

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE



**Texas District
Chapter N2
Humble, Texas**



South Central Region H

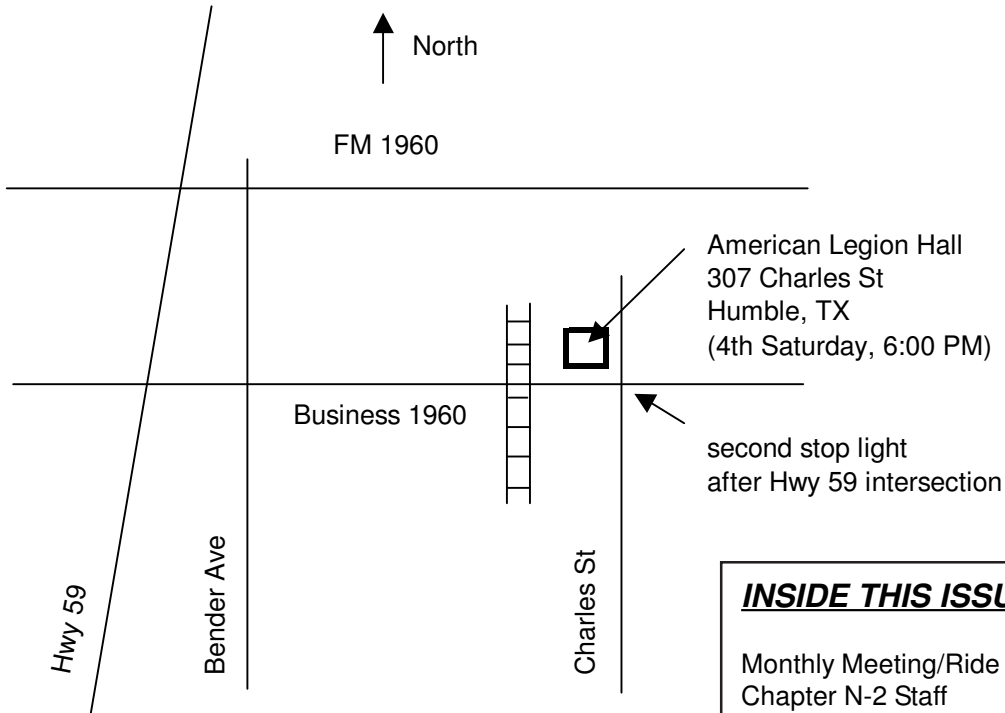


The N2 Buzz

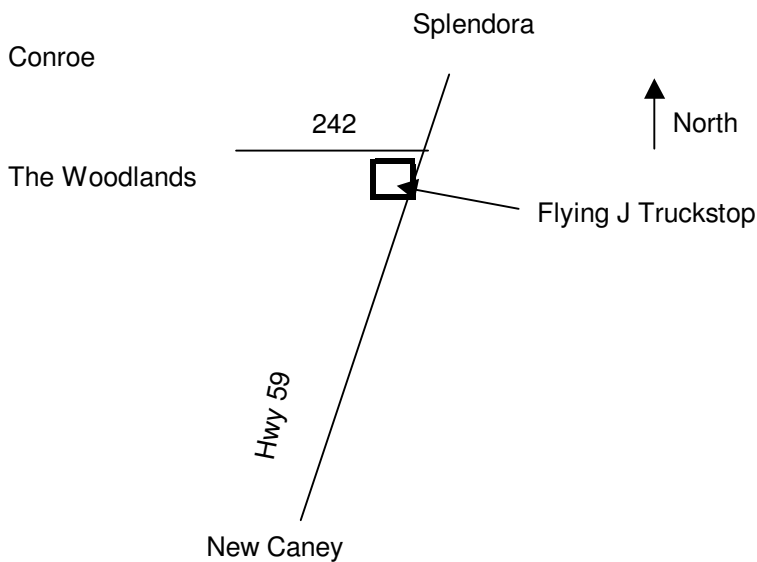


April 2011

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



Have you ever moved a cookie from your forehead to your mouth without using your hands? Ever picked up Skittles with a straw and moved them from one bowl to another? Well, we did at Chapter C's Convention on Saturday, March 5. There were 9 bikes and 14 people who got on their bikes and headed to Baytown. The weather was great and the ride was fun. This year, some of the District Team made a visit—Fred & Mandy Mew, Carolyn Barton, and David & Christina Vidrine. It is always nice to see some of the District Team in our part of Texas. Of course, Chapter N2 came home with a load of participation prizes and even a couple of live auction items.

We just got back from Plano, TX for the 2011 Region H Convention. The Region Team decided

to move the Convention out of Marshall and try a new location. Plano was a great ride and a great place for a convention. It is always nice to spend time in a different city. Chapter N2 had a large number of members make the trip—6 bikes, 1 car, and 12 people. The weather for the ride up to the convention was very nice—cool and sunny. The convention was full of interesting things to do. There were seminars, bingo, games, a bike show, a helicopter landing and, of course, vendors! The chapter also won 3rd place for the Chapter mascot—our bumble bee, *I. B. Winging*. *Robin Thacker* won first place in her category in the bike show. It was great to see our friends from the other Texas chapters and from the other 4 states—Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas.

Next, we are off to the Louisiana Convention on April 7 - 9. We hope more of you can join us in the conventions coming up. There is always a good time, when N2 is in the house!!!

