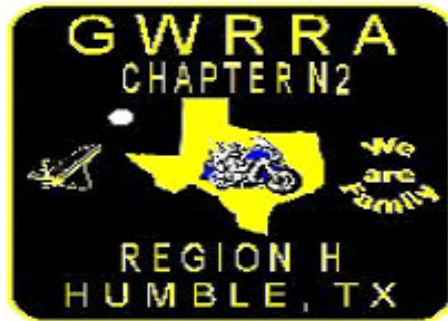


Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE



**Texas District
Chapter N2
Humble, Texas**

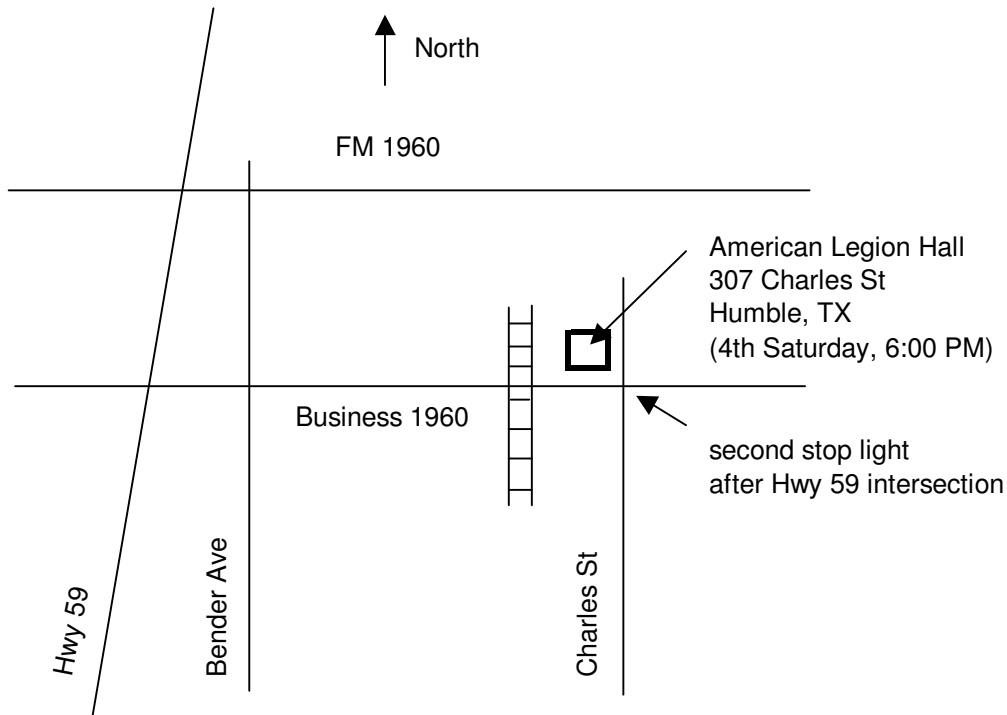
South Central Region H

The N2 Buzz

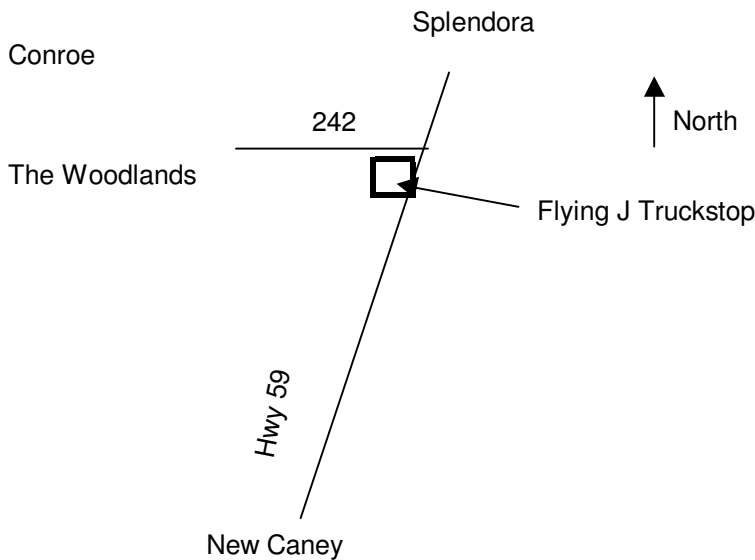


January 2010

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
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- Recipes
- Resolutions
- 2009 Toy Run
- Polar Bear Ride 2010
- This & That
- Chapter Calendars
- Newsletter Sponsors

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NEWS FROM THE CHAPTER DIRECTORS

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



Happy New Year to all!!! Can you believe we have just completed the first decade of the 21st century? Where has the last 10 years gone? It seems like yesterday we were worrying about the world ending, when we changed from 1999 to 2000--but we survived.

