

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE



**Texas District
Chapter N2
Humble, Texas**



South Central Region H

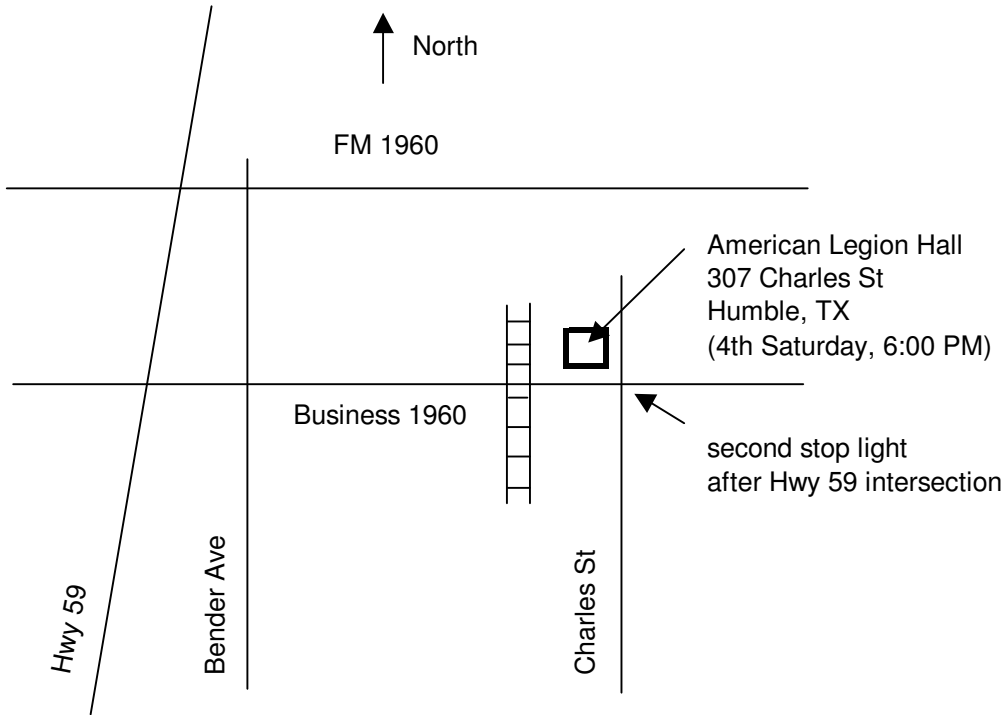


The N2 Buzz

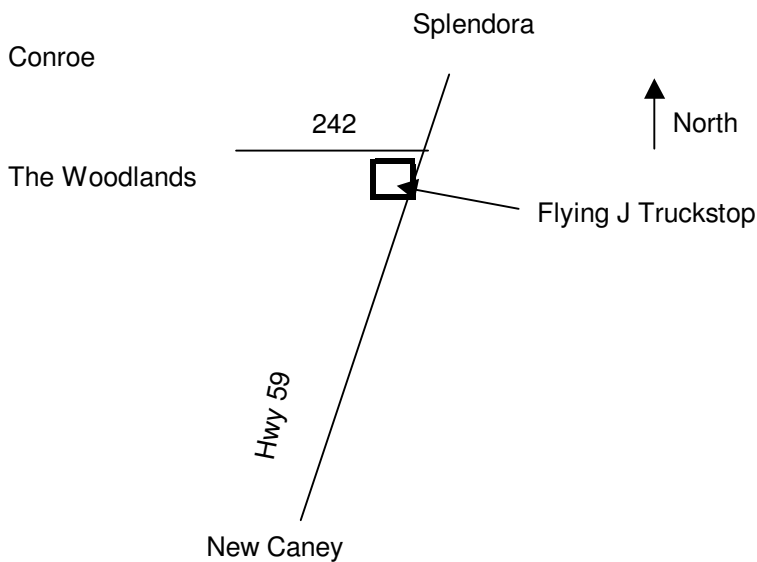


August 2011

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



Let us first start by announcing again that *Ricky* and *Karen Frazier* have accepted the position of Assistant Chapter

Directors. Ricky and Karen will do a great job. They always have great ideas and are willing to step up to do anything. Ricky and Karen are great examples of the GWRRRA motto - Friends for Fun, Knowledge, and Safety. They are great friends to all of the chapter members; always love to have fun. They also are more than willing to share their knowledge of riding and how to do it being safe. Ricky is a Senior Master Tour Rider and Karen is Master Tour Rider. Linda and I are excited and look forward to working with the Fraziers.

I want to let you know that the chapter has an opportunity to do something exciting. On *Saturday, August 27*, Splendora is having an Honor Your Military Parade and Festival. The parade and festival are celebrating the return of their soldiers. Thanks to Robin Thacker, who noticed an article in The Observer, and

contacted the lady putting the event together. Robin told the lady that she was member of a motorcycle group in Humble and the lady was so excited. Our chapter has been invited to ride in the parade. We would love to have all of our friends come out to show their thanks to the returning soldiers. If you have flags that attach to the back of your motorcycles, it would be great to be able to fly them during the parade. Also, we can show our thanks by wearing patriot colors. We will be leaving Flying J (159 and _____) at 8:30 a.m. We will then ride over to the parade staging area and get in line for the short parade. If you have any questions, please contact *Robin Thacker* or *me*.

