

# Gold Wing Road Riders Association

*FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE*



**Texas District  
Chapter N2  
Humble, Texas**

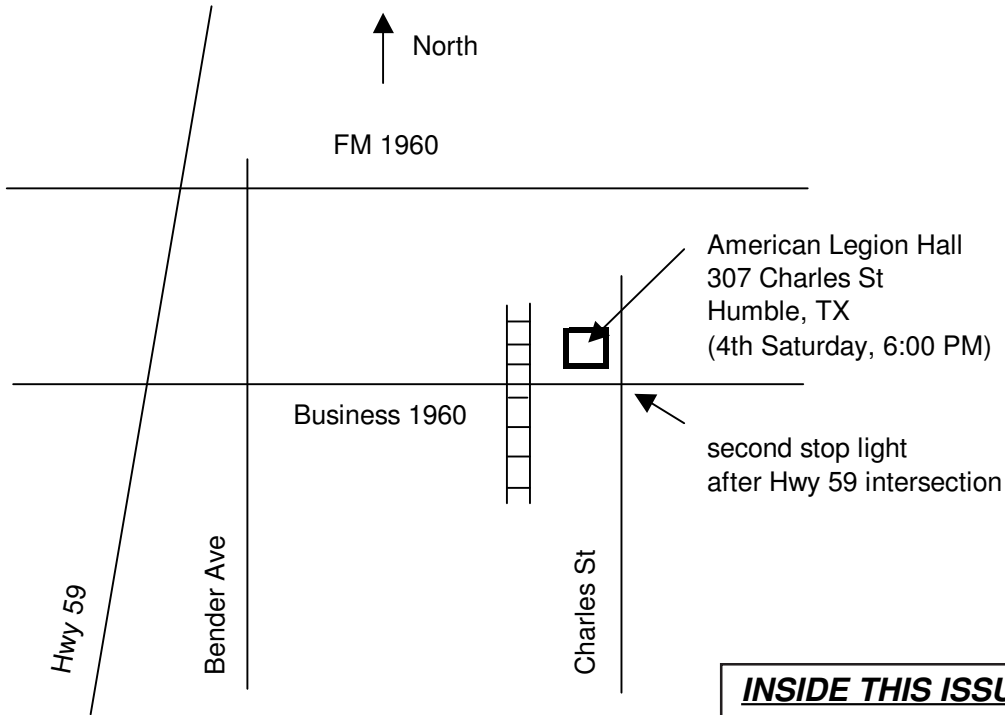
**South Central Region H**

## The N2 Buzz

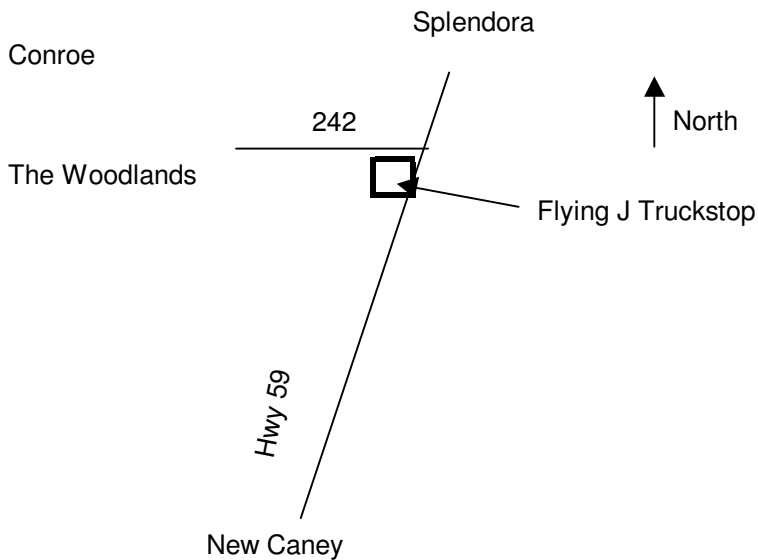


# December 2010

**MONTHLY MEETING PLACE**



**RIDE MEETING PLACE**



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## NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

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



Here we are in December. December is always a busy month for the Chapter and for all of us personally.

We have the annual Fruitcake ride on Saturday, December 11. This is an annual event where we ride to Corsicana, TX to buy fruitcakes, bread, and pastries at Collin Street bakery. We also have to make a stop at the Russell Stover Candy outlet. Everyone comes home packed down with fruitcake and candy. This trip always puts us in the Christmas spirit.

On Saturday, December 18, we have the chapter Christmas party at the East Montgomery Community Center from 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. This

year we are going to have a dress up your mascot competition. So, start thinking of a good costume for your mascot.

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Northwest Foster Children's Toy Run takes place on Sunday, December 21. We will decorate our bikes from 11 a.m. -12 noon in the Deerbrook Mall parking lot near Macy's. At 12:45 p.m., Santa will lead all of the elves from Deerbrook Mall to the Sheraton Hotel at Bush Intercontinental Airport to deliver all of the gifts. The chapter members always have a great time interacting with the children.

Then all of a sudden it is January 1 and our first ride of 2011--the Polar Bear ride and a gumbo lunch at the Hartley's house.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### November 2010 RIDE/EVENT PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>#OF BIKES</u>	<u>#OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
11/05/2010	Game Night	0	13
11/06/2010	Walk for Down Syndrome	0	9
11/06/2010	Ride to Bellville/Blessing	3	6
11/07/2010	Chapter Breakfast	0	6
11/13/2010	Legion Hall Event	4	6
11/17/2010	Chapter Social Dinner	0	17
11/20/2010	Chapter Gathering	0	29

## 2010 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

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

### Reflections



will have gone down in the record books.

