

# Gold Wing Road Riders Association

*FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE*



**Texas District  
Chapter N2  
Humble, Texas**

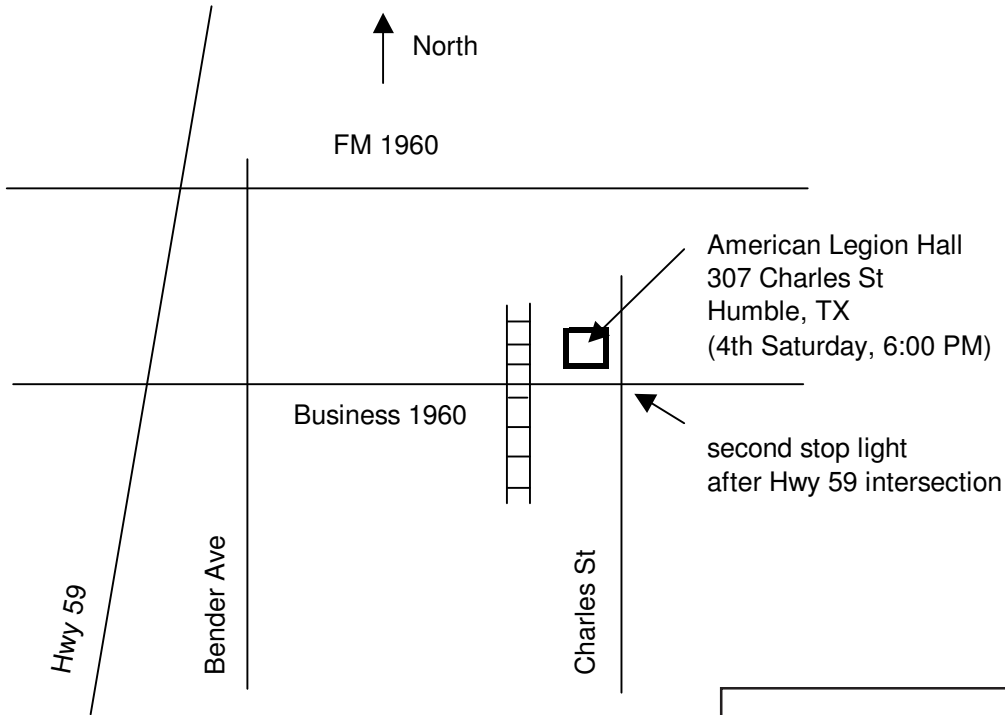
**South Central Region H**

## The N2 Buzz

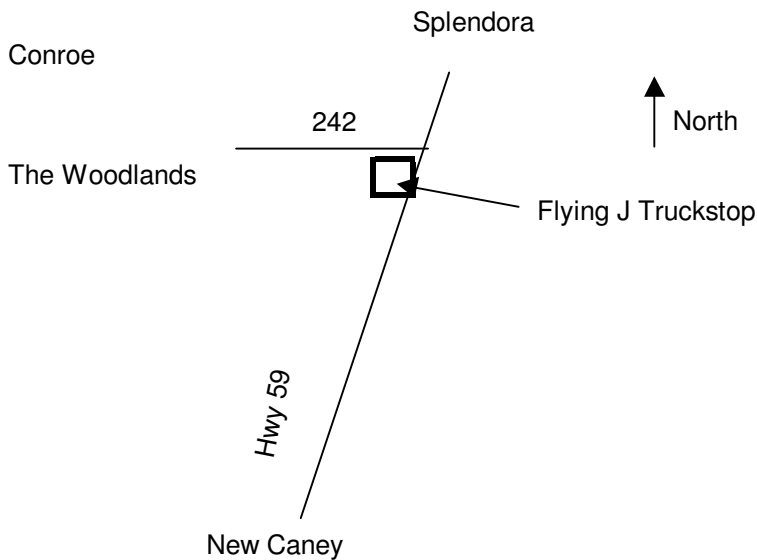


**June 2011**

**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



Linda and I were sitting around the other day talking about the fact that the big conventions for 2011 are over for the year (*except Wing Ding of course!*). We were a little sad--we have had a great time at the conventions this year. We then got to talking about what we did at each of the conventions. We realized that at the Texas District Convention in Killeen most of our time was spent volunteering. So I looked up the definition of volunteer--*"A person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking and a person who performs a service willingly and without pay."* This definition describes all of the members of TX-N2. While in Killeen, we volunteered to run the District Rider Education table, the MAD table, handle registra-

tion, provide vendor security, sell tickets for raffles, 50/50, Couple of the Year Baskets, grand prize, and the quilt. We also had members volunteer to set up for the party Friday night. It was awesome to see so many yellow shirts running around the convention center giving of themselves and their time. Linda and I then realized that the N2 members do not just volunteer at conventions, but volunteer at the chapter level. We have those that volunteer to be part of the chapter team. Those that volunteer to host maintenance days, create the newsletter, teach us about Rider Education, others volunteer to donate gifts for the participation drawing, and some volunteer to work on the scrapbook. I think the greatest volunteering in the chapter is among friends. It never ceases to amaze Linda and I, when one member volunteers to help another member--expecting nothing in return. So, Linda and I would like to say **THANK YOU** to all of our N2 family for all that you have volunteered to do and want you to know that we appreciate it all!