The Chapter is now going through a change itself--unlike changing to 2000--this change will be a little quieter. After one year as Assistant Chapter Directors and three years as our Chapter Directors, Mike and Robin Thacker are returning to the roles of JAMs--Just A Member. Mike and Robin have done a great job as Chapter Directors. Under their leadership the

chapter has grown in membership. We have done so many new things like the annual wiener roasts, game night, chapter breakfast, overnight trips, and the birth of the Humble Bumbles. It is nice now when we walk into a rally everyone looks up and says "N2 is here!!!" That is due to Mike and Robin's guidance and willingness to put them out there. Linda and I would like to say THANK YOU VERY MUCH to Mike and Robin. Linda and I are honored to have been asked by Mike and Robin to follow in their path. We know we have big shoes to fill and we promise to work hard and make them proud. Linda and I are excited about becoming Chapter Directors. We have some ideas in our heads and plan to present the ideas at the January gathering. What we would love to get from you are all of your ideas and wishes for rides and fun events. So, please send us an email with your ideas or just put them in the suggestion box at the chapter gathering. See you at the January Chapter gathering.

COUPLE OF THE YEAR FOR 2010

At this time, we would like to take the opportunity to thank Mark and Robin Smith for a job well done as the 2009 Couple of the Year. Mark and Robin's Fishing Basket at the 2009 Texas District was awesome and won second prize. Mark and Robin also brought back the Sunday Chapter breakfasts and introduced us to Friday Night Game Nights. Mark and Robin did a great job in 2009 of welcoming our members and guests to our monthly gathering. They were always ready with a

smile to sell you a 50/50 ticket. So, again--THANK YOU--Mark and Robin.

Now that it is the beginning of a new year, it is time to announce a new Couple of the Year. We will be naming the 2010 Couple of the year at the January Chapter gathering. This couple is well known in the chapter, attends a lot of the events, and is a big supporter of our chapter--we all love them a lot. Please come out to the January Chapter gathering to congratulate the 2010 Couple of the Year.



RIDER EDUCATOR

Mark Smith
Master Tour Rider 7153
Chapter N2 - Humble, TX

Well folks, if you haven't figured it out by now our new Chapter Directors, Steve and Linda Seligman, have asked me to take over as the Chapter Educator. I was very reluctant at first but the more I thought about it, the more I wanted to do it. So here I am once again trying to write an article for the newsletter.

To start off, I would like to tell everyone a little about myself, for those of you who don't already know. I am 38 years old and rode my first motorcycle when I was 3 years old. My brother and I were very close growing up and he raced super cross so when he went racing, I was right there with him. He would give me rides around the track and I was hooked. So from the age of 5 years old, I was racing in the pee wee league. I stuck with it for several years and when I was about fifteen years old, I slowed down a little on the racing and started focusing on school, sports, and girls. LOL--I have had several dirt bikes and street bikes over the years.

One of my favorite bikes was my Honda 350. It had dual exhaust and it would really move. I would ride it to school in the seventh grade along with several other kids. We lived in a very small town, so it really wasn't that bad. In high school, I had a sport bike--1989 Suzuki Katana 1100. Still to this day, that was the fastest bike I have ever owned. Man was it fast.

After I graduated high school in 1989, I sold that bike and joined the Army. After boot camp, I bought a Yamaha cruiser and I had it for a couple of years and sold it, when my son was born. Fast forward to 1995, I bought a Honda Magna and fixed it up. I really liked that bike, but I needed the money, so you guessed it, I sold it.

I met Robin in March of 1997 and we got married June 6, 1997. Robin and I had never really talked about buying a motorcycle together, until 2003 when my friend Larry brought his Honda Shadow over and I rode it. That was the first time I had ridden a

motorcycle since about 1996. My first thought was am I going to be able to still ride. From that point on all I could talk about was getting another bike, so the hunt was on. We looked at several makes and models but nothing really stood out to us. And then we went to Northwest Honda. We didn't really want to spend the \$20,000 on a new bike just in case we didn't enjoy the riding. So we walked around to the back and looked at used bikes. I saw the Valkyrie sitting there and I fell in love all over again. We checked on it and the price was right where we wanted it. We asked the guy, if we could put some money down to hold it for us for a couple of days and he said no problem. While we were looking at the Valkyrie, the sales person and Robin were looking at the used Goldwings. He asked my opinion and I said I was way too young to own a Goldwing. Besides I hadn't even gotten my AARP card yet. LOL--We went home that night and talked about it. We decided to go for it. Well unfortunately that was on a Saturday after they had closed, so we had to wait until Tuesday before we could get the Valkyrie. I went back there on Sunday and Monday and was looking through the window like a kid at a candy store. There must have been hand and face smudges all over that window and a big puddle of drool. LOL--Larry and I went to pick it up on Tuesday and we have had it ever since. We have only put around 12,000 miles on her since.