March 2011 RIDE/EVENT PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>#OF BIKES</u>	<u>#OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
3/04/2011	Game Night	1	18
3/05/2011	Mel's Cafe and Pie in the Sky	1	5
3/06/2011	Chapter Breakfast @ Kelley's	4	13
3/12/2011	Chapter C Convention	11	15
3/16/2011	Social Dinner @ Hibachi Buffet & Sushi	2	22
3/19/2011	Maintenance Day @ Flournoys	17	23
3/19/2011	Chapter Gathering	6	26
3/24-26	Region H Convention	6	12
3/26/2011	Ride to Livingston	1	2
3/27/2011	Washington on the Brazos	17	26

2011 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

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



I'm not sure if you made the last Chapter Gathering, but we had a blast. We had a lot of guests from other chapters and we also had 1/2 of the District Educators, *Maria Collins*, visit our Gathering. She brought Steve and Billie Fleming, our Educators, the tickets to sell to benefit the Riders Education Program. I have already purchased some chances to win the **FOUR-DAY PREMIUM OCEAN CRUISE**.

We introduced our guests from Chapter C, Chapter M2, and Chapter J. We also had another little guest that was helping Mike with his introductions. I think we will call him Buzz.



On Thursday, March 3, we made another BEE-VASION. Mike and I along with Ricky & Karen, Robin, and Steve & Billie had a great time invading Chapter W's Gathering in Katy. You should have seen the looks on their faces, when we all walked into their meeting at Denny's. We all had on our bee hats. One guy said "What the...?" We all had a great time and learned a lot of myths about motorcycle riding from their Chapter Educator. We presented Steve Wilkening, the Chapter Director, with a BEE-VASION plaque. His wife, Kathy, was

off making plans for a trip for a project she has been working on. She has visited all the courthouses in Texas, but had about five more to visit to complete her project. He did advise us that he was sure after this project, he would be advised of another one she would like to get started on.



(*Couple of the Year article, cont.*)



After the meeting was over, we all had a nice visit over dinner. We are already making plans for the next BEE-VASION. Come out and join in on the fun. We will notify everyone of the next meeting location at the Chapter Gathering.

On March 12, Mike led a ride to Chapter C'S Luck of the Irish Rally. We all had a great visit with all

the other chapters and the food and games were awesome. The silent auction was fun, too. I observed that there were a lot of items in the auction that could be used for our Couple of the Year Basket for the District Convention in May. By the time you read this article, we will only have one more Chapter Gathering to collect items for our chapter basket. We would encourage everyone in the chapter to participate. The District Basket is an idea that began in 2006. It is something that the Couple of the Year does for the District Convention every year, but it is also an activity that encourages participation within the individual chapters. We know that sometimes it's hard to think of an idea and a lot of people don't have the time to go shopping. If that is the case for you, we are accepting \$\$\$ donations to complete the purchase of items for the basket. We will bring all the items we have already collected for the basket to our next chapter gathering. While we were at the chapter dinner, two couples made a very generous donation. Thanks ya'll for that donation. We plan on picking up a lot of items at the Region H Convention next weekend.

2011 RIDE FOR KIDS

benefitting

the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

Sunday, May 1

Humble Civic Center



It's not too late to create and activate your FirstGiving page to raise money to benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Donating through this site is simple, fast, and totally secure. It is also the most effecient way to make a contribution to this fundraising efforts. If you need assistance creating your FirstGiving page, contact *Karen Frazier* with Chapter N2 (karenf@nctv.com) or *Judy Ferguson* with Chapter C (Fergwinger@aol.com).



RIDER EDUCATORS (*pending*)

Steve & Billie Fleming

Master Tour Rider 8139 & 8140

Maintenance – *as important as any skill.*

Billie and I have been associated with this chapter since late 2006 and, if there is one thing that really stands out, is just how fortunate we are to have so many skilled, experienced Wing mechanics in our midst. I have learned so much about our Wing thanks to the sharing of knowledge and experience within this group.



I have observed these mechanics at the maintenance “parties” jumping in to assist someone with their maintenance checklist or adding bling to the bikes. And the group is not the least bit selfish in sharing their knowledge and experience in these things. There are manuals and tools of just about every description and combined with their knowledge and experience, I believe this team could tear a Wing down to the frame, rebuild the motor, transmission, drive assemble or anything else and put it all back together without a problem. I have seen a lot of things worked on and have tried to make mental notes on them for the day I may need to tear in to our Wing.



One maintenance item that is often overlooked is the fuel system. Hoses, fuel filters, pumps and gas caps are part of the fuel system. The addition of ethanol to our gas supply has added the need to give particular attention to our fuel system, especially on some of the older bikes. Ethanol will absolutely cause deterioration in the fuel lines. A fuel leak is not only a fire hazard and serious risk to your personal safety it is also very costly given today’s gas prices. Check the hoses and connections. If you smell gasoline while checking you bike, find the source quickly and fix the problem.

Tires are another topic that could cover a complete article and I may use this topic later. For now, I want to simply mention the basics; tire pressure

and tread depth. Tire pressure is something that needs to be checked on a regular basis. Always remember to check the pressure before the ride when the tire is not heated from the ride.



An underinflated tire will not perform or wear properly. Low pressure increases wear and decreases gas mileage because of increased drag. An over-inflated tire will wear in the center and decrease the useful life of the tire.

When checking the tires, learn where the wear indicators are that are added by the tire manufacturer to let you know when the useful life of the tire is over. Just because there are still lines that appear to be tread on the tire does not mean that the tire is safe. I can attest to just how fast the last bit of tread can evaporate. It doesn’t take long for “tread” to turn to “thread” when the wear bars are showing.

Also, I have heard that if you use dyna-beads make sure that the valve stem is not in the 6 o’clock position when checking tire pressure. Those wonderful little beads can jump up and cause your stem to stay open and all the air will come out of the tire.