One last note--the organization of our **Bee Blast** on *Saturday, October 8*, is going full speed. We have inside and outside games planned and the silent auction items are piling up. *Jerry Barnett* has donated one of his small trailers as a grand prize. We also have mini grand prizes. It is going to be a great time. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact *Billie Fleming*. Billie can put you in contact with a committee member.

Until we ride again!

July 2011 RIDE/EVENT PARTICIPATION REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>#OF BIKES/</u>	<u>#OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
7/03/2011	Chapter Breakfast	5	13
7/08/2011	Game Night		8
7/09/2011	Breakfast Ride to Montgomery	5	8
7/13/2011	Social Dinner @ El Rancho		15
7/16/2011	Shankz Miniature Golf & dinner	1	8
7/23/2011	Chapter Gathering	4	28
7/30/2011	Progressive Dinner	7	13

2011 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

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



First of all, we would like to say congratulations to Kirby and Sandy White, the newly selected International Couple of the Year for 2011 - 2011. What an honor!

Did ya'll know that the Couple of the Year Program all came about back in 1988 and was called The Wing Ding Queen? Then it became a way to honor couples on the local level and proved a useful tool to help couples get prepared for leadership positions with GWRRA. Now there are several reasons why a couple would want to become a Chapter Couple of the Year. It's not just to prepare for a leadership position anymore.

Here are some reasons why a chapter would want to select a Couple of the Year.

- The chapter can give back to a couple who has worked hard for the chapter. Being a Couple of the Year should be viewed as an HONOR, not a job or responsibility.
- Visitation with other chapters by the Couple of the Year can increase inter-chapter activities.
- Chapter spirit can increase when a chapter shows support for their Couple of the Year.
- Selection as Chapter Couple of the Year leads to personal growth for the couple.
- The Couple of the Year can bring awareness within the community about our association by wearing the shirts or vests with Couple of the Year designations.
- Participation in the District Selections Program brings recognition for your chapter within the District.
- As your chapter Couple of the Year visits other chapters' Couples of the Year from those chapter will in turn visit your Chapter.
- Your Couple of the Year can promote your chapter's upcoming events as they visit other chapters.
- Couples of the Year are often found serving as a cheerleader for the chapter team.

Both Mike and I have had a great time representing our chapter and we wear our medallions with pride to every function we attend. We even wore them to a restaurant after a meeting and the waiter asked us what the medallions stood for and we were happy to explain our Couple of the Year honor. He gave us a complimentary dessert after our meal. That really made us feel special.

We know that every Couple of the Year in our chapter who has served has had a great experience holding that position and we hope the next Couple of the Year has as much fun as we have had.

Now, to talk about our trip to Wing Ding 33. We would like to give a big thanks to Rex for playing a big part planning our Wing Ding trip. Between he and Mike, they had it all mapped out. Rex typed up how many miles we were riding each day; the cost of each day; and the map and hotel information for each day. As each day passed, I discarded that map and had the next day's schedule available to review.

(2011 Couple of the Year, cont.)

Rex wanted me to write about my adventures of buying all the pretties and chrome for the Gold Wing I purchased from Leo just before our trip. It was a big decision on whether to ride my cruiser or venture out on the Gold Wing for 3400 miles. Of course the adventurous type that I am, I chose the Gold Wing. Lets just say that the Wing Stuff booth really liked me. They even threw in a Gold Wing model that matched my bike for FREE. Then I had to have pin striping done by T.J. and additional flashing break lights. I just think it's the prettiest bike out there. Thanks again Leo! When I bought the bike from you, you made a statement: "I hope you enjoy the bike as much as I have." I have had the bike for 26 days and have ridden it 22 days out of 26 days of ownership. I love riding it and have enjoyed in completely.

We rode some very nice roads traveling to Wing Ding and after leaving Wing Ding, we had some nice adventures. Washington was an adventure in itself, but the cupcakes from the Cupcake Factory made up for the traffic. We did a lot of sightseeing and picture taking. After traveling through 13 states, we all made it back home safe and sound.

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

WEATHER CONDITIONS...

Steve & Billie Fleming, Chapter Educators



Riding in the Rain

How is the best way to ride in the rain? To me, don't is the best answer. That is, don't, if you have an option. Regardless of the best of planning, sometimes those little unexpected showers pop up here in the Houston area. I have been caught more than once in that 10% chance; how about you?



