several individuals had shown an interest in purchasing a lighter weight polo shirt for the summer season. The yellow polo shirt comes with the chapter logo on the back and TX N2 on the front. See *Randy* or *Sharon Rainwater* to purchase your shirt.



This month's collection include a hodgepodge of recipes know to be delicious. Enjoy!

Squash Stuffing Casserole

(submitted by Stormy Curtner-Young)

- ¾ c. water
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 8 c. sliced yellow summer squash (¼ inch thick)
- ½ sweet yellow onion, sliced
- 1 can (10-¾ ounces) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 1 c. (8 ounces) sour cream
- 1 package (6 ounces) cornbread stuffing mix
- 1 can (4 ounces) chopped green chilies
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 c. (4 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 c. milk
- 1 egg, beaten



In a large saucepan, bring water and salt to a boil. Add the squash and onion. Reduce heat; cover and cook until squash is crisp-tender, about 6-8 minutes. Drain well; set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the soup, sour cream, egg, milk, stuffing and the contents of seasoning packet, chilies, salt and pepper. Fold in squash mixture. Pour into a greased shallow 2-qt. baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 25 - 30 minutes or until heated through. This recipe comes from "TASTE OF HOME BEST LOVED CASSEROLES RECIPE CARDS."

Cauliflower Casserole

(submitted by Robin Thacker)

- 4 c. cooked cauliflower
- 1 T. Grey Poupon country Dijon Mustard
- 1/2 c. 2 % reduced fat milk
- 3 T. shredded fat-free cheddar cheese
- 3 T. dried breadcrumbs
- 1 c. canned low fat cream of mushroom soup, made with fat-free milk




Instructions

Steam cauliflower and break into large pieces. In a pot, place soup, mustard, 1/2 soup can 2% milk, shredded cheese and heat. Place cauliflower in casserole dish and pour heated mixture over the top. Place foil over dish and cook in 350 degree oven for 30 minutes; uncover and place bread crumbs over the top and cook 10 more minutes in oven uncovered.

4 servings....1 point

ITALIAN SAUSAGE SOUP (savory vegetable soup with sausage morsels)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 ½ lbs. mild Italian sausages, cut into ¼ “ slices | ½ tsp. dry basil |  |
| 2 cloves garlic, minced or pressed | 3 T. chopped fresh parsley | |
| 1 large onion, chopped | 1 medium-size green pepper, diced | |
| 1 large can (about 28 oz) Italian-style tomatoes | 1 medium-size zucchini, cut into ¼” slices | |
| 3 cans (14 oz each) regular-strength beef broth | 1 lb. (uncooked) medium-size bow-tie noodles | |
| 1 ½ c. dry red wine or water | Grated Parmesan cheese | |

In a 5-quart Dutch oven over medium-high heat, cook sausage slices until lightly browned on the outside and no longer pink inside. Remove from Dutch oven with a slotted spoon, drain on paper towel, and set aside. Spoon off and discard all but 3 tablespoons drippings. Add garlic and onions and cook, stirring occasionally, until onions are soft (about 5 minutes).

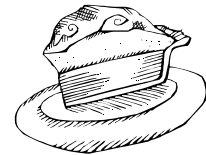
Stir in tomatoes (break up with a spoon) and their liquid. Add sausage slices, broth, wine, and basil. Bring to a full, rolling boil; cover, reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Stir in parsley, green pepper, zucchini, and noodles. Cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, until noodles are al dente (10-15 minutes). Skim off and discard fat.

Pass cheese at the table to spoon over individual servings. Good to serve with crusty Italian bread. MMmm good! Serves 6.

LEMONADE PIE

(submitted by Sharon Rainwater)

- 1 (6 oz.) can frozen lemonade
- 1 can Eagle Brand milk
- 1 12 oz. container of Cool Whip
- 2-9 inch graham cracker pie crust



Mix together with a large spoon; fold in 1 large container of Cool Whip. Pour mixture into 2 graham cracker pie crusts. Refrigerate for several hours before serving.

LEMONADE CHEESECAKE

(submitted by Sharon Rainwater)

- Combine and cream -
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. fat-free cream cheese
 - 1 T. Crystal Light Lemonade Drink (powdered)
 - 1/4 c. fat-free milk



- Fold in -
- 1 (8 oz.) container of fat-free Cool Whip

Pour into a reduced fat-free graham cracker crust. Refrigerate for several hours before serving.



GWRRRA Chapter N2 Address Book - Members--See *Brad* or *Shirley Rodger* to obtain your updated Chapter N2 address book.



GAME NIGHT

Friday, April 2

6:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall
307 Charles Street
Humble, TX



The concept of our monthly game night originated as a group activity that could take place within the chapter--rain or shine or hot or cold. Let's face it, not every month of the year provides ideal riding weather, depending on where you reside. It has become a favorite event within our chapter. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and food. Bring a snack to share...most of the time our spread is equivalent to a sit down meal...ha...and your favorite game. Game Night is a fun way to "tax" your brain in a good way! Hope to see you soon!

CHAPTER J RALLY

Saturday, April 3

@ Cowboy Honda

(1280 Interstate 10 S, Beaumont, TX)

Registration begins 9:00 a.m.

Cost - \$12 pp

Chapter N2 members are meeting at Little Mexico at 8:00 a.m. (prefed). *Mike Thacker* will lead the ride.