It seems everyone is busying getting their yards straight, so the outdoor lights can be put up; folks are talking about decorating inside the house to help with the holiday spirit; and families are getting ready to spend time with each other.

We have a family that also decorates, maybe their houses and yards, but also their motorcycles and trailers and they wear elf costumes, funny looking hats, and ride in parades to bring a little cheer to others--short and tall. This time of the year everyone seems to be busy doing this or that, going here or there, smiling and trying to reach out to each other.

We also need to remember that we have some family that just simply need a phone call, a kind letter to show how much we miss them, friends that we don't see much for one reason or another. We also need to remember to take time for ourselves, so as not to stress out and create too much anxiety in our lives.

Ann and I have spent most of our tenure as Couple of the Year struggling with time this year. Trying to be with our blood family, our motorcycle family,

This year has gone by so fast it seems dizzying at times. Thanksgiving has just passed, Christmas is quickly approaching and, before you know it, another year

our crazy work schedules, wanting to help friends with their projects, our perpetual rebuild job with our house, trying to get a ride in whenever possible, and, as much as I really wanted, to get a few camping trips in this year...it just simply didn't work out.

We had several great rides this year; the game nights, for some reason, really perk a person up. I know that most game nights, I manage some laughter, which is great for the soul. I really like hanging with everyone on those overnights and simply chilling out in the evenings. There isn't one person with our chapter I wouldn't mind spending more time with, although I have a feeling several people possibly feel they can only handle so much of me.

One thing has happened this year that I need to tell everyone about. You see, I met a young lady in the summer of 1972 and, not only did I fall secretly in love with her, we became very good friends over the next ten years. In July 1982, I held her hand and kissed her for the very first time. The next ten years were a test for us for many reasons, but we became stronger through it all and what doesn't kill you only serves to make you stronger. We have had several motorcycles, from choppers to cruisers to touring machines. She has sat on a fender all day just to be with me on a ride and she now sits on the most comfortable seat I can find for her. She is my sweetheart, my best friend, my confidant, my wife, and my queen. What has happened this year is...I have fallen more in love with my wife.

We all kid around with each other during the short time we have together, we act silly, and say things that can make a person look at me sideways. But the bottom line is this, the friends we have today

*(Reflections, cont.)*

are real friends, both in the motorcycle world and outside of it. They are people from all corners of life, trying the best they can to accomplish a couple of common goals. One is to wear tires out on our bikes and another is to have people around us that we are willing to share a piece of our time together. Regardless of everything else in our lives, the time we have is the most precious thing we can share with each other. It is non-returnable, non-refundable, no do-overs. We can't slow it down or make it go faster. What we give to each other is given for good. I treasure the time given to me by all of you and thank you for it.

Ann and I were given one year to be your Chapter Couple, and although it may not have been exactly

what we had wanted or hoped it could have been, it is another treasure we now have been blessed with.

We hope for each and every one that you have a collection of time jewels in your life, the ones that can make you smile, cry, have a bit of hope, give you a new dream to reach for, and that all the events this year may have given you an extra jewel or two. We thank Steve and Linda for trusting us with this position within the chapter and hope the next chapter Couple of the Year has as much fun as we did. We thank you for putting up with us and are looking forward to the new year's events just around the corner. Have a great Christmas, New Year, and let's get ready for 2011.

### 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.



The gifts for the foster children are due back to *Steve & Linda Seligman* on Game Night (12/3). If you're not able to attend Game Night, contact Steve at 713-305-0225 to turn in your gifts.



### CHAPTER N2 MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT SOCIAL DINNER

**DECEMBER**

*Randy & Sharon Rainwater*

Wed., Dec. 15 - (Taqueria Alma Latina - 24660 Hwy. 59, Porter 77365 - 281-354-4030)



## RIDER EDUCATOR

Mark Smith  
Master Tour Rider 7153

### You Need to Be Seen to Be Safe

**Night riding:** Not my favorite thing, but just like riding through tunnels, sometimes it is a necessity. You need to know how to safely negotiate the streets and highways on your motorcycle in the dark and you need to know how to safely accomplish night riding.

**The absolute number one rule:** You and your motorcycle need to be visible. When motorcycling at night, don't be too concerned with fashion - black leathers on a dark bike without any reflective devices isn't a good idea. Night time motorcycling on a bike with the back end packed with bags obscuring the tail light--really not a good idea. If you know that you are going to be night riding, make sure that your jacket has some reflective parts. If it doesn't, then consider wearing a safety vest.

If your motorcycle has side bags, think about putting some reflective adhesives to the back of the bags. Extra visibility, anywhere you can put it, is a very good idea.

Night riding is not the time for speeding. Make sure that you observe the posted speed limits. If you are passing, flash your bright headlight, before passing. Do anything and everything to make sure that you are seen, by the vehicle that you are passing...and, most importantly, by oncoming vehicles.

#### **Helmets: Wear One and Make it Visible**

Riding at night is dangerous enough--don't skip the helmet. There is nothing on your head, without a helmet, that will make you visible to other vehicles.

The back of a helmet is a wonderful place to put some adhesive stickers that will catch the light of headlights behind you and ahead of you. Also,

make sure that your visor is clean, if you intend on riding at night. You need to see just as much as you need to be seen.