We joined GWRRA soon after and decided to join N2 about a year later. We didn't know what to expect, and we were really nervous, because I don't like big crowds and people hugging on me. Boy, did I have a big surprise. We walked in and Ricky and Karen Frasier were the first to welcome us. Karen hugged me and Ricky shook my hand and we started a lifelong friendship right then and there. Next, came this 12 foot tall man and his beautiful wife walking up to us and he wrapped his arms around me and said welcome, my name is Rex Nix and this is my wife, Ann Nix. Robin and I looked at each other with this big scared

out of your mind look, I don't know about her but all I could think about was get me outta here I'm really, really scared. Well, Rex and Ann have become some of our best friends. Everyone at that chapter meeting really went out of their way to make us feel welcome. It really meant a lot to us. Thank You!!!

Well, some people were talking about the Goldwing Invitational coming up. Mike Thacker asked us if we were going to go, and I said we didn't know yet. We were invited to the maintenance day at Jim and Lynn Flournoy's house. We rode up on the Valkyrie and saw all the other bikes there, it was really a neat sight. After looking at everyone's bikes, I thought a Goldwing would be fun. The Goldwing Invitational was coming up pretty quick and we decided we wanted to go. But the Valkyrie just didn't have enough storage space for all of Robin's things. So we searched the Internet and found out that Freedom Motorsports in Richwood, TX was having a sale on Goldwings. I grabbed my helmet and we took off. We got there and the salesman showed us a few models and explained the options. Robin asked me what color I liked and we decided on the 2006 Titanium. It had all the bells and whistles. This was on a Friday night and the Invitational was on that Saturday.

That first weekend we put over 900 miles on it. WOW...it was great. Well Mike and Robin Thacker saw that we were really excited about the Chapter and asked us if we wanted to be on the staff. So they sort of made up a position for us as Media Coordinators. We have now been with Chapter N2 for over three years. In this time, we have gone through the Level Program and are currently Level IV as Rider and Co-Rider. Robin and I have taken several riding and classroom courses over the years. We are currently a Road Captain and Co-Road Captain, CPR and First aid certified. We are very proud of what we have accomplished and we plan on keeping up with it. Mike Elrod asked me last year, if I was interested in becoming a Certified Seminar Presenter. I accepted and now am able to present several of GWRRA's riding and classroom courses. I will be getting together with everyone and discussing the Level Program and its importance. I will also be putting together a Co-Rider

and Road Captains Course in the very near future. I am trying to put together a CPR/FIRSTAID course also. Now let's get Educated...

SEE T-CLOCS INSPECTION CHECKLIST
ON FOLLOWING PAGE

DATES TO REMEMBER...

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

March Madness
March 25 - 27, 2010
Your Region H Rally
Marshall, Texas

2010 Texas District Rally
"Rally the Troops"
May 6 - 8, 2010
Killeen, Texas

DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

(The following email was forwarded on by Jim & Lynn.) Jim and I recently took advantage of an AARP sponsored Driver Safety Course. While geared to the older driver, it is not limited to that age group. It runs for about four hours and costs \$12 for members, slightly more for non-members or the online course. While this course doesn't dismiss a ticket, it does work for insurance discounts, the average I understand to be \$75 a year. You may find out about courses in your area by calling 1-888-227-7669 or visiting www.aarp.org/drive or find out about the online course at www.aarp.org/drive/online.



T-CLOCS Inspection Checklist

Copied from the www.msf-usa.org library, with permission.