Oil is another very important topic. We need to keep a log to make sure the oil is changed on a regular basis. Low oil levels run the risk of causing excess engine wear and possible break downs. Extremely low oil levels will cause the engine to overheat and seize. This is not only very dangerous to our personal safety but is also very expensive. Don’t let a \$20 maintenance item if you do it yourself cost you thousands of dollars because of neglect.



Brakes! Have you ever thought that the stopping is more important than the going? It is! If you can

(Maintenance - as important as any skill, cont.)

not stop when you are going you will stop when you hit something or someone. Not a good thing. Check the pads and fluid levels on a regular basis for signs of wear or leakage. Our Wings do not have “squeal” bars to warn us when the pads are getting low so the squeak we associate with pad wear on our cars is not there to alert us.

A visual check is the best way to assure that the pads are still serviceable. Check the level of fluid by looking at the level indicator window on the reservoirs. Change the fluid and flush the system to assure peak performance at all times. An emergency stop is a bad time to find out you have not maintained your brakes.



Maintenance logs are an important part of the maintenance of our list because it keeps a record of when we did the last

maintenance and reminds us of when it is time to do it again. Something I do in my logs is record the type of oil and which filter I have installed. I also record the mileage for everything such as new tires and oil changes. I keep my log in my phone so it is readily accessible. I seem to have problems sorting through which brand of oil I have or remembering when that last oil change was so I need reminders. Logs help with these items.

Until next time, safe miles with lots of smiles!



SECRET SISTER REVEAL

Tuesday, May 10

6:30 p.m.

Diane Shults' house
(24247 E Terrace Drive, Porter 77365)

Karen's c#281-615-1365

Ladies...it's time to reveal the name of the person we've had, since this activity kicked off in February. Come join us for dinner (*chicken spaghetti and homemade pies*) at Diane Shults' home (*Karen's sister-in-law*) as the ladies reveal the name of their secret sister through a gift exchange. (*Please keep your revealing gift to around \$10.*) Do you know who has your name? Come see if you guessed correctly.



Win A 4-Day Premium Cruise Texas District Rider Education



-  **Vacation for TWO on Board One of the Carnival Cruise Lines Spectacular Ships**
-  **Ocean View Stateroom**
-  **All Onboard Meals and Snacks**
-  **Complimentary 24 HOUR Room Service**
-  **Wide Range of Entertainment and International Destination**
-  **All Government Fees and Taxes Included**
-  **Includes Your Shipboard Gratuities**
-  **\$100.00 Voucher for Travel Expenses to Port of Departure**

TICKETS—\$10.00 @ RIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Drawing Will Be Held at Closing Ceremonies Saturday
Winner Does **NOT** Have to Be Present to Win

Mel's Country Café & Pie in the Sky

By Randy Rainwater

We started March 2011 with a ride to Mel's Country Cafe in Tomball and Pie in the Sky in Conroe. The weather was a little iffy, but Sharon and I decided that we would ride anyway. Steve, Linda, and Robin decided to take the car. We took a round about way getting to Mel's and feasted on burgers, fries, and onion rings. Steve thinks that he can eat the Mega Mel Burger, pictured below, and vowed to return and give it a try.



Here is the story about Mel's, from their website:

Mel's Country Cafe has been in the Weirich family since the beginning. Charles Weirich, Sr. (Collie) built the original building for his wife Mary in 1977, and called it Mary's Fried Chicken. All of the ingredients used were grown and purchased from the local farms in the area. The family also owned and operated Weirich Grocery and the Hufsmith Post Office next door. Tomball and Hufsmith were little country towns back then, where everyone knew everyone else and a trip to the "big city" was still a big deal. Like the original Ma Goodson's located just down the street, Mary's Fried Chicken became a local favorite; known as a good, out-of-the-way place to eat where everything was homemade and you would always run into someone you knew.

In 1985, Mary's Fried Chicken became Mel's Cafe; named for her only daughter, Melody. The menu

was changed to hamburgers, with the largest being the Mel Burger. With the influx of "foreigners" from up north, Tomball was starting to grow in population, and it eventually absorbed Hufsmith. With the increase in population, came the pressure to expand the business, but Mary and Melody liked things just the way they were with low prices and happy customers. Sadly, Mary passed away in 1992; the post office and grocery store were the victims of arson, and burned to the ground a year later.

As a fresh start, Mel's Cafe was renamed Mel's Country Cafe in 1994. The menu was expanded to include other country favorites like fried catfish and chicken fried steak. The Mega Mel Burger was created to top the Mel Burger and provide a challenge to all the new "city-folk" who were moving into the area. Along with the menu, the building was expanded and the parking lot is now the site where the post office and grocery store once stood. In fact, if you look real close, you can still see the concrete slab and some of the old floor tiles out there. Collie joined Mary in 2007. He will always be remembered by many of our long-time customers, employees, and business purveyors.

Over the years, nearly all of the family has joined the business: Mel's husband, Jeff is the executive chef; Charles, Jr. is the business manager; Philip is the financial accountant; and Chris is a busboy and waiter. Some of the original employees of Mary's, the post office, and the grocery store as well as members of their families still work at Mel's today.

After finishing lunch, we had stopped at Pie in the Sky for pie, cake balls, and coffee. After we finished up our desserts, Sharon and I headed home and Steve, Linda, and Robin were off to the Conroe Cracker Barrel for a little shopping.

Weekend of Riding

By Randy Rainwater

For those of us left behind by the folks who went to Plano and the Region H Convention, I had planned a surprise ride on Saturday. Well, it ended up being a day of surprises. The first surprise was that Sharon and I were the only one's that showed up, but we didn't let that change anything. So off we went, all by ourselves. The plan was to ride the back roads and end up in Livingston for lunch at a new place that I had seen on several rides before. Well, it was time for surprise number two for the day. The restaurant had been transformed into a car care facility, so we had to do something else. We had heard about a new restaurant called Mite Fine on Hwy 146, so off we went. Now for surprise number three--we couldn't find it, so to stop the surprises for the day, we went to Florida's Kitchen.