#### **Country Roads**

*(Nighttime is darker in the country)*

Living in the city, riding at night under all the streetlights is a bit different. All of the highways are brightly lit and most urban streets have streetlights.

In rural, country areas, nighttime is scary. The first time I rode at night, I was amazed at how dark it really was. It was as if I was riding into blackness. The only lights that I could see were reflections in the eyes of animals off the side of the road. If you are going to be riding at night in the country, take your time. Watch for animals--they tend to dart onto the road with amazing speed at night. Drive defensively--make sure that other vehicles see you, even if you have to flash your brights. And, because you sometimes cannot see cross streets, avoid passing. It's better to get where you're going a bit later, safely.

There are special light systems that you can add to the back of your motorcycle. If you intend to do a lot of riding at night, it might be a good thing to check out some led lights or maybe even some additional halogen lights.

#### **Motels and Hotels**

*(Get one if you are tired)*

Even in the country, you should be able to find somewhere to stop for the night. If you are too tired, pull over and wait for daylight. It's safer, and you'll enjoy the trip much more in the early morning, without all the daytime traffic. Night riding while tired is not a good thing.

*(You Need to Be Seen to Be Safe, cont.)*

We rarely ride at night during our travels. It's not a time that I enjoy riding, and I really do appreciate the visibility issues. If you are putting together a trip, estimate how long each day will be, in terms of mileage and time, and have an idea where you can stop for the day. If you make reservations all along the way, then you've got it made.

Motorcycling should be fun. Don't ride if you are not able to do it safely and enjoyably. And remember...failure is not falling down, it is not getting up again!!!

### **DATES TO REMEMBER...**

#### **2011**

1/15	Texas Mid-Winter Round-up - Killeen, TX
3/24-26	Region H Convention - Plano, TX
4/2	Texas Chapter O Convention - Fredericksburg, TX
5/12-14	Texas District Convention - Killeen, TX



### **DAYS TO OBSERVE IN DECEMBER**



Eat a Red Apple Day	National Chocolate Covered Anything Day
World Aids Awareness Day	National Maple Syrup Day
National Fritters Day	Bake Cookies Day
National Roof over Your Head Day	Oatmeal Muffin Day
Santa's List Day	Go Caroling Day
Bathtub Party Day	Humbug Day
St. Nicholas Day	National Flashlight Day
National Cotton Candy Day	National Date Nut Bread Day
Pearl Harbor Day	Roots Day
National Brownie Day	National Chocolate Day
National Pastry Day	National Egg Nog Day
Human Rights Day	Christmas Day
National Noodle Ring Day	Boxing Day
International Children's Day	National Fruitcake Day
National Ding-a-Ling Day	Card Playing Day
Ice Cream Day	Pepper Pot Day
Violin Day	National Bicarbonate of Soda Day
Bill of Rights Day	Make Up Your Mind Day
National Lemon Cupcake Day	New Year's Eve

## Bellville & Blessing Ride

*By Randy Rainwater*

We have ridden through Bellville on the first Saturday of the month on several rides, but we have never had the time to stop and shop. This would be that day. The Seligman's met us in the Flying J parking lot ready to ride, so we were off for our first destination of the day. When we got to Bellville the Fleming's met us there for a little shopping and the ride to the Blessing Hotel for lunch. But I'm getting ahead of other items of interest for this ride.

Just a little before we turned West on 1488 off of 242 the audio display on our motorcycle went blank, so I pulled over to the side of the roadway to see if turning the bike off and then back on would fix the problem. Steve pulled over behind us and turned his flashers on. After I restarted the bike the audio display still did not come back on, but I decided to go ahead and ride without any audio. As we pulled out I noticed that Steve's flashers were still flashing. After we got on to 1488 I pulled over again in a gasoline station to try something else and to see if Steve knew that he had forgotten to turn off his flashers. Actually his flashers were stuck on and he was trying to get the button to release and shut off the flashers.

I had remembered reading somewhere that disconnecting and reconnecting the battery might fix my problem and sure enough it did. Sometimes what you read on the Internet is true. Steve wasn't having any luck with his flashers, so we decided to continue on with the ride with flashers flashing. The ride down 1488 to 290 went without any additional issues other than Steve's flashers. We stopped at a gas station at the intersection of 1488 and 290 for a pit stop.

While stopped a few other riders on that other brand of motorcycle came over and had a few questions for Steve about his trike. As we were talking there were several police motorcycles and cars turning off of 290 on to 1488 going in the direction that we had just came from. It became apparent that

something big was shortly going to happen. Several other police cars came through the light then a couple of guys in a truck with flashing yellow lights pulled up, stopped in the middle of the intersection, jumped out and disconnected two stop signs from the ground, and drug the signs to the side of the road. That's when we saw a large truck with way more than 18 wheels on the truck started coming around the corner. Some large piece of equipment was clamped to the trailer with another series of wheels at the back of the trailer. There was another large truck connected to the rear of the trailer that was used to steer the back end of the trailer. After they cleared the road we were off to our next stop – Bellville.

We parked and made our way to the square for some shopping and to meet-up with the Steve and Billie. There were several interesting places to shop and we listened to a gentleman dressed in full knight's armor about a castle located just outside of Bellville. Sounds like another ride to Bellville is in order to check out the castle for dinner and an evening of entertainment. We shopped all the shops and decided that it was time to ride on to Blessing for lunch.