T-CLOCS ITEM	WHAT TO CHECK	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	CHECK-OFF	
T-TIRES & WHEELS				
Tires	Condition	Tread depth, wear, weathering, evenly seated, bulges, embedded objects.	Front	Rear
	Air Pressure	Check when clod, adjust to load.	Front	Rear
Wheels	Spokes	Bent, broken, missing, tension, check at top of wheel: "ring"=OK -- "thud"=loose spoke	Front	Rear
	Cast	Cracks, dents.	Front	Rear
	Rims	Out of round/true = 5 mm. Spin wheel, index against stationary pointer.	Front	Rear
	Bearings	Grab top and bottom of tire and flex: No freeplay (click) between hub and axle, no growl when spinning.	Front	Rear
	Seals	Cracked, cut or torn, excessive grease on outside, reddish-brown around outside.	Front	Rear
Brakes	Function	Each brake alone keeps bike from rolling.	Front	Rear
C-CONTROLS				
Levers and Pedal	Condition	Broken, bent, cracked, mounts tight, ball ends on handlebar levers, proper adjustment.		
	Pivots	Lubricated.		
Cables	Condition	Fraying, kinks, lubrication: ends and interior.		
	Routing	No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, wire supports in place.		
Hoses	Condition	Cuts, cracks, leaks, bulges, chafing, deterioration.		
	Routing	No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, hose supports in place.		
Throttle	Operation	Moves freely, snaps closed, no revving when handlebars are turned.		
L-LIGHTS				
Battery	Condition	Terminals; clean and tight, electrolyte level, held down securely.		
	Vent Tube	Not kinked, routed properly, not plugged.		
Headlamp	Condition	Cracks, reflector, mounting and adjustment system.		
	Aim	Height and right/left.		
	Operation	Hi beam/low beam operation.		
Tail lamp/brake lamp	Condition	Cracks, clean, and tight.		
	Operation	Activates upon front brake/rear brake application.		
Turn signals	Operation	Flashes correctly.	Front left Front right	Front right Front left
Mirrors	Condition	Cracks, clean, tight mounts and swivel joints.		
	Aim	Adjusted when seated on bike.		
Lenses & Reflectors	Condition	Cracked, broken, securely mounted, excessive condensation.		
Wiring	Condition	Fraying, chafing, insulation.		
	Routing	Pinched, no interference or pulling at steering head or suspension, wire looms and ties in place, connectors tight, clean.		
O-OIL				
Levels	Engine Oil	Check warm on center stand on level ground, dipstick, sight glass.		
	Hypoid Gear Oil, Shaft Drive	Transmission, rear drive, shaft.		
	Hydraulic Fluid	Brakes, clutch, reservoir or sight glass.		
	Coolant	Reservoir and/or coolant recovery tank -- check only when cool.		
	Fuel	Tank or gauge.		
Leaks	Engine Oil	Gaskets, housings, seals.		
	Hypoid Gear Oil, Shaft Drive	Gaskets, seals, breathers.		
	Hydraulic Fluid	Hoses, master cylinders, calipers.		
	Coolant	Radiator, hoses, tanks, fittings, pipes.		
	Fuel	Lines, fuel valve, carbs.		
C-CHASSIS				
Frame	Condition	Cracks at gussets, accessory mounts, look for paint lifting.		
	Steering-Head Bearings	No detent or tight spots through full travel, raise front wheel, check for play by pulling/pushing forks.		
	Swingarm Bushings/Bearings	Raise rear wheel, check for play by pushing/pulling swingarm.		
	Front Forks	Smooth travel, equal air pressure/damping, anti-dive settings.	Left	Right
Suspension	Rear Shock(s)	Smooth travel, equal pre-load/air pressure/damping settings, linkage moves freely and is lubricated.	Left	Right
	Chain or Belt	Tension	Check at tightest point.	
Chain or Belt	Lubrication	Side plates when hot, note: do not lubricate belts.		
	Sprockets	Teeth not hooked, securely mounted.		
	Fasteners	Threaded	Tight, missing bolts, nuts.	
Fasteners	Clips	Broken, missing.		
	Cotter Pins	Broken, missing.		
S-STANDS				
Center Stand	Condition	Cracks, bent.		
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position.		
Side Stand	Condition	Cracks, bent (safety cut-out switch or pad equipped).		
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position.		

**GWRRRA TX-N2
RIDE SURVEY**

We are looking for input from all members for 2010 rides. Please take a little time to give us your input so we can increase participation and improve rides in 2010. Please bring your completed survey to the January Gathering.

Check all of you preferences

Day of Week	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	All-Day
Sunday				
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				
Holidays				

Departure Time

(fill in departure time for any or all preferences)

--	--	--	--

Preferred miles roundtrip

(fill in roundtrip number of miles preferred)

--	--	--	--

Types of Trips:

Overnight camping 1 night	
Overnight camping multi nights	
Overnight hotel 1 night	
Overnight hotel multi nights	
Museums	
Libraries	
Historical sites	
Rides that include breakfast	
Rides that include lunch	
Rides that include dinner	
Rides that don't include eating	
Ride with other GWRRRA Chapters	

To ring in the New Year, give these recipes a try. They are guaranteed to be yummy and may bring you a little luck in '10. Enjoy!