LOUISIANA DISTRICT RALLY

April 8 - 10, 2010

Mardi Gras Madness

Lafayette, LA

The Heart of Cajun Country!



Chapter N2 members are meeting on Thursday, April 8, at Flying J at 7:00 a.m. *Mike Thacker* will lead the ride.

CHAPTER O RALLY

Bluebonnet Rally & Camp Out

Saturday, April 9 -10

Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park

Fredericksburg, TX

Contact *Randy & Kathy Reese* at director@goldwingaustin.org.



Ride for the Bear

The LINDSAY FOUNDATION

Texas Meets Louisiana 2010

Saturday, April 10

Registration begins @ 8:00 a.m.

Kickstands Up @ 9:00 a.m.

Packages starting at \$35.00



The ride will be leaving from Wal-Mart SuperCenter (23561 Hwy. 59 in Porter, Texas). The route is approximately 105 miles with the finish point and lunch (*provided by Catfish on Wheels*) at Joe Pedigo City Park (925 US 59 North Livingston, Texas. Visit www.LindsayFoundation.org for additional details and registration information.

GOOD OIL DAYS FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 10

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Main Street in Humble

Admission is free



The Good Oil Days Festival celebrates Humble's rich history that is steeped in black gold. In the early 1900s, Humble was home to Humble Oil, the largest producer of oil in Texas. Humble Oil later became Exxon Oil. The festival offers families a time to enjoy the entertainment, food, and the many vendors that have wonderful items for sale.

CO-RIDER CLASS

Thursday, April 16

7:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall

307 Charles St., Humble, TX

Come to get educated and enjoy some snacks.



Free Concert Series*Friday, April 16*

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Keller Williams Realty NE presents a Viva Las Vegas Concert featuring Elvis tribute Vince King. Bring your lawn chairs, coolers, and your dancing shoes. Kings Harbor is located at 1660 west Lake Houston Parkway.

Fourth Annual Kingwood Car Show*Sunday, April 18*

Town Center Park

Hosted and sponsored by Dr. Scott Mosby, this fun event features over 200 vintage cars, live music, food, and shopping to raise money for Texas Children's Hospital.

18th Annual Houston Ride for Kid*All proceeds benefit the Pediatric Brain**Tumor Foundation**Sunday, April 25*

Humble Civic Center

(8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble, TX)

Registration - 8:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Police escorted ride - 10:00 a.m.

Riders on all makes and models are welcome. For more information, call 800-253-6530 or go to www.rideforkids.org. If you haven't set up your First Giving Page and would like some guidance, contact *Carolyn Thomsen* at Wngldr98@yahoo.com

Humble Area Assistance Ministries (HAAM)**Announces a 2nd Resale Location**

22310 Loop 494

Kingwood, TX

281-359-5667

*Donations kept local

*High quality affordable items

*Proceeds give back to community

The facility is located near Loop 494 and Beasley Tires. The resale shop will offer "boutique" merchandise and HAAM plans to host community events on the outdoor patio.

**Kudos to..**

Jim & Beth Hartley - for sharing their Rudy's BBQ gift certificate

Michael & Suzanne Elrod - for the time and effort they put in as Texas District Educators

Chapter N2 - for supporting such a great cause (Northwest Honda-Washington on the Brazos ride).

You guys are great! (from *Judy Ferguson*)

Jim & Lynn Flourney - for opening up their home for Maintenance Day

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**FROM CHAPTER N2
TO
YOU!!!**


Candy, Chocolate, and Sweets - Oh My!

By Catherine Kruppa, Nutritionist

For your consideration when purchasing, eating, and providing Easter sweets:

<u>Candy</u>	<u>Calories</u>	<u>Fat</u>	<u>Carbs</u>	<u>Sugar</u>
Peeps (4)	130	0	33	29
Cadbury Creme Egg (1)	150	5	25	22
Cadbury Choc. Egg (12)	190	8	28	26
Dove Solid Choc. Bunny (1)	230	13	25	24
Snickers Cream Sports Egg (1)	140	6	18	16
Reese's Peanut Butter Egg (1)	180	10	18	16
Brach's Choc. Covered Marsh. Egg (1)	43	1.3	7.8	6
Jelly Belly Assorted Jelly Beans (35)	140	0	37	28

**GWRRA CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS
May 2010**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
Overnight trip being planned Rainwater 30	Memorial Day 31					Salt Lick BBQ Driftwood, TX The Texas Pie Co Kyle, TX Rainwater 7: 00 AM Prefed 1	
Breakfast Skeeters in Kingwood meet at Exxon on Northpark at Hwy 59 8:30 AM 2				Texas District Rally - Killeen, TX			
	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Mother's Day 9	10	11	Social Dinner Thomsen 7:00 PM 12		Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 PM  13	Mudbug Rally Chapter LA-M Deridder, LA 6:00 AM Prefed Flying J Thacker Armed Forces Day 14	
16	17	18	19	20	21	15	
						Chapter Gathering American Legion Hall 6:00 PM 22	
23	24	25	26	Arkansas District Rally - Rogers, AR			
						Overnight trip being planned Rainwater 29	
				27	28		

Birthdays

Ann Nix

5/24

Anniversaries

Did you find your GWRRA number? Keep looking!

"N2" Apparel

Yellow polo shirts (summer) with logo: \$17.00

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

"Humble Bumble" Bears \$3.00

Contact Randy or Sharon Rainwater

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