The rode from Bellville to Blessing was straight, flat, and uneventful except that Steve's flashers were still flashing. We got to Bellville about 1:00 pm and found out that the restaurant was only open from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The food is served buffet style and when they run out the close the doors. We all looked at the lineup and decided that we could easily make a meal, so we grabbed plates and started filling them up with our selections. Several vegetables, mashed potatoes, fried chicken, chicken fried steak, and liver and onions were on the stovetops. Steve was finally able to turn his flasher off by pulling the flasher button out with a small knife.

After lunch we rode on some different straight and flat roads on our way back to Bellville and home.

*(Bellville & Blessing Ride, cont.)*

As we neared Bellville it was nice to find a few roads with some elevation changes and a few curves. The rest of the ride was uneventful, which

was a nice change from the morning events. Another safe ride in the books we all headed for home for a little rest.

### **XEROX IS DOING SOMETHING COOL!**

Please go to this website: [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 not pick out who gets the card, 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 only takes a few seconds.

### **LAUGHTER IS THE *BEST* MEDICINE**

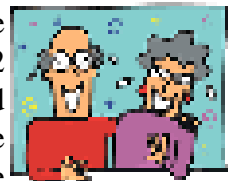
*(MyFitFoods Houston "Tip of the Week" / Wednesday, December 1, 2010)*

Here is the growing list of benefits of laughter:

- *Laughter lowers stress hormones like cortisol and adrenaline, immediately*
- *Laughter helps the body release endorphins, which dilate blood vessels, increasing oxygen flow*
- *Laughter increases immune bodies that prevent against the common cold as well as diseases such as cancer*
- *Laughter lowers blood pressure immediately*
- *Laughter increases serotonin, which helps control cravings for sugar*
- *Laughter, by lowering stress hormones, decreases fat storage*
- 

A unique study conducted at the University of Maryland found that while watching funny movies like *There's Something About Mary*, 19 out of 20 people had increased blood flow to the heart. Those that watched stressful movies like *Saving Private Ryan* had decreased blood flow in 14 out of 20 people. What's amazing is blood flow decreased for those experiencing stress by 35 percent and

blood flow increased for those who were laughing by 22 percent. An increase in blood flow by that much is the equivalent of a 15 to 30 minute work out! Increased blood flow is critical for all tissues and cells to not only receive the oxygen and nutrients they need, but also to cleanse and detox themselves. Many of the benefits of exercise are related to an increase in blood flow, which is what keeps our bodies and especially our minds aging well.



The average child laughs hundreds of times a day, whereas the average adult laughs only a dozen times a day. We adults have lost the ability to laugh and it is truly affecting our health! This holiday season focus on the silliness of your children or some serious giggle fits at the latest comedy at the movies. Or come in to any My Fit Foods location, you will find the staff cracking jokes and making customers laugh all day long! Come on in as you wrap up your holiday shopping for not only a good healthy meal but also the truly powerful physical benefits of a big smile and a good laugh.

The five most popular recipes for the month of November from the Recipe4Living Newsletter.

### Creamy Deviled Eggs



#### Ingredients

- 8 eggs
- 1/2 tsp. prepared mustard
- 1 T. Miracle Whip
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 pinch paprika

#### Directions

Place eggs in saucepan and cover with water. Bring to boil. Cover, remove from heat, and let eggs sit in hot water for 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from hot water and cool. Peel and cut in half lengthwise. Remove yolks and combine with mustard, salad dressing, and salt and pepper. Mix together until smooth. Refill each egg half with the yolk mixture and sprinkle with paprika.

### Pumpkin Dip Recipe



#### Ingredients

- 8 oz. cream cheese at room temperature
- 2 c. powdered sugar
- 14 oz. pumpkin puree
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. orange extract
- Gingersnaps

#### Directions

In a food processor, combine powdered sugar and cream cheese. Blend until smooth. Add the pumpkin puree along with the cinnamon and the orange extract. Blend until smooth and creamy. Place several gingersnap cookies in a plastic bag and crumble them using a rolling pin. Sprinkle the gingersnaps over the pumpkin dip. Serve with gingersnap cookies.

### Crockpot Stuffing Recipe



#### Ingredients

- 4 1/2 c. breadcrumbs
- 1 pkg. herb stuffing mix
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can celery soup
- 2 cans chicken broth
- 1 onion chopped
- 4 eggs
- Pinch of sage, dill, salt, and pepper
- 2 T. butter

#### Directions

Mix together breadcrumbs and stuffing mix. Add remaining ingredients and dot with butter. Pour into greased 6-qt. slow cooker. Cook on low until cooked through and set.

### French Toast Casserole Recipe



#### Ingredients

- 4 T. unsalted butter, melted
- 3/4 c. firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1 loaf Brioche or Challah or other sweet bread (sliced into 1 1/2 inch slices)
- 8 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 c. whole milk
- 1 T. homemade or pure vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground ginger
- Dash freshly grated nutmeg
- Pinch of sea salt
- 3/4 c. chopped pecans
- Sprinkle w/powdered sugar
- Pure maple syrup

#### Directions

Combine the melted butter and sugar in the evenly on the bottom of a baking dish. Arrange the bread slices on top, squeezing them in place so that they fit snugly in the casserole. Whisk the eggs; add all the remaining ingredients except the pecans. Pour over the bread, letting it soak in. Top with pecans and cover with plastic wrap. (The casserole will not look real moist. Don't worry, I promise it will be so moist when you eat it.) Keep refrigerated for at least 3 hours or up to 12 hours to set. Set out at room temperature for 20 minutes, before popping into a hot oven set to 350 degrees. Bake until lightly browned and set 35 to 40 minutes. Remove and slightly cool if you can wait a few minutes. Serve this dish hot out of the oven or warm, sprinkled with powdered sugar and pure maple syrup.