BLACK-EYED PEAS

1 lb. black-eyed peas

Let peas stand in hot water about 10 minutes. Cover peas with water and put in 2 strips of bacon and cook at low heat for about 3 - 4 hours. One hour before end of cooking time, add:

1 onion, chopped
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper

NEW YEAR'S BLACK-EYED PEAS

1 lb. dry black-eyed peas

Let soak overnight in 4 cans of Budweiser beer.

1 can of Snappy tomato juice
½ lb. diced ham
1 onion, chopped
1 T. Worcestershire sauce
2 stalks of celery
2 chili peppers
1 tsp. dry mustard



Cook 1 ½ hours. Add more beer if it gets dry.

HOPPIN' JOHN

1 T. vegetable oil
2 stalks celery, chopped
1 large onion, chopped
1 medium red pepper, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
16-ounce package dry black-eyed peas
1 large (about ¾ pounds) smoked ham hock
2-14 ½ oz. cans chicken broth
¼ tsp. red pepper, crushed
1 bay leaf
2 T. salt
2 c. regular long-grain rice
parsley, chopped, for garnish

In 4-quart saucepan over medium-high heat, heat vegetable oil. Add celery, onion, and red pepper; cook 10 minutes until golden. Add garlic; cook 2 minutes longer. Rinse peas with running cold water and discard any stones or shriveled peas. Add peas, ham hock, chicken broth, crushed red pepper, bay leaf, 1 teaspoon salt, and 4 cups water to celery mixture; over high heat, heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 40 minutes or until peas are tender. Meanwhile, prepare rice as label directs, but use 1 teaspoon salt and do not add margarine or butter. In large bowl, gently mix pea mixture and rice. Serve hot. Garnish with chopped parsley if you like.

REUNION BLACK-EYED PEAS

- ½ c. chopped onion
- 3 slices bacon, diced
- 15 oz. can black-eyed peas
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. hot pepper sauce
- Dash coarse black pepper
- ½ tsp. dry mustard
- ½ tsp. ground ginger
- ¾ c. brown sugar

In heavy casserole safe for oven or top of stove, sauté onion and bacon for about 5 minutes. Drain off excess drippings and add remaining ingredients, stirring to blend. Cover and bake in 325 degree oven for about 45 minutes.

BLACK-EYED PEA CASSEROLE

- 2 cans jalapeño black-eyed peas
- 2 lbs. ground beef, cooked
- 1 lrg. onion, chopped
- 3 cloves of garlic
- 10 oz. can tomatoes with green chilies
- 1 can of cream of chicken soup
- 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can enchilada sauce
- ½ tsp. hot sauce
- 1 package of corn tortillas, cut into pieces
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded



Sauté meat, onions, and garlic until browned; add all other ingredients except tortillas and cheese. Spray 13 x 9 pan with Pam. To pan, add a layer of tortillas pieces, add a layer of meat mixture; repeat. Top with cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for about 35 minutes.

BLACK-EYE PEAS RICE CASSEROLE

- ½ c. rice
- 1 c. water
- 8 oz. hamburger
- ¼ tsp. garlic powder
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- dash salt
- 1 can jalapeño black-eye peas
- 2 to 3 med. tomatoes
- ¼ c. green onions
- 4 slices lite American cheese

Cook rice and water as directed, set aside. Brown hamburger meat, drain, and sprinkle with garlic powder, salt and pepper. In 2 quart casserole dish, combine jalapeño black-eye peas, chopped tomatoes and onions, cooked rice and meat, and crumble cheese on top. Gently stir all ingredients. Cover with plastic wrap and heat 6 to 10 minutes in microwave, rotating dish half way through. Heat until bubbly and hot. Let stand a few minutes before serving. The jalapeños do not make it hot, just flavorful! Add more jalapeños to make it spicy. Kids love it rolled in a flour tortilla!

LENTIL & BLACK-EYED PEA SOUP

½ c. black-eyed peas
 ½ c. brown lentils
 1 onion, coarsely chopped
 1 can diced tomatoes
 2 vegetable stock cubes (or use vegetable stock)
 ½ c. white wine
 1 T. cumin, or to taste
 salt to taste



Start cooking the black-eyed peas at a fast boil for about 20 minutes, making sure there is always enough water so it does not boil dry. Add all the other ingredients and boil for about another 30 minutes, but keep at a simmer. Allow to cool for a few minutes, then use a blender on half of the soup or serve as is. Serve with the bread of your choice and some yogurt on top if you like.

BLACK-EYED PEA SALAD

3 cans black-eyed peas, rinsed and drained
 2 oz. jar diced pimento (drained)
 ½ c. diced onion (purple adds color)
 ¼ c. vinegar
 ¼ c. plus 2 T. red wine vinegar
 ¼ c. sugar
 ¼ c. vegetable oil
 ¾ tsp. red pepper
 ¾ tsp. salt

Combine first 3 ingredients; toss. Combine remaining ingredients, stir, and pour over pea mixture. Cover and chill (overnight best). Serves 6 - 8.