We split a fried catfish plate, baked potato, and a slice of sweet potato pie. The catfish was perfectly fried and the baked potato was humongous. The sweet potato pie had just come out of the oven and had a light brushing of butter. Thank goodness the surprises were over for the day and I may not be planning any surprise rides in the future, but we had a good time anyway.

NORTHWEST HONDA - WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS

On Sunday we rode with Northwest Honda to Washington on the Brazos for the first of their two annual BBQ rides. It seemed like there was a larger turnout of bikes and riders this year and the Blue Knights blocked traffic on the feeder so we could safely leave the parking lot and begin our journey. Just before we got into Magnolia the temperatures dropped to 64 degrees and we stopped so that some of the riders could add additional clothing for warmth. We lined up for our meal with great anticipation and we were rewarded with sliced beef, sausage, sauce, boiled potatoes, green beans, cole slaw, condiments, and bread. Tickets were sold to benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and several nice prizes were given away. Karen Frazier won Ricky a new set of tires and then one of the Blue Knights won \$275 in the 50-50 giveaway.

Several teams of two lined up outside for the traditional egg toss. Jim and Jamie were our official representatives while the rest of us stood out of the line of fire and routed them on. Several teams dropped their eggs but the grass saved several from breaking. Jim and Jamie's egg finally broke on Jamie and they finished as team number four. The other three teams broke their eggs on the next toss, so it was a pretty even match.

After a little shopping and tire kicking we went to the Dairy Queen for ice cream and learned a lot about Karen and Kenny's childhood. As the stories continued about things that happened to them I felt myself moving further away just in case something else was about to happen. We laughed and everyone had a great time. We found a few new back roads on the way home to finish out our weekend of riding.

CLOSE CALL

By Dolly Ards

The other biker club that I am affiliated with was traveling through Alto, Texas, on our annual Spring break run. We had finished our lunch break and decided to fuel the gas tanks, before continuing on our journey. I paid for my gas, inserted the nozzle into the bike tank, and selected the grade and nothing happen. I waited a few seconds then selected the grade again, still nothing. We waved at the attendant to get his attention, thinking he needed to turn the pump on; then sudden pressure at the pump sent gas flooding through the nozzle, pushing my hand with the nozzle out of the bike gas tank. I let go of the nozzle trigger but the trigger was stuck and gas continued to gush. I tried in vain to get the trigger unstuck before finally dropping the nozzle to ground. The nozzle reacted like snake, slithering around in the puddle of gas, while continuing to spurt more gasoline over the ground. Someone finally got the store clerks attention and he shut the pump off. But the damage was done. My bike was drenched and gasoline had gotten on my jeans and jacket and spatters of gasoline had hit me in the face. Not to mention gasoline was now running into street to the drainage system.

Several club members came to my side to help. They pushed the bike out of the puddle of gas, to the side of the store to wash it off, while I went to talk with the clerk. The clerk's attitude was it certainly is a big mess out there...and told me to go to a different pump and re-pump the amount of the spilled fuel, free of charge.

I think the near-miss in this scenario is what might have happened, if we had decided to fill the gas tanks before lunch when the bike was blazing hot from a 100 plus mile ride. The spilled fuel on the hot pipes may have caused the bike to catch fire, which could have led to an explosion and me not being able to share this near miss with you.

I am not sure if there are regulations that require nozzles and pump to be inspected, but it should be required. This is second time I have had an incident where the trigger on the nozzle had malfunctioned and caused a gasoline spill.



Kudos to..



Chapter members - for selling candy, briskets, and misc. items to raise money for the Ride for Kids

Steve Fleming - bluebonnet picture appeared on Channel 2

Ricky Frazier & Mike Thacker - for volunteering to pick up the briskets

Linda Seligman - for organizing and purchasing tickets for a fun "ladies" day event

A Friendly Reminder...

Mike & Robin Thacker are working hard on the 2011 Couple of Year basket for the 2011 Texas District convention in May. The theme of the basket is "Things for the Wing." If you would like to donate items or money for the basket, please bring them to the April chapter gathering. You can also contact Mike or Robin and they will be happy to pick up the items from you. If you need suggestions as to what should be placed in the basket, please talk to Mike or Robin.

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES--PASSPORT PROGRAM

Phoenix, AZ - Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) has announced a new program, called the "Passport Program." The Program is geared to encourage the Members of GWRRA to ride more--mainly to GWRRA Chapter gatherings, events, rallies, their Honda Dealers, vendors, etc. The Program will kick off officially in March.

Paul Hildebrand, Founder and COB of GWRRA, said, "This program will encourage more riding with our Members and also provide a vehicle for more camaraderie by having Members and providers getting to-gether to sign/stamp their "Passports" and compare their travels!"

The Passport books have 64 pages, with 4 spaces on each page, for Members to get stamps/initials for each place they visit. GWRRA will be providing a special website for those Members who fill their Passports and send them into the GWRRA Home Office.

To capture those special travel moments, use this Passport when you go to GWRRA Events or Wing Ding. At each Event or Wing Ding (at any GWRRA booth), the Chapter Director, District Director or Region Director will apply a special stamp or initials (one per event) to recognize your attendance. After completing the entire Passport, send it to the Home Office by December 31, 2011, for a chance to win a prize. The winners will be chosen randomly from all entrants.

Mr. Hildebrand goes on to state that "I am looking forward to seeing this Program bring *riding and camaraderie* back to the forefront of GWRRA!" GWRRA will support this Program through editorials in *Wing World* magazine; our FREE monthly e-Newsletter, *Wingin' It*; and electronic media through our websites.