### Perfect Roast Turkey w / Best-Ever Gravy



#### Ingredients

- 1 18-lb. fresh turkey
- About 10 c. bread stuffing
- 1/2 c. (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- Salt, freshly milled black pepper
- 2 1/2 quarts good-quality chicken stock
- Melted unsalted butter, if needed
- 3/4 c. flour
- 1/3 c. bourbon, port or dry sherry (opt)

#### Directions

Position rack in lowest position of oven and preheat to 325 degrees. Reserve turkey neck and giblets to use in gravy or stock. Rinse turkey inside and out with cold water. Pat turkey skin dry. Turn turkey on its breast. Loosely fill neck cavity with stuffing. Using thin wooden or metal skewer, pin neck skin to back. Fold turkey's wings akimbo behind back or tie to body with kitchen string. Loosely fill large body cavity with stuffing. Place any remaining stuffing in lightly buttered casserole. Cover and refrigerate to bake as a side dish.

Tie drumsticks together with kitchen string. Place turkey, breast side up, on rack in roasting pan. Rub all over with softened butter. Season with salt and pepper. Tightly cover breast area with aluminum foil. Pour 2 cups turkey stock into bottom of pan. Roast turkey, basting all over every 30 minutes with juices on bottom of pan (lift up foil to reach breast area), until meat thermometer inserted in meaty part of thigh (but not touching any bones) reads 180 degrees and stuffing is at least 160 degrees, about 4 1/4 hours.

Whenever drippings evaporate, add stock to moisten them, about 1 1/2 cup at a time. Remove foil during last hour to allow breast skin to brown. Transfer turkey to large serving platter and let it stand at least 20 minutes before carving. Decrease oven temperature to 350 degrees and bake stuffing.

Meanwhile, pour drippings from roasting pan into heat-proof glass bowl or large measuring cup. Let stand 5 minutes, then skim off and reserve yellow fat that has risen to top. Measure 3/4 cup fat, adding melted butter, if needed. Add enough turkey stock to skimmed drippings to make 8 cups total. Place roasting pan on 2 stove burners over low heat and add turkey fat. Whisk in flour, scraping up browned bits on bottom of pan and cook until lightly browned, about 2 minutes. Whisk in turkey stock and bourbon. Cook, whisking often, until gravy has thickened and no trace of raw flour taste remains, about 5 minutes. Transfer gravy to warmed gravy boat. Carve turkey and serve gravy and stuffing alongside. (Yield: 18 servings, with about 7 cups gravy)

## ARTICLES REVISITED...

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FIRST AID**

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.*)

**Christmas Food Court Flash Mob, Hallelujah Chorus**

go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXh7JR9oKVE>

Turn your volume up. You've got to see and hear this!!!

**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.



# Strikepoint



COMMUNITY HANDBELL TEAMS

## *A Christmas Celebration - Celebrating our 20th Season*

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Friday, December 3, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Kingwood First Baptist Church  
3500 Woodland Hills Dr. in Kingwood

Under the direction of founder Melanie Bankston, the 2 five-octave handbell teams will be joined by a 13-piece chamber orchestra to celebrate the 20th season of Strikepoint bringing quality musical entertainment to the community. Join us as we celebrate our special 20th annual Christmas holiday concerts with “sounds of the season” presented by English handbells and accompanying orchestral instruments.