What do you do when that unexpected shower comes along? The answer to that question would really depend on one's personal preferences about riding in the rain. Ask yourself these questions:

- ***How heavy is the rain?***
 - A heavy or foggy rain reduces visibility and increases the likelihood of our not being seen by other motorists.
 - A light rain, though not necessarily reducing visibility, is more likely to increase the slippery condition of the highway, because the oil and grease on the highway is not flushed away as quickly.
- ***Is there lightning or hail involved?***
 - If lightning or hail is present, there is no safe place for us on the highway. We should find the nearest overpass or pull into the next gas station or rest area and get off of the bike.
- ***How long does it look like it is going to last?***
 - Stopping under an overpass or at a gas station with an awning will let that quick passing shower move out of our area and give us a chance to rest a bit waiting for the road to clear.
 - Do you want to put on rain gear? That is a matter of personal preference for sure. Many people I know have said that they would rather get wet from the rain than wet inside the suit from the sweat. If the weather is cool, you may not sweat at all and the added warmth may actually feel very good.
- ***How far do you have to go?***
 - Short rides may tempt you to press on even in bad weather, but we should assess the risks involved with the conditions encountered.
 - Regardless of how far we have to go, we should never go unsafely. It is better to safely arrive late than to not arrive at all.

(Rider Educators, cont.)

- ***What are the road conditions?***

- There are some types of roads that are predictably more slippery than others. Pea gravel over tar, for instance, can be extremely dangerous, when the road has been well worn. You will notice that the tracks in the lanes are particularly black due to the gravel having been absorbed into the tar. Water will stand in the tracks and hydroplaning is a real threat. These smooth surfaces will also prove to be a real challenge to the motorcycle, when trying to corner or maneuver through a turn.
- Grooved concrete on a freeway can be treacherous, when it first starts to rain. Oil and grease from vehicle traffic will rise up and float on the surface until it has been washed away. In a light shower, this may take some time.
- Another condition to look for on freeways is dark spots that immediately follow a dip in the road. These are pockets of grease and oil from vehicles that literally bounce through the dip and drop engine oil and grease from the shock of the sudden rise in the pavement.
- Look for objects such as railroad crossing, manhole covers, painted areas like lane limit's lines, which can be extremely slippery, when wet. Leaves in the fall tend to clump together when on the road surface and create a surface as slippery as ice.

- ***How much traffic is there?***



- On a lightly traveled road, you may try to push on in the rain thinking that the absence of traffic will enhance your chances of a safe arrival. While there is some truth to that statement, it is not a good idea to proceed with a false sense of security. All of the hazards of the road are still there; your treat of a single vehicle crash is higher, because of the weather conditions regardless of the traffic involved.
- ***What are our best practices, when riding on wet roads?***
 - Slow down!
 - Slowing down is always in your best interest in bad weather.
- ***Avoid sudden maneuvers.***
 - Do not make any sudden unnecessary maneuvers, because of a higher risk of losing traction.
 - Do not make quick accelerations or stops unless you are performing an emergency evasive action.
- ***Positioning.***
 - Try to stay on the high side of the pavement. That is, use the track that is nearer the center of the road. Roads are usually built with a grade towards the edges. This supposed

(Rider Educators, cont.)

to keep water from pooling, but sometimes when roads are deteriorated, the grade is gone.

- Allowing more space cushion will increase your time to react to situations and take necessary evasive maneuvers.

GWRRRA recognizes that the more we know about riding safely, the more fun we can expect to have while riding. One rider I read while researching this article said that he actually prefers riding in the rain, because it lets him ride more relaxed, because he has to slow down and pay more attention. No matter what our reference, when it comes to riding in the rain, safety should be our first priority. We can always live to ride another day as long as we arrive alive and safely.

One last thing I need to mention is riding in clear weather with bright sunshine. Early morning hours and late evening hours, when the sun is close to the horizon can be extremely dangerous to us on motorcycles. Our vision is limited, when we are riding towards the sun at these times and when we are riding away from the sun; our danger is from other motorists coming at us with the sun in their face.

Try adjusting your helmet as a sun visor to give you a little edge. The added ability to see can save your life.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER...

2011

8/13	Chapter M - Moonlight Fun Run - Lowe's parking lot - Burleson, TX
8/20	Chapter X2 BBQ - Bear Creek Park - Cypress, TX
8/20	Chapter I - Dog Days of Summer, Kellyville Park - Jefferson, TX
8/26-27	Kansas District Convention - Eldorado, KS
9/10	Chapter R Convention - Keller, TX
10/1	Chapter T - T-Fest - Killeen, TX
10/8	Chapter N2 - Bee Blast - Humble, TX
10/15	Chapter U - Hallow Wlngs - San Antonio, TX
10/22	Chapter Z Birthday - Pasadena, TX
10/27	Oklahoma District Convention - McAlester, OK

Wing Ding 33 Knoxville, TN

Day 00 Friday

We left Houston about 2 p.m. Before we got to the highway, it started raining really big drops of rain. While sitting at a red light, I am sure many people looking at us thought we were nuts to be out in the rain, but it felt nice. After getting moderately soaked, we traveled up 59 towards Marshall and about Timpson, we were hit by another really bad rain that had two or more inches of water on the road. Even as I had slowed to 30 or so, I was having several issues with the tires breaking loose because of hydroplaning. This can be very unnerving as well as dangerous. We finally arrived at the hotel in Marshall where we were met by our traveling companions, Mike and Robin Thacker, Karen and Ricky Frazier, Jerry Barnett, and John English. We had decided to have sandwiches and other items to eat, thus cutting back on expenses and trying to eat slightly better than road food. After a feast everyone enjoyed, we started planning the upcoming day. It wasn't long before everyone was hitting the sack to get some sleep, before we begin the journey to Knoxville.