Founded in 1977, the Gold Wing Road Riders Association is the largest single marquee motorcycle organization in the world, with 72,000 Members in 52 countries. Our motto is "Friends for FUN, Safety and Knowledge." The Home Office is at 21423 North 11th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027, the phone number is 800-843-9460 or 623-581-2500 and the website is www.gwrro.org. For this and other news, refer to the GWRRA Home Page at www.gwrro.org



CHAPTER N2 MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT SOCIAL DINNER 7:00 p.m.

APRIL

Randy & Sharon Rainwater

Wed., April 13 - (Bills Cafe - 22845 Loop 494, Humble 77339 - 281-358-6198)

MAY

Jerry Barnett

JUNE

Mike & Nancy Morgan

JULY

Gary & Marie Rabalais

AUG

Steve & Billie Fleming

SEPT

Jim & Beth Hartley

OCT

NOV

Jim & Lynn Flournoy

DEC

David & Cathy Southwell

ALTERNATES: Gary & Stormy Young, Paul & Mari Rich, Rex & Ann Nix



Strikepoint

of TEXAS

COMMUNITY HANDBELL TEAMS

Birthday Celebration

Celebrating 20 years

1991 - 2011

Thursday, April 28 & Friday, April 29 @ 7:30 p.m.

Kingwood First Baptist Church
3500 Woodland Hills Dr. in Kingwood

***We're celebrating and would love for you
to join us in the celebrations!***

Directed by Founder and Conductor, Melanie Bankston, the concerts will highlight 20 years of bringing the art of handbell ringing to our community, state, nation, and world. Along with the ringers in both 5 octave teams of handbells, the music will include accompaniment provided by organ, piano, flute, trumpet, percussion instruments and choral ensemble. A "*Reunion Team*" of former ringers will also add to the concert festivities.

**Tickets are available by calling
281.360.4743 or 281.358.1464
www.strikepointoftexas.com**

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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!

# Wing Wisdom Whittles

Prepared by Steve & Carolyn Cotton, Region H Trainers



“Whittles” articles are intended to provide information that can be presented by chapter members at monthly gatherings to help promote the Leadership Training Program. The hope is that chapters will enlist members to share the information to make it a FUN and interesting new experience.



## A Growth Environment

There’s just something about meeting with a group of positive, energetic, and creative people that stimulates my thoughts and spurs me to greater growth than I would be capable of on my own. We all tend to thrive in a positive setting.

One step you can take to increase your thinking power is to put yourself in a **growth environment**. If negativity is a powerful thought-buster, a growth environment is an even stronger **thought-booster**.

### Here are eight characteristics of a growth environment:

- 1) **Others are ahead of you.** It’s a sad day when you discover that, in every group you’re in, you are at the top of your class. Such superiority might be good for your ego, but it’s not healthy for your mental development. You will grow even more if you are in a group of people that you can learn from.
- 2) **You are still challenged.** It doesn’t matter how young or old you are – if you’re bored, you won’t grow. Accept new challenges and ideas.
- 3) **Your focus is forward.** There’s nothing wrong with remembering the past, especially if it increases your confidence or helps you to avoid repeating costly mistakes. But growth is impossible if you think your best days are behind you – look to the future.
- 4) **The atmosphere is affirming.** Think of how you felt the last time someone affirmed you when you were struggling with a difficult assignment or situation. I’m sure you’ll agree that encouragement is a powerful motivator, especially in the midst of challenging circumstances.
- 5) **You are out of your comfort zone.** It’s much easier to stick with what you know, but nobody ever achieved greatness by doing that. This is one of the benefits of working with creative thinkers – they stretch you and force you to look for answers outside your normal frame of reference. A friend of mine tells me to “Think Outside the Box.”
- 6) **Failure is not feared.** You may be hesitant to venture out of your comfort zone because you’re afraid you’ll fall flat on your face if you take a risk. But as Henry Ford once said, “Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently.”
- 7) **Others are still growing.** Yes, growth can be a group activity. It’s often precipitated by less-than-ideal circumstances like increased competition, an economic downturn, the loss of key players, etc. But from a leadership standpoint, few things are more rewarding than watching your team become stronger through adversity.
- 8) **There is a willingness to change.** In a growth environment, you’ll never hear anyone say, “But we’ve never done it that way before”. Not everyone embraces change with the same level of enthusiasm, but people who are committed to growth don’t try to run away from it.

If you’re not currently participating in a growth environment, I encourage you to do what you can to make it one. **Take the lead – and others will follow**. When it comes to growth, there is definitely a trickle-

(*Wing Wisdom Whittles, cont.*)

down effect. Look at your calendar this year - what sort of events / meetings / activities have you planned for our GWRRA Members to help them?

I also want to share with you 12 pretty good rules that have been passed to me by a Navy Captain shortly after September 11, 2001. The first eleven were found in an FBI agent's home that died in that attack, and the Captain added the 12th.

### **12 Pretty Good Rules:**

- 1) Always give 100%.
- 2) Listen.
- 3) Care about each other as individuals. Be loyal.
- 4) Do not tolerate sloppy, lazy, or incompetent work.
- 5) Support your boss. Think ahead.
- 6) Practice the three C's: communicate, cooperate, and coordinate.
- 7) Strive to be of service. Reject the "It's not my lane in the road" attitude.
- 8) Work hard and play hard.
- 9) Laugh.
- 10) Be quick to praise.
- 11) Be honest.
- 12) Give thanks every day for the freedom and liberty you enjoy.