**Tickets are available by calling  
281.360.4743 or 281.358.1464**

**Tickets: \$10 for Adults and \$5 for Students**

~~~~~

One of our own, **Marie Rabalais**, is an original member to the charter, which began in 1991. Marie has rung every position at different times in the charter’s history. While these teams present an effortless performance, there are weekly practices behind their perfection. Come enjoy an evening of musical entertainment!

REVISITED...



### 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 AN  
 RED WAGON  
 RIFLEMANS RIFLE  
 SEWING MACHINE  
 SLING SHOT  
 SLINKY DASCHOU  
 STUFFED MONKE'  
 TINY TEARS  
 TRACTOR  
 TUMBLING TOMBOY  
 TV RADIO CLOCK



## Top Ten Christmas Gifts 2010

Yes, it's that time of the year again, when the glistening shades of red and green adorn the peaceful and serene whites. No points for guessing, it is time for Santa to ride his sledge down the lanes! Christmas is one of the most awaited festivals of the year. Celebrated on the 25th of December each year, it marks the advent of holiday season and festive spirit. Holiday season is a time for family, a time for friends, a time for joy, a time for celebrations and everyone's favorite, a time for gifts! Sharing our joys and happiness with others are on an all time high on and around Christmas. Adding to the delight are the numerous offers, discounts and holiday specials showered by each of the stores, which makes shopping and buying gifts all the more special and a delightful experience. Many companies also launch holiday specific packages and products. In the midst of all this, we help you figure out the best gifts with out list of popular gift ideas for 2010. Loosen up and dig in.

### 2010 Hot Christmas Gifts

We start counting down; so here you go...

#### Number 10 - Nintendo Wii

Wii slips down the list from last year, but still retains a position in the top ten gifts, for the plain fact that it's cool to have one! It is one gift that can be enjoyed not just by the person whom you give it too, but by his whole family and even you. The great thing about Wii is that you can play it within the house in front of the television and with your family, but still enjoy real outdoor fun. Though new consoles are arriving with similar ideas, they would take some time before reaching the level Wii has already attained. And the games available are just awesome. The latest buzz is that Wii is launching a new super Mario game. Isn't that enough to lay your hands on one this Christmas for real enthusiasts! Go ahead try it.

#### Number 9 - Digital Camera

Now here is something can help you capture those beautiful moments of your life in crystal clear images. Digital cams are your one shot solution

for bad memory and undisputed enjoyment. With new age, digital cameras have gone way down the price lane, as they cost you for less than a \$100. And if that isn't reason enough to pick one, know that even the most decent of ones today possess amazing quality, up-to-date features, editing options and tons of storage. This Christmas, a digital camera is definitely the weapon of choice!

#### Number 8 - New Apple iPods

YO my hommies! These are the coolest little gadgets available right now. With Apple unveiling the latest iterations to all its models, starting with iPod shuffle; entertainment has become so much more 'Applesque.' The new iterations are neater, sleeker, handier and less costly. With the latest shuffle costing just \$50, it's a great bargain for gifting music enthusiasts. So what are you waiting for? Of course, Christmas!

#### Number 7 - DVD Specials

For those of you who enjoy television series and enjoy special performances, you can always find a fresh new DVD collection out there. It can be the long forgotten collection or a collector's edition only, but it's worth it. Just imagine a box set of all episodes of your favorite series even those you missed. Well, that can add glitters to anyone's Christmas celebrations. You can also find DVD of special performances or DVDs of movies with added footage for real hardcore fans!

#### Number 6 - Favorite Accessories

This is especially for people who spend a lot of time with different things and are either semi-or fully obsessed with something. For example, if your friend spends way lot of time with his lappy, buy him something for his laptop and see his face light up. If he plays guitar, get him something related to that, even if it means buying that exotic pick! After all, this was something, which he always wished for, isn't it? If your teenager holds his/ her cell phone dearer, then buy him neat accessories for that and rest assured, your thought shall be rewarded with endless gratefulness.

(Top Ten Christmas Gifts 2010, cont.)

### Number 5 - Gift Certificate

A hassle free and very convenient option! Also it, in reality, becomes the most personalized option. If you are confused and facing a choc-o-bloc as to what gift to buy or feel that your friend/relative/child/parents may not like your gift; then don't buy a gift. Simple! Well, that doesn't mean you don't get anything for the person. Just get your buddy a gift certificate from one of the places you think he loves to shop. It can be from anywhere, right from a designer shopping to his/her favorite eatery. During the holiday season, all shops offer gift certificates either at discounted prices or bundled with offers. So, just go and grab them before they run out of it!

### Number 4 - Holiday Package

If your parents have been busy for a longtime and you have overheard them say that they wish to get a break, then getting a vacation package for them would be an ideal bet. Even better, get a deal in which you all can go for a family trip together or they can take a few of their friends along. With the advent of the holiday season, all travel companies, hotels, and airlines around the world start offering great deals. Don't let this chance slip away!

### Number 3 - Personalized Gift Basket

Now this will involve a great deal of research and lot of dedication, but be sure that the result would be a smile as wide as the English Channel on the receiver's face. You can go the traditional way and gift your acquaintance chocolate or liquor baskets. A great choice will be filling a great looking basket

with the most favorite candies, chocolates, treats and even beer or liquors. However, if you are ready to tread the less known path, then go for hobby baskets. If the person likes playing baseball, give him/her a basket with memorabilia, limited edition stuff and some new gear. If he/she loves collecting something, then fill in the basket with some new collectibles.

### Number 2 - Collection Of Old Memories In A Scrapbook

Again, a very touching gift! Real tears will welt up your own eyes even as you compile it and by the time you will be finished, you may not want to gift the scrapbook away. A very touchy and sensitive gift, this can be for people with whom you share a close bond of love, such as your parents, in-laws, siblings, partner, children, friends, and so on. Even the coldest of hearts can melt away with such a gift. Get going and warm the heart of your beloved with this poignant gift!

And finally...

### Number 1 - Very Personal Surprise

A truly customizable idea completely dependent on you and how you execute it. A popular trick is wrapping a gift in so many covers that by the time the receiver gets to the real gift, he imagines it's all in vain, only to get something very precious or beyond expectations. Ideal for people who wish to present some really great surprise! Well, then what are you waiting for - now is the time to arrange in a special surprise for that special someone. All the best and yes, Merry Christmas!