TEXAS CAVIAR

3 (10 oz.) cans black beans, rinsed and drained
 ¼ c. olive oil
 2 T. lemon juice
 1 T. minced jalapeno pepper
 ¼ c. sliced green onions
 ½ tsp. minced garlic
 ½ tsp. salt
 ½ tsp. ground cumin
 sliced green onions for garnish
 chopped tomatoes for garnish

Put about 2 cups beans, the oil, and lemon juice into a food processor or blender and process until smooth. Scrape into a large bowl. Stir in remaining beans, the jalapeno pepper, green onions, garlic, salt, and cumin. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours for flavors to blend. Garnish with green onions and tomatoes just before serving. Serve with tortilla chips. Makes 4 1/2 cups.



MUSTARD GREENS WITH BACON

½ pkg. bacon, fried
4 lb. mustard greens
3 tsp. salt
1 T. sugar

Wash mustard greens and remove thick vein in leaves. In large soup pot, fry bacon until crispy and place on a paper towel to drain. To remaining bacon drippings, add two large glasses of water, salt, and sugar. Bring to a boil and add mustard greens. Cover with lid and reduce heat to simmer and cook for an hour or until greens are tender.



THE WONDERS OF COFFEE FILTERS



Coffee filters....Better than paper towels and a lot less expensive...Who knew! And you can buy 1,000 at the Dollar Stores for almost nothing, even the large ones.

1. Cover bowls or dishes when cooking in the microwave. Coffee filters make excellent covers.
2. Clean windows, mirrors, and chrome. Coffee filters are lint-free so they'll leave windows sparkling.
3. Protect China by separating your good dishes with a coffee filter between each dish.
4. Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.
5. Protect a cast-iron skillet. Place a coffee filter in the skillet to absorb moisture and prevent rust.
6. Apply shoe polish. Ball up a lint-free coffee filter.
7. Recycle frying oil. After frying, strain oil through a sieve lined with a coffee filter.
8. Weigh chopped foods. Place chopped ingredients in a coffee filter on a kitchen scale.
9. Hold tacos. Coffee filters make convenient wrappers for messy foods.
10. Stop the soil from leaking out of a plant pot. Line a plant pot with a coffee filter to prevent the soil from going through the drainage holes.
11. Prevent a Popsicle from dripping. Poke one or two holes as needed in a coffee filter.
12. Do you think we used expensive strips to wax eyebrows? Use strips of coffee filters.
13. Put a few in a plate and put your fried bacon, French fries, chicken fingers, etc on them. It soaks out all the grease.
14. Keep in the bathroom. They make great "razor nick fixers."
15. As a sewing backing. Use a filter as an easy-to-tear backing for embroidering or appliquéing soft fabrics.
16. Put baking soda into a coffee filter and insert into shoes or a closet to absorb or prevent odors.
17. Use them to strain soup stock and to tie fresh herbs in to put in soups and stews.
18. Use a coffee filter to prevent spilling when you add fluids to your car.
19. Use them as a spoon rest while cooking and clean up small counter spills.
20. Can use to hold dry ingredients when baking or when cutting a piece of fruit or veggies. Saves on having extra bowls to wash.
21. Use them to wrap Christmas ornaments for storage.
22. Use them to remove fingernail polish when out of cotton balls.
23. Use them to sprout seeds. Simply dampen the coffee filter, place seeds inside, fold it and place it into a plastic baggie until they sprout.
24. Use coffee filters as blotting paper for pressed flowers. Place the flowers between two coffee filters and put the coffee filters in phone book.
25. Use as a kiddies disposable "snack bowl" for popcorn, chips, etc.

OH YEAH...they are great to use in your coffee makers too.



RESOLUTIONS...



New Year's Eve has always been a time for looking back to the past, and more importantly, forward to the coming year. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want (or need) to make and resolve to follow through on those changes.

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Spend More Time with Family & Friends | 6. Quit Drinking |
| 2. Fit in Fitness | 7. Get Out of Debt |
| 3. Tame the Bulge | 8. Learn Something New |
| 4. Quit Smoking | 9. Help Others |
| 5. Enjoy Life More | 10. Get Organized |

These resolution suggestions were taken from the Internet. Did your New Year resolutions make their top ten list?

BIKER RESOLUTIONS...