## **2011 TEXAS DISTRICT RIDER EDUCATION FUNDRAISER**

Steve Fleming is currently selling tickets for the 2011 Texas District Rider Education fundraiser. The tickets are \$10 each and you can buy as many as you want! You can also sell the tickets to people outside of the chapter. The 2011 Texas District Rider Education fundraiser prize will be a drawing for a 4-day Premium, Ocean view cruise aboard Carnival. The drawing will be held during the closing ceremony at the 2011 Texas District Convention in Killeen, Texas on *May 12 - 14, 2011*.

The details of the 4-day Premium Cruise are as follows:

- Vacation for two on board one of the Carnival Cruise Lines spectacular ships
- Ocean view stateroom
- All onboard meals and snacks included
- Complimentary 24-hour room service
- Wide range of entertainment and international destination
- All government fees and taxes included
- Includes your shipboard gratuities
- Travel voucher for \$100.00 towards expenses to port of departure

Steve will have the tickets for sale at the April chapter gathering. He will also have the tickets at all of our events leading up to the Texas District Convention. Please support the Texas District Rider Education program. If you have any questions or are interested in buying tickets, please see *Steve Fleming*.

Get back on track with tons of healthy spring salads filled with the freshest product. Whether you try one of these salads, or all of them, know that they're easy on the waist-line and oh so tasty! Recipes thanks to Recipe4living.com.

### FRESH SPRING SALAD

#### Ingredients

|                                 |                                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1 c. fresh peas                 | raw almonds, chopped                          |
| 1 bunch arugula leaves          | extra virgin olive oil                        |
| fresh mint, sliced into slivers | Kosher salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste |
| shaved Parmesan                 |                                               |

#### Directions

Blanch peas in boiling water for 10 seconds and rinse with ice cold water. In a bowl, assemble greens, toss with oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Plate greens and top with cheese and almonds.

### CONFETTI MACARONI SALAD

#### Ingredients

1 7-oz. pkg. elbow macaroni or rotini (2 c. uncooked)  
3 hard cooked eggs, chopped  
cheddar cheese  
1 c. chopped celery  
1/4 c. chopped green pepper  
1 10-oz. pkg. frozen green peas, thawed  
2 T. chopped pimento  
1 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. sugar  
1/2 c. mayonnaise  
2 T. lemon juice

#### Directions

Prepare macaroni according to package directions. Drain. In large bowl, combine all ingredients. Mix well. Chill thoroughly.

### CUCUMBER APPLE SALAD

#### Ingredients

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1/2 sm. cucumber | a few sprigs of fresh mint |
| 2 lg. apples     | pepper                     |

#### Directions

Dice the cucumbers and apples into 1/4-inch cubes. Wash mint, pick off the leaves and chop them finely. Mix all ingredients with a liberal sprinkling of pepper.

(Recipes, cont.)

### HEALTHY HEART SALAD

#### Ingredients

1 head broccoli, cut into small flowerets  
1/2 red onion, diced or sliced in 1/2 rings  
celery to taste, diced into bite-size pieces  
1 lb. bacon cooked until crisp, drained, crumbled into pieces  
1 c. black or yellow raisins  
1/2 c. unsalted sunflower seeds  
apple, cut into small pieces  
seedless grapes, halved  
cauliflower, cut into small flowerets  
Dressing:  
1/2 c. real mayonnaise  
1/4 c. granulated sugar  
2 T. vinegar

#### Directions

Mix with whisk all ingredients together. Mix in separate bowl all ingredients for dressing. Add and mix together before serving. Serve cold.

### PASTA SALAD WITH HERBS, GREEN BEANS & FETA

#### Ingredients

3/4 lb. small green beans  
3/4 lb. pasta, preferably fusilli  
2/3 c. olive oil  
1/4 c. red wine vinegar  
1 large clove garlic, minced or pressed  
1 tsp. Dijon mustard  
Salt and pepper  
1 1/2 c. cherry tomatoes, stemmed (about 8 oz.)  
1/3 c. black olives, preferably oil-cured, pitted and cut in half  
2 T. finely chopped fresh basil leaves  
2 T. chopped fresh chives  
2 tsp. minced fresh oregano leaves  
2/3 c. crumbled feta cheese

#### Directions

Bring a large pot of water to boil. Add the green beans and cook over high heat until slightly softened but still bright green, 3 to 4 minutes. With a slotted spoon, remove the beans to a colander and set aside. Bring the water in the pot back to a boil. Add the pasta and cook until slightly softer than al dente. Drain in the same colander with the green beans, shake to dry a bit and transfer the beans and pasta to a serving bowl. Set aside. Meanwhile, whisk together the oil, vinegar, garlic, mustard, and salt and pepper to taste to make the dressing. Add the tomatoes, olives, herbs, cheese, and dressing to the beans and pasta. Toss to mix and serve right away.

## EASTER WORD SEARCH



What do you get if you pour hot water down a rabbit hole?

*Hot cross bunnies!*

How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?

*EGG-xercise and HARE-robics!*

Why did the easter egg hide?

*He was a little chicken!*

Knock knock

*Who's there?*

Esther

*Esther who?*

Esther Bunny!