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## MAILING GUIDES FOR MAILING USPS CHRISTMAS DELIVERY WITHIN THE US

Heed these holiday mailing deadlines to ensure your Christmas cheer arrives at its destination within the United States by December 25. It is always recommended that you get those holiday cards, letters and gifts sent as early as possible.

- Letters and Cards (first-class): December 20
- Priority Mail: December 21
- Express Mail: December 22
- Parcel Post: December 15





### Strikepoint Community Handbell Teams

"A Christmas Celebration -  
Celebrating our 20th Season"  
Thursday, Dec. 2 & Friday, Dec. 3  
7:30 p.m.

Kingwood First Baptist Church  
(3500 Woodland Hills Dr. in Kingwood)  
Tickets: \$10 adults / \$5 students



### Fruitcake Ride

to Corsicana, TX  
Saturday, December 11  
6:00 a.m.

We will be leaving from Flying J (kickstands up) at 6:00 a.m. There will be a breakfast stop in New Waverly before traveling on to the Collin Street Bakery in Corsicana. While in Corsicana, we will stop by the Russell Stover Candy Store.



### GAME NIGHT

Friday, December 3  
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. Game Night is a fun way to "tax" your brain in a good way!

### Social Dinner

Wednesday, December 15 - 7:00 p.m.

Randy & Sharon have chosen Taqueria Alma Latina (24660 Hwy. 59, Porter 281-354-4030) for December's Social Dinner. Ya'll come.



### Chapter Christmas Party

#### @ East Montgomery Community Cntr.

Saturday, December 18  
6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



We will have our annual Chapter Christmas Party at the East Montgomery Community Center in Splendora, TX. Our meal will be a potluck with the chapter providing the meat, beverages, and paper products. Members are asked to bring a side dish (*appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert*). We will have a gift exchange (*optional*) with a \$25 gift limit. Men buy for men and women buy for women. Be prepared to do some "friendly" stealing.



### Christmas Gifts for the Harris County Foster Children

The gifts for the foster children are due back to *Steve & Linda Seligman* on Game Night (12/3). If you're not able to attend Game Night, contact Steve at 713-305-0225 to turn in your gifts.

### Toy Run

(to benefit the Harris County Foster Children)

Sunday, December 19, 11:00 a.m.

We will meet in the parking lot outside of Macy's at Deerbrook Mall. You will have an opportunity to decorate your bike with a sign taking place at 12 noon. We will depart the parking lot at 12:45 p.m. for an escorted ride to the Sheraton Hotel (on JFK Blvd.) for the children's gift exchange and refreshments.



### Chapter Breakfast @ Mamacitas

(15335 North Frwy., Hou. 77090 - 281-876-3663)  
Sunday, December 5 @ 8:30 a.m.

We will meet at the shopping center on the right just past the light at FM 1960 and Foxwood subdivision.

### Polar Bear Ride

Saturday, January 1, 2011  
9:00 a.m.

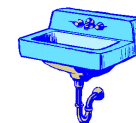


Meet at Flying J at I-59 and 242. Randy will lead us on a route followed by lunch at *Jim & Beth Hartley* (3819 Deer Fall Ct., KW 77345) for gumbo and goodies.



## 9 Bathroom Cleaning Problems Solved – Manage Your Life On Shine

(by Reader's Digest Magazine on Monday, Oct. 25, 2010)



1. **“My shower curtain is crawling with mildew.”** *Wash it with a bleach solution.* Shower curtains can be tricky to clean, because they are big and cumbersome. Getting rid of mildew, especially during damp weather, can be especially challenging. Here's a solution that's quick, easy, and low-cost: Pour 1 gallon (3.7 liters) of warm water and 2 cup of household bleach into a plastic bucket. With plastic gloves on, soak a sponge in this cleaning solution, give it a squeeze to avoid drips, and wipe. The mildew will vanish. Rinse using the showerhead.
2. **“I'm ready to toss this filthy shower curtain liner.”** *Toss it in the washer.* Don't throw away your liner just because of mildew and dirt buildup. Extend its life by cleaning it in your washing machine. Set the machine on the gentle cycle with warm water and 1 cup of regular laundry detergent or 2 cup of vinegar. Afterward, whirl it in your drier, set on Low Heat or Fluff, for about 20 minutes. Your liner will come out clean and wrinkle-free. Rehang it immediately.
3. **“My brass fixtures look dull.”** *Polish them with baking soda and lemon juice.* Don't rush out to buy an expensive brass cleaner. Save time and money by making a paste with equal amounts of baking soda and lemon juice. Dip an old toothbrush in the mix and lightly scrub the fixtures. Let the solution dry a few minutes and then buff the fixtures with a clean cloth. They'll look brand new.
4. **“The nooks and crannies in my bathroom are hard to clean.”** *Use an old toothbrush.* An old toothbrush is the perfect timesaving bathroom-cleaning tool. For example, you can use it to clean the tracks of your bathtub's sliding glass doors. Simply spray bathroom cleaner on a paper towel and wrap the towel around the bristle end of the toothbrush. Then scoot the brush along the tracks to dislodge dirt. Or put the little bristles to work on the grime that collects around the rim of a bathroom sink. Once the bristles have loosened the dirt, just mop it up with a damp sponge.
5. **“I hate those mineral deposits on my bathroom faucet.”** *Remove them with white vinegar.* No one likes crusty white deposits on a faucet. Try this easy solution. Before you go to bed one night, head to your kitchen for a bottle of white vinegar and three paper towels. Saturate the towels in the white vinegar and wrap them around the faucet like a cocoon. In the morning, remove the towels. Fill the basin with warm water, plus a squirt of dishwashing liquid. Dip an old toothbrush in the solution and scrub the faucet to remove the final bits of mineral deposit.
6. **“I have scum buildup on shower doors.”** *Use furniture oil to prevent buildup.* Cleaning soap scum off a shower door is a tough, time-consuming job. Try using lemon oil furniture polish as a barrier against the scummy buildup. The next time you clean the door, follow up by wiping it with furniture oil on a soft rag. Let the oil sit for two minutes and then polish off the excess with a dry cloth. The furniture polish will leave a slight film of oil that will act as a buffer against future soap scum. Using a shower squeegee (available at discount stores and supermarkets) after every shower will also discourage the buildup.
7. **“My glass shower doors are filmy.”** *Clean them with vinegar, baking soda, and salt.* Stubborn mineral buildup on glass shower doors is no competition for a few common household ingredients—white vinegar, baking soda, and salt. Spray vinegar on the door and let it sit for a few minutes. Next, create a paste with equal amounts of baking soda and salt. Use a damp sponge to rub this paste over the door; then rinse well.
8. **“My bathroom grout is grungy with mildew.”** *Spray it with vinegar.* Mildew on grout is no match for that miracle household-cleaning dynamo called vinegar. Just pour some white vinegar into a container, dip in an old toothbrush, and scrub away at the mildew. Or pour the vinegar into a spray bottle, squirt it on the mildew, and let it sit for ten minutes. Rinse with water and apply the old toothbrush if necessary. Bleach is effective in

(9 Bathroom Cleaning Problems Solved – Manage Your Life On Shine, cont.)

removing mildew from tile grout. Fill a spray bottle with equal parts of household chloride bleach and water. Spray the grout, let it sit a few minutes, and then wipe with a clean white cotton cloth.

9. **“Those nonslip bathtub stickers won’t peel off.”**  
*Loosen them with laundry presoak.* You know the ones: They’re shaped like flowers and fish and are stuck on with industrial-strength adhesive. Instead of ruining the smooth surface of your tub