Day 01 Saturday

Our plan was to be packed, bikes full of gas, and ready to go by 6 a.m. We would then partake in the breakfast supplied by our motel. Soon everyone had enough, and after a quick bladder check, we were off by 6:30 a.m. Going east, there was little traffic until we arrived near downtown Shreveport where the freeway was closed due to a major accident. As we slowly made our way off the freeway onto unfamiliar roads, Mike led us through town and finally back out onto the freeway headed in the correct direction. We made our exit off the concrete and started traveling on nice two-lane country roads and enjoying some scenery. Finally, we were on our way, each on a vacation, each on a journey, each looking forward to hanging out with friends.

Our day lead us on many nice roads through northwest Louisiana and into Arkansas. As we were traveling down a small two-lane highway, I noticed a couple on a bike nearing the highway from a side road, and as I waved he eagerly waved back. I didn't think much more of it, since we wave at lots of other bike riders on a trip. But I was shortly going to meet this person face to face. About three miles down the road, there was an unmarked turn nearly 90 degree to the right that caught all of us by surprise. After safely making the curve, I radioed back to Jerry who was following us from a distance to slow down because of the sudden turn. Being drag bike, I was still just past the turn when I saw Jerry go through the curve wide but he made it. The bike behind him wasn't so lucky. He was going way too fast and lost control, crashing into the ditch in front of Jerry and behind me. I watched it unfold and radioed to everyone that there was a bike down, before the couple came to a complete stop.

I got off my bike leaving it blocking the road, because the couple rolled into the road. I made my way to Gary from Arizona, and started telling him we already had help on the way, reassuring him and his wife. Several ladies started helping Gary's wife, then someone found a blanket and Ann and Mike and several other people held it to make shade for them. Jerry and Ricky started directing traffic. Robin found Gary's phone and called a nearby friend for him. Karen was in the curve trying to slow people down that were coming up. Mike was suggesting the needed instructions. There were First Aid Kits, and phones galore. The paramedics finally arrived and soon the helicopter arrived. This is when we were done with what we could do and we headed on our journey.

We talked about this for the rest of the day realizing how close a couple of us almost became entangled with the event and were very fortunate. We discussed how our training had naturally kicked in, and that we all felt ready for this. Finally ending the day in Forest City, Arkansas, we all had a nice dinner, hung around for an hour or so and headed to bed.

Day 02 Sunday

We left at 6:30 a.m. as planned and started traveling toward Memphis. About 20 miles east, we turned on Hwy. 64. We had changed our route toward Chattanooga instead of Lebanon to give us a down day to see some sites. We traveled across Hwy. 64 most of the day, watching the scenery change from somewhat flat land to rolling

(Wing Ding 33--Knoxville, TN, cont.)

hills and nice forest. Our roads started getting a few nice curves along with some rollercoaster roads. Because of the different terrain and altitude, it stayed a bit cooler and we all appreciated that. We watched weathered barns, fields of various crops, and small towns drift by mile after mile. After we stopped for lunch, the heat began to bother us again, so we changed our stops to nearly every 50 miles. It caused us to run a little late getting to our destination, but it was the best way to travel in the summer heat. Our final roads took us through some small mountains just northwest of Chattanooga, and we finally arrived at our motel. We all met for dinner in the motel breakfast area with our sandwich materials, and feasted until no one could eat another chip, grape, or cookie. After putting everything away, we sat around for a couple of hours and discussed the next day's schedule.

Day 03 Monday

After breakfast, we had decided to head out to Rock City, Lookout Mountain, and Ruby Falls. It wasn't far from our motel, so off we went to see the local sights. These are all close together, so we didn't ride much, but we did get some twisty roads in going up and down the mountain a couple of times. We played tourist today.

Rock City is a nice place to relax, spend a couple of hours slowly walking and just checking out the rock formations, and actually walking through giant boulders and some beautiful scenery. We were walking through huge rock formations, tight walkways, some cool breezes in the rocks, some natural and manmade tunnels and rock bridges. There was a picture to take every couple of steps. Several people thought I was going to get stuck between the rocks, but I didn't care to permanently move to Tennessee. We enjoyed the cool air from the waterfall near lover's leap. There was a small area called Gnome Valley that the kids thought were really cool. Then we looked at many of the wares available in the various shops.

Then we made a change and went directly to Ruby Falls, because it was starting to warm up. After more parking lot practice, we finally parked and made our way into the fall's lobby area, and got ready to go underground and see a waterfall in a cavern. We took the elevator down, 260 feet to the start of the cavern. Our tour guide took us through a minor maze of underground tunnels, showing us several mineral formations. We finally arrived at the fall and it was beautiful. With the recent rains, there was lots of water flowing, and with the lights, it was very pretty. Everyone was taking pictures and we even got to go behind the waterfall on a ledge that wasn't very big. After we walked back up and out, we saw a sizable thunderstorm and decided to get to the motel quickly. Somehow I was leading the group and, as usual, I ended going the long way back to the motel. After some packing and covering the bikes, we were off to dinner at a local Chinese Buffet, where everyone had plenty of goodies. Some of us washed clothes and did our final packing, because tomorrow we were headed to Knoxville.