Here are just a few tips designed to ensure 2010 is not only the year of the Tiger, it's also the Year of the Biker:

meaning they won't cushion your head properly in a crash. Use it as an excuse for an upgrade.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Make the most of your motorcycle - There's no point in having a powerful, preened machine, if you only use it once a year. Real bikers enjoy the freedom of the open road every week--and biking to work doesn't count! | 5) Be more ambitious - Planning new routes is easy. Sites like Google Maps let you put in multiple destinations and plot the best roads to use. You can print off quick directions. So go to Scotland, get out to Ireland, and tour the coast. |
| 2) Stop leaving your bike unlocked - It's a common crime for riders. But come on guys, there are plenty of good quality disk and cable locks around. They don't always come cheap but paying out for one is better than having someone take off with your ride, while you were picking up the fish and chips. | 6) Tell me about it - After you've been on a great ride, you will want to let the world know and one of the easiest ways to record and share your adventures is on a blog. You can set up your own at Blogger.com or WordPress.com very easily and use it like a diary, adding an entry each time you've been out on a ride. |
| 3) Get involved with a biking group - They're sometimes quite hard to find and the occasional biking clan can be a bit clique-y but having a group of like-minded mates to ride alongside can make the difference between a dreary trudge down a miserable lane to a roaring group event full of friendly banter. | 7) Okay, you're not going to change the world with these resolutions - But you can always join the gym and organize your filing next year--2010 is dedicated to having some serious fun. |
| 4) Lose it once you've used it - Remember that bump you had last summer? Well if your helmet was knocked or dented, its ability to protect you in a crash will have been completely compromised. Helmets are only designed to put up with one impact--after that their internal structure is damaged, | This page was brought to you by Helen Perkins at Ghostbikes. Ghostbikes is one of Europe's biggest sellers of motorcycle boots, helmets, jackets, gloves, and biking accessories. The Preston-based company has a whole selection of gear available for professional and enthusiastic motorcyclists looking for top quality brands and exclusive products. You can visit their site at ghostbikes.com for all the latest products at unique prices. |

2009 TOY RUN

By Linda Seligman



The 2009 Toy Run was a great success. This was the 19th Toy Run and is held to support the Northwest Foster Parents Association. We had 10 of our

members participate. We partnered with the Blue Knights and our good neighbor Chapters M2, G, W, and X2. We all decorated our bikes, donned our elf costumes, and made the ride to the Sheraton Hotel at Intercontinental Airport. We sure did get some funny looks from people in cars on the way to the hotel. When we arrived at the hotel--with Santa Clause on the lead bike--the children were outside waiting. We arrived with horns blowing and arms waving.

The children, foster parents and volunteers were so excited to see Santa and the elves. Once we parked our bikes, we headed into the hotel to deliver presents--

-the most exciting event of the day. Santa Clause had already entered the ballroom and then in came the elves with presents galore!! The children went crazy--their Christmas dreams had come true.

Steve and I look forward to the Toy Run every year. One of our greatest joys at Christmas is giving back--especially to children. We always try to select small children. I love to shop and I mostly buy toys. To tell the truth, Steve loves putting the toys together!! Steve and I love to see the looks on the faces of the children, when they receive their gifts. The children and the foster families are always so grateful. We receive thank yous from everyone. Steve and I have sponsored a table for the past two years and have been blessed to be able to sponsor the same family each year. This year the family remembered us and it was like a family reunion. I know the children are grateful and happy but to tell you the truth, I think Steve and I get more joy out of the day!!!!



CHAPTER N2 MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

JANUARY

JR

Wednesday, January 12, - Fu Lee (23842 Hwy 59 N.)

FEBRUARY

Randy & Sharon Rainwater

MARCH

Steve & Billie Fleming

APRIL

Mike & Robin Thacker

MAY

Carolyn Thomsen

JUNE

Mark & Robin Smith

JULY

Gary & Stormy Young

AUGUST

Dolly Ard

SEPTEMBER

Jim & Lynn Flournoy

OCTOBER

Paul & Marie Rich

NOVEMBER

Gary & Marie Rabalais

DECEMBER

Marty & Donna Uphoff

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

POLAR BEAR RIDE 2010

By Randy Rainwater

We started 2010 off with a great turnout for the annual Polar Bear Ride with 20 riders and 16 bikes plus two greeters. Later in the ride, two more bikes and riders joined us for the last leg of our 100 mile ride that started at 45 degrees, cloudy, and a little breeze out of the Northwest. Here is a picture of those that braved the cold temperatures.



We traveled West on 242, North on 1485, East on 2090, North on 1010 to Cleveland, East on 787, East on 2212, South on 2518, South on 1008 to Dayton, East on 1960 to Huffman, North on 2100, West on 1485, South on 494, East and South on Ford Road, South on Hamblen, West on Northpark Dr., South on Village Manor Dr., West on Brookshadow Dr., and South on Deer Falls Drive. The roads were in great shape, but there appeared to be a lot of roadkill along the way, mostly raccoons.