trying to scrape them off, follow these simple steps for removing them. Carefully lift corners on each sticker using your fingernail or a plastic scraper. (Metal will scratch most tubs.) Spray the stickers with a good dose of laundry pretreatment product, such as Shout or Spray ’n Wash. Let the stickers soak in the spray for a few hours. This should loosen the stickers and allow you to peel them off. Wipe up any adhesive residue and the laundry spray. Clean and rinse the tub thoroughly.



## Kudos to..



**Chapter members** - for participating in Itty Bitty’s Buddies’ Walk

**Chapter members** - for selling briskets to benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

**Chapter members** - for buying Christmas gifts for the foster children

**Chapter members** - for participating in the Annual Toy Run benefiting the foster children

**Staff and Chapter members** - for planning and participating in a great riding year for 2010

**Chapter staff** - for coordinating events for the chapter and for their leadership


## A Day in U.S. History...

### Air Raid on Pearl Harbor



On **December 7, 1941**, Japanese planes attacked the United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Territory, killing more than 2,300 Americans. The *U.S.S. Arizona* was completely destroyed and the *U.S.S. Oklahoma* capsized. A total of twelve ships sank or were beached in the attack and nine additional vessels were damaged. More than 160 aircraft were destroyed and more than 150 others damaged.

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

| SUNDAY                                                                                                 | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                           | THURSDAY | FRIDAY                                                                                                                                                    | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                        |        |         |                                                                                                                     |          | Handbell Concerts<br>Game Night<br>American Legion<br>Hall 6:00 PM<br> |                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                        |        |         | 1                                                                                                                   | 2        | 3                                                                                                                                                         | 4                                                                                                                                              |
| Breakfast<br>Mamacitos<br>I45 between<br>Richey & Airtex<br>Foxwood strip<br>center on 1960<br>8:30 am |        |         |                                                                                                                     |          |                                                                                                                                                           | Fruitcake & candy<br>ride Corsicana, TX<br>Flying J 6:00 AM<br>breakfast - Waverly<br>House                                                    |
| 5                                                                                                      | 6      | 7       | 8                                                                                                                   | 9        | 10                                                                                                                                                        | 11                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                        |        |         | Social Dinner<br>Rainwater<br>Alma Latina<br>24660 Hwy 59<br>South bound feeder<br>between Porter<br>& Northpark Dr |          |                                                                                                                                                           | Christmas Party<br>Boy/Girl gifts \$25<br>East Montgomery<br>Community Center<br>6:00 pm -11:00 pm<br>(setup 4:30 pm -<br>cleanup by 12:00 am) |
| 12                                                                                                     | 13     | 14      | 15                                                                                                                  | 16       | 17                                                                                                                                                        | 18                                                                                                                                             |
| Toy Run<br>decorate bikes<br>10:00 - 11:00 am<br>bike judging 12:00 am<br>ride 12:45 am                |        |         |                                                                                                                     |          |                                                                                                                                                           | <i>Christmas Day</i>                                                                                                                           |
| 19                                                                                                     | 20     | 21      | 22                                                                                                                  | 23       | 24                                                                                                                                                        | 25                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                        |        |         |                                                                                                                     |          | <i>New Years Eve</i>                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                |
| 26                                                                                                     | 27     | 28      | 29                                                                                                                  | 30       | 31                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                |

***Birthdays***

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Beth Hartley | 12/7  |
| George Stich | 12/20 |
| Robin Smith  | 12/31 |

***Anniversaries***

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Paul & Marie Rich     | 12/26 |
| Bob & Joann Moorhead  | 12/30 |
| Mike & Nancy Morgan   | 12/   |
| Gary & Marie Rabalais | 12/31 |


 20th Annual  
 Northwest Houston Foster Children's  
 GWRRA Toy Run

  
 Sunday, December 19, 2010  
 Join us in helping the foster kids of  
 North Houston


 Sheraton Hotel, JFK Blvd.  
 Bush Intercontinental Airport

  
 Decorated motorcycle judging at 12:00 Noon  
 Parade starts at 12:45 PM Sharp!  
 Deerbrook Mall, Humble, TX (Macy's side of the mall)


 Meals provided for children, foster parents  
 and entertainers only

For more information call:  
 Marshall LeGard 281-550-5338


 In the event of bad weather, the parade will be cancelled  
 Activities at the hotel will be held at 1:00 PM rain or shine





The children's gift cards will be distributed at the Chapter Gathering on Sat., November 20.

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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Now open Mondays

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