Day 04 Tuesday

By Ann: Today is another get up early day. Meet everyone at 6 a.m. for breakfast and be ready to leave at 6:30 a.m. Mike and Rex finalize the day's ride plan, keeping the weather in mind. It was decided that since the chance of rain was in the afternoon, we would get to Knoxville via the Dragon's Tail. Jerry opted out, deciding to go straight to Knoxville on his own time. So the rest of us finished up and got ready to roll. Off we went. It was pretty quick to see the reason they call the mountains we were close to as the Smokey Mountains. The clouds basically on the ground, going between the hills that we were going through brought home how true the name is. It looked like the mountains were encased in smoke. What a beautiful sight! The sun was peeping through the clouds only every once in a while, until we were a couple of hours on the road. It is always amazing how each mountain range is beautiful in its own way. John took off on a side journey he planned.

Getting to Deal's Gap, we stop at the bottom of the Dragon's Tail and Karen topped off her bike, so she didn't have to worry about fuel for the rest of the trip. And, of course, we had the chance to buy souvenirs to remind us about the Dragon. John caught back up with us just in time to head out. This was a good time for Robin to see what her new bike could do. Everybody got out onto the road and off we went. So many curves and so much to see, it was very nice to not be on flat land. I was glad to be on the back of the bike and able to see not

(Wing Ding 33--Knoxville, TN, cont.)

only the road, but the scenery also. The one thing I was surprised at was how many companies were out there taking pictures of everyone going down the road. It used to be only 2 companies, now it is 4. And I have to say the pictures will probably be pretty good. All too soon, it is over. That is not a very long stretch, only 11 miles, but lots and lots of curves. Not too long after that, we are almost to Knoxville. We stop in at Cracker Barrel to eat lunch and a little shopping of course. Also there was a bit of a nasty rain heading our way, so this would be a good break. After that, off to the hotels we all went to check in and then go to registration at Wing Ding. We are here! With that done, now all there was to do is have fun and more fun. And, hopefully, learn a little also.

Day 05 Wednesday

Since we don't have anywhere to drive today, we got a little extra sleep today. We found our way to the vendors where Ann found a new set of Frogg Toggs. She also found a new summer armored riding jacket from the GWRRA goodie booth. We heard Robin was lining up some custom work for her bike. Ann stopped at most of the jewelry vendors, for some reason she likes 'Her Bling'. I was looking at various trailer vendors and happened to find the folks that sold the F4 windshield. I made the deal and brought the bike in for installation. Finally making it back to the hotel, we caught up with everyone at the WingStuff.com store. Apparently Robin was having a serious attack of Bling for the new Wing. It ended up taking 4 of us to carry everything back to the hotel. I also had a CB antenna changed because the base part was coming apart. I also had a new front tire installed that kept me in the coliseum until midnight, the installers were severely overbooked.

Day 06 Thursday

We had planned a day ride today to ride the Cherochala Skyway. On the way out of town, we gassed up and happened to hear 3 men talking in Flemish from Belgium. I struck up a conversation, found out they were looking for directions to the same place we were going so we made a little group and off we went. We headed south out of Knoxville toward Tellico Plains where had a BBQ lunch and watched a Cherokee dance performance. We were told about some water falls on a side road and decided to check it out. The falls were very nice and after taking several pictures I decided to see where the GPS would take me. Guess what, 18 miles into the mountains and we found a dead end. So, 18 miles back out to the Skyway and off we went to continue our day ride. It was very nice, not too hot and the winding roads were a pleasure to maneuver. Somewhere close to Haw Knob North Carolina, we happened across another scene of a bike down, from the looks of it everyone was ok and it appeared that the rider couldn't make the curve, probably going a bit too fast. We continued on our journey and ended up back at the store on the Dragon Tail. Well, Ann decided she needed another T shirt, and off we go again, but for the first time for us, we didn't have a trailer behind us. We enjoyed the road again, and noticed there wasn't much traffic this time, that was very much ok with me. We finally made it back to the motel and Ann spent the evening chilling out while I went out to put new back tires on the trike. I didn't need them too badly but remembering the first day out and doing a little hydroplaning got me to thinking about it.

Day 07 Friday

Rex and I originally had a trip planned for the day to take a Dam Ride, but noticed the weather was potentially hazardous and changed our minds. Instead we spent the day together just hanging out and looking at vendors to see if there was anything we missed but had to have. This was also our last day at Wing Ding because tomorrow we had a family reunion to be at in Big Stone Gap Virginia. We decided to go to Chilhowee Park and see what was there. They had the demo rides there, with several of the trike dealers there, including the Spyder. Also, The Tennessee DPS had a booth there to educate whomever chose to be there, explain the state laws and just talk about motorcycle riding. After looking at those, we went to the Jacob's building which was housing the Women's Expo. Yahoo! Another chance at shopping. We met up with Mike and Robin there and looked at all they had. Already about noon, Mike and Robin were going back to get her bike, so they could take it and get her lights on and we went to the RoadSmith trailer where they were setting lunch up for all of us RoadSmith owners. We had

(Wing Ding 33--Knoxville, TN, cont.)

a great lunch, and actually not to bad BBQs sandwich, with ice cream for dessert. It was getting pretty hot, so we decided to go back to the convention center and chill out by looking around some more and to make sure we haven't missed something we might want. All too soon, it was time to start thinking about getting back to the room to do some packing as we were going to leave after the Master's breakfast. What a chore that turned out to be! For not actually buying a bunch of stuff, we got creative on how to pack everything up. But we got it done finally. It was pretty late when we finished, so we just went down to the hotel restaurant and had dinner. I do have to say they had some pretty good vittles.