**April 2011**  
**Bizarre and Unique Holidays**

|    |                                      |    |                             |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 1  | April Fool's Day                     | 17 | Blah, Blah, Blah Day        |
| 2  | National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day | 18 | International Juggler's Day |
| 3  | Don't Go to Work Unless it's Fun Day | 19 | National Garlic Day         |
| 4  | Walk Around Things Day               | 20 | Look Alike Day              |
| 5  | Go for Broke Day                     | 21 | National High Five Day      |
| 6  | Plan Your Epitaph Day                | 22 | National Jelly Bean Day     |
| 7  | No Housework Day                     | 23 | Take a Chance Day           |
| 8  | All is Ours Day                      | 24 | Pig in a Blanket Day        |
| 9  | Name Yourself Day                    | 25 | East meets West Day         |
| 10 | Golfer's Day                         | 26 | National Pretzel Day        |
| 11 | Eight Track Tape Day                 | 27 | National Prime Rib Day      |
| 12 | Big Wind Day                         | 28 | Kiss Your Mate Day          |
| 13 | Scrabble Day                         | 29 | Greenery Day                |
| 14 | Look up at the Sky Day               | 30 | Hairstyle Appreciation Day  |
| 15 | Rubber Eraser Day                    |    |                             |
| 16 | National Stress Awareness Day        |    |                             |

**DATES TO REMEMBER...**

**2011**

|         |                                                 |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 4/2     | Texas Chapter O Convention - Fredericksburg, TX |
| 4/7-9   | Louisiana District Convention - Lafayette, LA   |
| 4/29-30 | Texas Chapter O2 Convention - Brownwood, TX     |
| 5/7     | LA-M's Mudbug Rally - Deridder, LA              |
| 5/12-14 | Texas District Convention - Killeen, TX         |
| 5/26-28 | Arkansas District Convention - Harrison, AR     |
| 7/6-9   | Wing Ding 33 - Knoxville, TN                    |
| 8/26-27 | Kansas District Convention - Eldorado, KS       |
| 10/7-9  | Oklahoma District Convention - McAlester, OK    |

**19th Annual Houston Ride for Kids**

*All proceeds benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation*

*Sunday, May 1*

Humble Civic Center

(8233 Will Clayton Pkwy., Humble, TX)

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

Police escorted ride - 10:00 a.m.

Riders on all makes and models are welcome

For more information, call 800-253-6530 or go to [www.rideforkids.org](http://www.rideforkids.org). If you haven't set up your First Giving Page and would like some guidance, contact *Karen Frazier* at [karenf@nctv.com](mailto:karenf@nctv.com).



## The History of Popcorn and the Movies

By Maddie Donnelly, *Gourmet Live* guest blogger

Ever wonder why popcorn and the movies go together like Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio? Here's a brief history of the duo.

Popcorn wasn't introduced to the general public as a snack food until around 1840, when it first made appearances at fairs, carnivals, and rallies. In 1885, with the invention of the first portable popcorn machine, its popularity increased dramatically. Popcorn vendors followed the crowds, set up shop, and introduced popcorn neophytes to the joys of butter, salt, and crunch. It was a cheap and tasty hit.

As fate would have it, the popcorn boom coincided with the dawn of nickelodeon (or dime) theatres. Vendors, quick to spot an opportunity, sold their treats outside of the movies. Though patrons loved it, the mess left behind, the smell of the machines, and popcorn's association with burlesque irritated movie theatre owners, especially as the fancier theaters of the 1910s and 20s were built.

But as the Great Depression set in, and profits dropped, desperate owners sought new ways to make money. They noticed how lucrative the popcorn business was and installed machines of their own inside. Soon concession stands were integrated into the designs of theatres. A movie and a bucket of popcorn became one of the main forms of entertainment for struggling Americans well into the 1930s.

When the TV came along, and threatened the movie business once again, concession stands became as central to a movie theatre's success as the movies themselves. And when sugar rations took hold during World War II, making candy no longer available at the movies, popcorn sales skyrocketed. By the time sugar was reintroduced to the public, the notion of popcorn at the movies had become ingrained in the minds of theater patrons everywhere.

Today, concession stand sales account for a whopping 40 percent of movie theatres' net revenue. And while new snacks are constantly being introduced, popcorn endures. So when you pop your bag of popcorn before your favorite movie starts, know that you're not only satisfying a craving, but partaking in a little American tradition.



# COME RIDE WITH US



## GOLDWING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION



### CHAPTER N2 - HUMBLE, TEXAS

### FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

We ride Goldwings and other motorcycles and enjoy riding safely and having fun. We schedule several rides each month (*weather permitting*) and meet monthly at the American Legion Hall (307 Charles Street, Humble, TX 77336). Our meeting date/time is the 4th Saturday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Visit our website at [www.gwr-ra-n2-humbletx.com](http://www.gwr-ra-n2-humbletx.com).

MY NAME IS: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT US AT: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### GAME NIGHT

*Friday, April 1*

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!

### Bluebonnet Ride

*Saturday, April 2*

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J - prefed. Randy will lead ride.



### Breakfast @ Skeeter's

4121 W. Lake Houston Pkwy.,  
Kingwood 77339 - 281-361-7168

*Sunday, April 3*

8:30 a.m.

### Louisiana District Convention

Lafayette, LA

*April 7 - 10 - 8:00 a.m.*

Meeting @ Flying J

Mike Thacker will lead the ride. For those of you going on this trip, don't forget to bring your Chapter N2 pride (suggestions: bee costumes, chapter windshield covers, bee windsocks, bee bling (*women - you know the items*), and chapter shirts.

### Surprise Ride

*Saturday, April 9*

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J - prefed. Randy will lead ride.

### Social Dinner

*Wednesday, April 13*

7:00 p.m.



Randy & Sharon Rainwater have chosen Bill's Cafe (22845 Loop 494, Humble 77339 - 281-358-6198) for April's Social Dinner. Ya'll come.

### Purple Pig Cafe

Flint, TX

*Saturday, April 16*

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J

Randy Rainwater leading ride

### Secret Sister Outing / Lunch

Cat's performance at the Hobby Center

*Saturday, April 16*

2:00 p.m.

Following the performance, we will eat lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse.