We stopped outside of Dayton at a gas station to top off a few tanks, empty a few tanks, and soak up the sunshine that had finally appeared. After making a few adjustments to our groups, we were off to our final destinations. A few folks went home, a few went to Olee's in Porter, and the rest of us were on our way to our final destination. Ricky and Karen met us on their bikes at 494 and Ford Road to finish out the ride and share in the lunch that Jim and Beth Hartley had prepared for us, again this year, for the finale of the Annual Polar Bear Ride of 2010.

There was hot coffee and hot chocolate available along with a fire in the fireplace in the living room and a fire in the firepit outside in the backyard. Shortly, the lunch bell rang and we dined on chicken gumbo with boiled

eggs, rice, potato salad, deviled eggs, and garlic bread. Everything was wonderfully prepared and the hot gumbo was a welcomed entrée after the cold ride.



I'm not sure what Beth was saying, but it appears to be serious.



Beth's sister and brother-in-law from the Houston area also dined with us and seemed to blend right in with the group. The total final tally was 28 people and 18 bikes.

What a wonderful way to start 2010. Good friends, roads, food, and a safe ride--what more could you ask for? Until next time – Happy New Year to you and yours.



It's time to update our yearly GWRRA Chapter N2 Address Book. Please forward to *Brad* (bradrodger@comcast.net) your information even if none of it has changed, so they can verify the information they currently have for you.

Name:

Address:

Home phone number:

Cell phone number:

Email:

Birth date:

Anniversary date:

Spouse Info: 610512-02

Name:

Address:

Cell phone number:

Email:

Birth date:

STROKE:

Remember the 1st Three Letters....S.T.R.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S *Ask the individual to SMILE.

T *Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE coherently (i.e., It is sunny out today.).

R *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New Sign of a Stroke--Stick out Your Tongue

Ask the person to 'stick' out his tongue. If the tongue is crooked or goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

Share this with people you love and know. It could save their LIFE.



MID-WINTER ROUNDUP

Killeen, TX

January 8 - 10, 2010

Chapter N2 travelers--Looks like we are in for some cold weather on Friday, January 8. So, we have decided it would be best to make the trip to Killeen in cars. We will leave Flying J at 7 a.m. and stop in Magnolia, TX at the Magnolia Diner for breakfast. If you would like to drive as a caravan to Killeen, please be at Flying J by 7 a.m. We are staying at The Shilo and their address is 113701 SWS Young Dr. and East Elms on the northwest corner (telephone number is 254-699-0999). For those that are daring bring your swim suits--the hotel has an inside heated pool and spa.

WEENIE ROAST

"N" the Thackers' yard

Saturday, January 16

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



If the weather is nice, everyone is welcome to pitch a tent in the Thackers' yard for the 1st Annual Weenie Roast Campout. You can come and set up your "tent/camper" on Friday evening or come early Saturday. There will be certificates for the best and worst looking campsites. Bring an appetizer/snack or dessert ("dogs," buns, condiments, chili, chips, soda, tea, and water will be provided by the Thackers). Come join in the fun!

Chapter N2 Monthly Meeting

@ the American Legion Hall

Saturday, January 23

6:00 p.m.



You are cordially invited to the "Bring Your Favorite Soup" at the Chapter N2 monthly gathering for the first meeting of the new year--2010. The top three picks will be awarded a ribbon for the "Best Soup of the Day." So dig out your favorite soup recipe and come join in some "good eats."





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

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!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

**GWRRRA CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS
JANUARY 2010**

HAPPY NEW YEAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					Polar Bear Lunch Ride - Rainwater 9:00 AM Flying J 242 & 59 	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Social Dinner JR Fu Lee 23842 Hwy 59 N behind Los Cucos			Wiener Roast & Campout Thackers 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
					Chapter Meeting American Legion Hall 6:00 PM Soup Competition 	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

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

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Valentines Day 14	President's Day 15	16	Social Dinner Rainwater Tin Roof FM 1960 Atascocita next to Walmart 17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	Chapter Meeting American Legion Hall 6:00 PM 27
28						

Birthdays

Nathan Nix	2/10
Robin Thacker	2/20
Doris Ryles	2/27

Anniversaries

Mike & Robin Thacker	2/5
Ricky & Karen Frazier	2/17

Did you find your GWRRA number? Keep looking!

"N2" Apparel

Yellow/black polo shirts with logo: \$25.00

Grey T-shirts with logo:
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Yellow T-shirts with logo:
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