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!



KUDOS TO...



- John English** - placed 4th in Top Gun competition at Wing Ding
Steve & Billie Fleming - welcomed granddaughter, *Noirin (Rin) Looney*, born on July 11
Beth Hartley - has reached Level IV
Jim & Beth Hartley - welcomed granddaughter, *Ella Hartley*, born on July 28
Leo Hanson - purchased a "new" 1800 Goldwing
Robin Smith - passed her BRC class
Robin Thacker - purchased Leo's 1800 Goldwing

NEED A NOTARY???

Robin Smith, notary and Chapter N2 member, is making her services available for a discounted fee. Contact Robin at 832-434-2991 or rfsmith1962@gmail.com.

COME RIDE WITH US



GOLDWING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION



CHAPTER N2 - HUMBLE, TEXAS

333993-01

FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

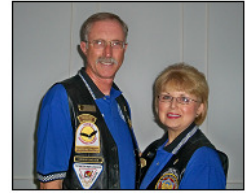
We ride Goldwings and other motorcycles and enjoy riding safely and having fun. We schedule several rides each month (*weather permitting*) and meet monthly at the American Legion Hall (307 Charles Street, Humble, TX 77336). Our meeting date/time is the 4th Saturday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Visit our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

MY NAME IS: _____

CONTACT US AT: _____ EMAIL: _____

By the Book

By Steve & Carolyn Cotton, Region H Trainers



The “By the Book” articles are intended to help familiarize GWRRA Volunteer Leaders and Members with the policies, procedures, and information contained in the GWRRA Officer’s Handbook (OHB). A copy of the Officer’s Handbook can be found at www.gwrra.org - Click on the Officer Connection tab at the bottom of the page; then select Officer’s Handbook in the upper right hand corner. Please feel free to reprint these articles in Region, District, or Chapter newsletters.

Thanks to David Barham (former Region H Trainer) for the inspiration to write this month’s article based on ideas he wrote in February 2006. Revisions have been made to keep it current.

NEWSLETTERS

As I was trying to decide on a topic for this month’s article, I came across some ideas, while reading the latest issue of my home chapter’s **newsletter**. I have had the desire to present some information about newsletters for a while now, so this seemed like the perfect time.

The main purpose of the Newsletter, whether it comes from your home chapter, district, region, or the international level is COMMUNICATION with the Members. So let’s talk about communication: What does it mean, and why do we care?

What is communication? It is: “the activity of communicating; the activity of conveying communication; interpersonal rapport; the art and technique of using words effectively to impart information or ideas.” Many different animal species, from insects to birds, rely on different forms of communication. But, humans do it to the greatest extent, and for much more than just survival like other animal species do.

Just how important is communication? Communication is the key to a successful organization, just as your personal success is dependent on the ability to communicate effectively. A primary method used within GWRRA is the Newsletter. The information presented below can be found in the Officer’s Handbook (OHB) on page D-8.

- Newsletters let Members and Officers know **what is going on**. Newsletters range from a few paragraphs on a single sheet of paper to hefty little booklets, complete with advertisements, put out by a newsletter staff. But, no matter how plain or fancy, the central purpose of its existence is to be a communication medium, both for and to, the Members. Everyone needs and wants to know what is currently happening.
- Chapter participants **cannot be charged an additional fee** to receive a newsletter, nor should Members be solicited for a contribution to receive a newsletter. Newsletter costs should be charged off as an operating expense to the chapter, and paid for from the chapter operating funds. It should be available to all interested Members.

(By the Book, cont.)

- The **format chosen** will probably undergo some experimenting, but the “heading” of the newsletter whether it is at the top of a page or on the front cover, must have the chapter name (along with letter designation and probably the city, gathering location and time), and initials or the GWRRA logo of our Association on it to indicate that it is a GWRRA newsletter. Your region and district designation should also be visible, along with the month and year. Other graphics and information can be used to “pretty it up” and individualize it.
- **Ads may be sold** with the proceeds deposited into the chapter’s operating fund, and earmarked for the newsletter’s publication. A charge of \$5.00 per issue for a reproduction of a business card is not unreasonable, but this can be worked out according to your local market. Any income derived from selling advertisements should be reported as Unrelated Business income.
- The newsletter will **provide an opportunity to “talk” with the Members** on a one-to-one basis. Information from national, region, and district should be included for the Members, and items to assist them in understanding the concepts, goals, and workings of GWRRA. Other contributions will come from folks like your Rider Educator with items on safety. Members may submit interesting items about trips, experiences, anniversaries, etc.
- Newsletters should be **distributed at least monthly** to all chapter participants, and also provided to the district, region, and home office in Phoenix.
- And last, **the Internet is taking over a lot of the distribution** of newsletters. While we encourage the use of this medium, we must also remember there are those Members who do not have access to the Internet. Therefore, hard copies of newsletters should be made available at chapter gatherings or mailed to those Members.