### Picnic Lunch Ride

*Friday, April 22*

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J

Randy will lead ride. Bring your own lunch.

### Chapter Gathering

*Saturday, April 23*

6:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall

(307 Charles Street, Humble, TX 77338)

Following our meeting, we will chow down on a **potluck dinner**. Bring your favorite dish to share and join in the fun.



### Ride for Kids' Training

@ FMC on Beltway 8

*Thursday, April 28*

7:00 p.m.


### Ride for Kids' Setup

@ Humble Civic Center

*Saturday, April 30*

10:00 a.m.

**GWRRRA CHAPTER N2  
HUMBLE, TEXAS  
APRIL 2011**

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                    | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY                                                                                 | THURSDAY                                                    | FRIDAY                                                                                                                                | SATURDAY                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                           |        |         |                                                                                           |                                                             | Game Night<br>American Legion<br>Hall 6:00 p.m.<br> | TX Chapter O<br>Convention<br>Fredericksburg<br><br>Bluebonnet ride<br>Flying J 8:00 a.m.<br>Rainwater<br>Pre-fed                                       |
|                                                                                                                           |        |         |                                                                                           |                                                             | Lousiana District Convention - Lafayette, LA                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                         |
| Breakfast 9:00 a.m.<br>Skeeters<br>4121 West Lake<br>Houston Drive<br><br>Cutoff for brisket<br>sales to Karen<br>Frazier |        |         |                                                                                           | Lafayette, LA<br>Flying J 8:00 a.m.<br>Thacker              |                                                                                                                                       | Surprise ride<br>Flying J 8:00 a.m.<br>Rainwater<br>Pre-fed                                                                                             |
| 3                                                                                                                         | 4      | 5       | 6                                                                                         | 7                                                           | 8                                                                                                                                     | 9                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                           |        |         | Social Dinner<br>Rainwaters<br>Bill's Café on<br>494 South of<br>Kingwood Dr<br>7:00 p.m. |                                                             |                                                                                                                                       | Secret Sister Event<br>Cats 2:00 p.m.<br>Hobby Center<br>Brisket delivery<br>Purple Pig Café<br>Flint, TX near Tyler<br>Flying J 8:00 a.m.<br>Rainwater |
| 10                                                                                                                        | 11     | 12      | 13                                                                                        | 14                                                          | 15                                                                                                                                    | 16                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                           |        |         |                                                                                           |                                                             | <i>Good Friday</i><br><br>Picnic Lunch ride<br>Flying J 8:00 a.m.<br>Rainwater<br>Pre-fed                                             | Chapter Gathering<br>American Legion<br>Hall 6:00 p.m.<br>Potluck afterwards                                                                            |
| 17                                                                                                                        | 18     | 19      | 20                                                                                        | 21                                                          | 22                                                                                                                                    | 23                                                                                                                                                      |
| <i>Easter</i>                                                                                                             |        |         |                                                                                           | Ride for the<br>Kids training<br>FMC 7:00 p.m.<br>Beltway 8 | TX Chapter O2 Convention - Brownwood                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                                           |        |         |                                                                                           |                                                             |                                                                                                                                       | Ride for Kids<br>setup at Humble<br>Civic Center<br>10:00 a.m.                                                                                          |
| 24                                                                                                                        | 25     | 26      | 27                                                                                        | 28                                                          | 29                                                                                                                                    | 30                                                                                                                                                      |


**Birthdays**

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Leo Hannon     | 4/17 |
| Steve Seligman | 4/20 |
| Jim Flournoy   | 4/24 |

**Anniversaries**

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

**GWRRA CHAPTER N2  
HUMBLE, TEXAS  
May 2011**

| SUNDAY                                  | MONDAY              | TUESDAY                                           | WEDNESDAY                                                       | THURSDAY                                     | FRIDAY                                                                                                                                 | SATURDAY                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                         | <i>Memorial Day</i> |                                                   |                                                                 |                                              |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
| 29                                      | 30                  | 31                                                |                                                                 |                                              |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
| Ride for Kids<br>Humble Civic<br>Center |                     |                                                   |                                                                 |                                              | Game Night<br>American Legion<br>Hall 6:00 p.m.<br> |                                                                                                                                    |
| 1                                       | 2                   | 3                                                 | 4                                                               | 5                                            | 6                                                                                                                                      | 7                                                                                                                                  |
| <i>Mother's Day</i>                     |                     | Seceret Sister<br>Reveil<br>Diane S.<br>6:30 p.m. | Social Dinner<br>Barnett<br>Lings in<br>Atascocita<br>7:00 p.m. | Texas District Rally - Killeen, TX           |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
|                                         |                     |                                                   |                                                                 | Killeen, TX<br>Flying J 8:00<br>a.m. Thacker |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
| 8                                       | 9                   | 10                                                | 11                                                              | 12                                           | 13                                                                                                                                     | 14                                                                                                                                 |
|                                         |                     |                                                   |                                                                 |                                              |                                                                                                                                        | Chapter Gathering<br>American Legion<br>Hall 6:00 p.m.<br><br>Scrapbook workday<br>10:00 a.m. - meeting<br>American Legion<br>Hall |
| 15                                      | 16                  | 17                                                | 18                                                              | 19                                           | 20                                                                                                                                     | 21                                                                                                                                 |
|                                         |                     |                                                   |                                                                 | Arkansas District Rally - Harrison, AR       |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
|                                         |                     |                                                   |                                                                 |                                              |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
| 22                                      | 23                  | 24                                                | 25                                                              | 26                                           | 27                                                                                                                                     | 28                                                                                                                                 |

***Birthdays***

Ann Nix 5/24  
Jerry Barnett 5/27

***Anniversaries***

CW & Kay Simmons 5/11

*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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