In conclusion, keeping our Members informed about activities, changes, and goals is a vital part of the success of our Association. The newsletter helps fulfill this objective, whether in hard copy format or published on the Internet, so let’s continue to provide quality and informative news to each of our Members.

Learn Something New...Then Teach Someone!



Kingwood Produce

Loop 494 (across from Second Baptist Church)
 10 am - 6 pm - *Monday - Saturday*
 10 am - 2 pm - *Sunday*

The produce order is picked up each morning from Atkinson Farm in Spring, TX and delivered to their location in Kingwood.

Kingwood Farmer’s Market

Thursdays

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Town Center Park in Kingwood

Vendors have fresh produce, flowers, breads and baked goods, fruits, homemade items, and more.



Wing Wisdom Whittles

August 2011

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.



Problem Solving

Many of us have learned the importance of building on our strengths as we face challenges each day. Poets and writers have instilled a sense of pride and accomplishment that comes from tackling adversity and “opportunities” throughout life. We gain strength and confidence as we push ahead – around, over, under or through obstacles each and every day.

Unfortunately, applying this rugged individualist philosophy to problem solving doesn’t always produce the best results. The most important resource is often missing: **each other**. *Life means nothing apart from other people*. Even settlers on the American frontier relied on other settlers regularly, whether it was cooperating as their wagons crossed the plains in search of their future, or joining together for a barn raising.

Friends can also help keep us on track, or help us to see the big picture. Perhaps their listening skills can help us to separate logic from emotion in a particular situation. Sometimes they have contacts to help us answer questions and avoid making mistakes.

Gerald Nadler in *Breakthrough Thinking* shares **eight basic errors** most often made in trying to solve problems:

1. Applying the wrong mental assumptions to the problem
2. Taking the wrong approach to the problem
3. Involving the wrong people
4. Trying to solve the wrong problem
5. Addressing the problem with the wrong timing
6. Exerting the wrong control over the search for a solution
7. Wrongly accepting a false or incomplete “solution”
8. Wrongly reject a true and effective solution

Imagine you are playing a game of Scrabble, for example. You are staring at your seven letters unable to see even a three-letter word that would add three points to your score. In frustration, you show the letters to your fellow players – they quickly come up with several high scoring words you could have made.

(Wing Wisdom Whittles, cont.)

You may not always want to “show your hand” so literally, but in many cases the saying about “**two heads being better than one**” still applies. Many effective problem-solving techniques involve sharing discussions with others. You may choose to enlist the help of friends for support, or a team to brainstorm options and then build on those ideas together. Whatever the situation may be, **don’t be afraid to ask for help!**



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

AUG

Steve & Billie Fleming

Wed., August 17 - (Italiano's, 217 FM 1960, Humble 77338 - 281-968-4591)

SEPT

Jim & Beth Hartley

OCT

NOV

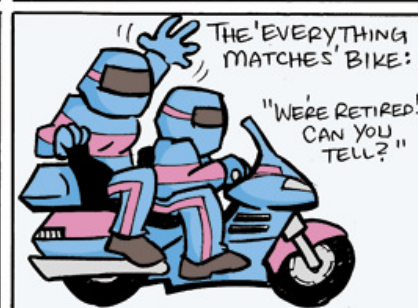
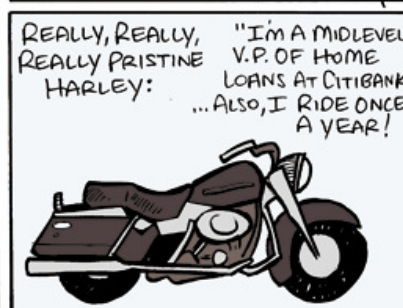
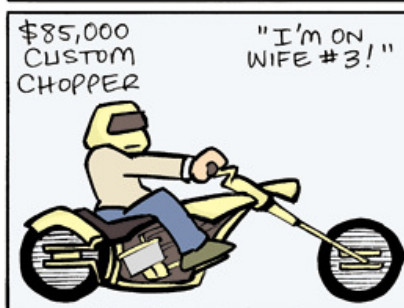
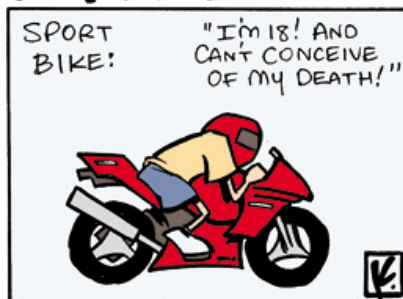
Jim & Lynn Flournoy

DEC

David & Cathy Southwell

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

TYPES OF BIKES...AND WHAT THEY COMMUNICATE



PROGRESSIVE DINNER RIDE - 2011

By Randy Rainwater

For those statisticians out there here are a few: 7 bikes, 13 riders, 37 miles, several heads of lettuce and accruements, multiple bowls of chips & salsa, a plethora of entrees, a few ice cream cones, four delicious pies, and many stories told about those that did not attend. You better show up in the future to defend yourselves.

We met in the Little Mexico parking lot in Humble at 6:00 p.m. and rode all the way to the Wendy's in Atascocita for our salads. When I looked at the temperature reading it was 93 degrees.



The second stop was Iguana Joe's Mexican Restaurant in Crosby.



(Progressive Dinner - 2011, cont.)

The third stop was Kingwood Church of Christ for dessert.



We needed a little more time between the main course and the dessert to do justice to the four pies, but we did our best on the apple, chocolate icebox, coconut cream, and pecan pies.

All in all it was not too hot, but Mike Thacker reported that he had hot flashes after dinner – but that was probably from the bowl of jalapinos he had with dinner. Rex and Ann were planning to have a Mexican fiesta for Sunday morning breakfast with their dinner leftovers.

Bob Moorhead did report that he and Joann have sold their home and purchased another home near Atlanta, Georgia, to be closer to the grandchildren. Most of us understand, but Bob and Joann will be missed and are planning to move during August.

Everyone had a great time, as we always do when we get together, and was already talking about bowling next Saturday.

Secret Sister Revealing Dinner*Tuesday, August 2*

6:30 p.m.

@ Robin Thackers

(23620 Oakwood, Splendora, TX 77372)

c#281-687-8548

Bring an appetite and your revealing gift.

Chapter J's Birthday*Saturday, August 13*

7:00 a.m.

Meeting at Flying J

Randy Rainwater will be leading the ride.

Keller Williams Friday Night Concert

King's Harbor on Lake Houston Pkwy.

Friday, August 5

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Free concert hosted by Keller Williams Realty Northeast.

Social Dinner*Wednesday, August 17*6:30 p.m. (new time)

Steve & Billie Fleming have chosen (Italiano's - 217 FM 1960, Humble, TX 77338 - 281-968-4591) for August's Social Dinner. Ya'll come.

Bowling @ Wilson Road

(2390 Wilson Road, Humble, TX 77396)

Saturday, August 6

10:00 a.m.

Lunch following bowling

Chapter X2's Birthday*Saturday, August 20*

8:30 a.m.

Meeting at Little Mexico in Humble

Mike Thacker will be leading the ride.

Breakfast Ride to

Magnolia Diner*Sunday, August 7*

8:00 a.m.

Meeting at Flying J

Steve Seligman will be leading the ride.

**GAME NIGHT***Friday, August 12*

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!

Honor the Military Parade in Splendora*Saturday, August 27*

8:30 a.m.

Meeting at Flying J

Mike Thacker will be leading the ride.

Following the parade, the festival will start in the Splendora City Park near City Hall. Activities include: pie & cake auction, Domino tournament, Chili cook-off, Texas-size slip & slide, moonwalk, tug-a-war between New Caney and Splendora Fire Departments, dunking booth, and BBQ-Hot Dogs-Tacos for sale. The money raised will go to the Wounded Warrior Project, a non-profit organization, whose mission is to empower the wounded warriors. The main goal is to thank the troops, in the area, for what they have done and to let them know they are not forgotten.

Chapter Gathering*Saturday, August 27*

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!

**GWRRR CHAPTER N2
HUMBLE, TEXAS
August 2011**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Secret Sister Reveal Thacker's 6:30 p.m.				Bowling Wilson Road Humble 10:00 a.m. Lunch afterwards
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Breakfast ride Magnolia Diner 8:00 a.m. Flying J (59 & 242) Seligman					Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. 	Chapter J Birthday Beaumont 7:00 a.m. Flying J (59 & 242) Rainwater
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Social Dinner Italiano's Humble Fleming 6:30 p.m.			Chapter X2 Birthday Bear Creek Park 8:30 a.m. Little Mexico Thacker
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
						Chapter Gathering American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. Theme: Potluck Honor the Military Parade - Splendor 8:30 a.m. Flying J Thacker
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

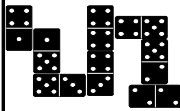
Birthdays

Michael Elrod	8/1
Gary Rabalais	8/2
CW Simmons	8/17
Gary Sanborn	8/15
Donna Uphoff	8/16
Darla Ingram	8/18
Carolyn Thomsen	8/27

Anniversaries

Steve & Linda Seligman	8/2
Randy & Sharon Rainwater	8/9

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
	<i>Labor Day</i>				Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. 	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Grandparent's Day</i> Milkshake Ride 7:00 p.m. Flying J (59 & 242) Nix			Social Dinner Hartley Potato Patch FM 1960 6:30 a.m.		TX-Y2 Convention - Tyler, TX	
11	12	13	14	15	Scrapbooking 7:00 p.m. Frazier's home	17
18	19	20	21	22	<i>Fall begins</i>	Chapter Gathering American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. Texas Honor Ride Fundraiser Conroe church
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Birthdays

Ricky Frazier	9/5
Stormy Young	9/5
Rex Nix	9/15
James Ragley	9/16
Jim Hartley	9/30

Anniversaries

Marty & Donna Uphoff	9/14
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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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If you know of someone who would like to advertise their product in our monthly newsletter, please get the information to Linda Seligman.



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