### May 2011 RIDE/EVENT PARTICIPATION REPORT



<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>#OF BIKES</u>	<u>#OF PARTICIPANTS</u>
5/01/2011	Ride for Kids	15	31
5/07/2011	Chapter LA-M Mudbug Rally	9	15
5/07/2011	Trailer Maintenance	2	3
5/10/2011	Secret Sister Dinner	0	15
5/12-15	TX District Convention	8	19
5/18/2011	Social Dinner @ Ling's	1	14
5/21/2011	Scrapbooking	0	5
5/21/2011	Chapter Gathering	2	44
5/22/2011	Lone Star Flight Museum Ride	12	29

### 2011 COUPLE OF THE YEAR

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



We're back from the District Convention and we had a great time. We were able to pack all the contents for the "COY" basket inside the trailer and the actual basket was strapped to the top of the trailer. We wrapped it in a large trash bag, so it would not get wet if it rained on the trip. As soon as we arrived in Killeen, we unloaded the trailer and carted everything

up to our room. That evening, we put the basket together and wrapped it in the clear plastic wrap. Thanks to Robin Smith and Linda Stich for helping us wrap the basket and decorate with the bows and streamers. It looked awesome! The basket needed to be in place at the Convention Hall on Friday morning, so everyone could start looking at all the goodies inside. The set of tires in the chapter basket caught the attention of everyone. Inside the basket were items "FOR THE WING." When they stopped selling tickets for the baskets on Saturday at 2:30 p.m., there were a lot of tickets in the N2 container to win our chapter basket.

he began to purchase tickets to win it. He told us that he spent a lot of money on tickets. We were excited for him and happy to see him so excited. We were told by Steve and Linda that the N2 Basket was the number one ticket seller; Chapter C was second place; and Chapter M2 was third place. Each chapter did a great job on their basket.

While at the Convention, Mike and I participated in other activities as well. Before we left for the trip, I had purchased a couple of pine car kits and built a fine looking pine car. I started working on it on the Monday, before we left for the Convention. I sanded and painted and sanded and painted and had it finished by Wednesday evening. The first one I made was the black pine car with the Busy Bee stickers. It was suppose to be a truck of some kind. I cut that one out of a block of wood. Mike claimed ownership of the truck. I raced the yellow car with the bee stickers.



The winner of our basket was the Chapter Educator of Rio Grande Valley. He was so excited! He told us he wanted that basket real bad, because he had purchased a Gold Wing, but had not added anything to his bike. After reading the list of items contained in the basket,



#  
3  
3  
3  
9  
9  
3

(Couple of the Year article, cont.)



Mike's truck weighed in at 5 ounces and my bee car weighed 4.95 ounces (*they can not weigh over 5 ounces*). By our surprise, my car beat Mike's truck and stayed in the race until beaten by the champion. I received a lot of pointers, this being my first time racing. All I know is Sherry, from Chapter O2 out of Brownwood, Texas (*this year's champion*), better look out cuz I will be making modifications to my ride and will give her a run for her money next year!

Y'all all know, while at the Louisiana Convention, we entered Buzz in the Personnel Mascot Competition and won first place. Well, I decided to enter Buzz in the District Convention Mascot Competition. I was going to dress him up as a cowboy with his little black vest that was made for him by a vendor at the Louisiana District Convention. One day, I received a phone call from Karen Frazier who began to tell me I needed to dress Buzz up like a police officer (*my chosen profession*). She told me that her brother, Kenny Shults, had written a poem to go with the theme of a police officer mascot. She had Diane, Kenny's wife, get on the phone and read me the poem. This is how it goes:

### Police Bee'zzz My Hero

By Kenny Shults

I'm the Humble Bumble and I'm a Bee, I'm dressed like my Hero as you can see.	As I straighten my stinger, I knew where to stick it, Right in his neck as you gave him a ticket.
I was flying along and then I was in trouble, A car was on me, so I kicked it in double.	As I go through life, now I have a backer, She saved my life, she's officer, Robin Thacker!
I flew faster and faster, but I could feel, The cold shiny chrome of a car's front grill.	Like my life, she has saved many other, Maybe your husband, wife, sister, or brother.
SMACK! It hit me right in the rear, But I'm still alive and that is clear.	To serve and protect is what they say they do, But they put their lives on the line for me and you.
Stuck in the bars and the wind in my face, I wouldn't last long at this pace.	Crack heads, robberies, rapes, and "killens," They save us from all kinds of villains.
Then I saw lights flashing red and blue, I was headed for heaven and then there was you.	Officers of the law and protectors of the masses, Keeping the streets safe and kicking criminal asses.
You made him pull over to stop the danger, And there I was stuck to this stranger.	Police officers are Heroes each and every day, Thank you, Thank You, Thank You, is what we should say.
Gently you pulled me and I was free from the car, And you pressed my heart as you gave me CPR.	If you ride motorcycles with them side by side, You won't know their Heros, their capes they'll hide.
I started feeling better and began to buzz, Then I remembered who the bad guy was.	But if you Buzz on by N2 and visit with me, I'll tell you what Heroes officers can be.

Now you see why Karen said I needed to dress him up like a police officer. I went to Michael's Hobby Shop the next day and began to look for things to dress Buzz up like an officer. I found a blue jacket and cut the sleeves off and the bottom half of the jacket and began to stick scrapbook stickers on the jacket to make it look like a uniform shirt. I think I had all kinds of military branches on this jacket. I entered Buzz and Kenny's poem in the Mascot competition and guess what...we won first place!

(Couple of the Year article, cont.)



Kenny has already come up with some great ideas for next year's mascot for the Texas Convention.

We have had such a wonderful time as Couple of the Year and we're not through yet. We still have other chapters to visit and other fun things to do. Mike and I wanted to show our thanks to everyone in the chapter for helping us with the Couple of the Year Basket, so we decided to have a drawing at the Chapter Gathering for a \$50.00 gift card to Salt Grass Steak House. The winners were Rex and Ann Nix. That giveaway was fun to do. We plan to have more of these giveaways at future gatherings. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.



### CHAPTER N2 MONTHLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT SOCIAL DINNER

7:00 p.m.

**JUNE**

*Mike & Nancy Morgan*

Wed., June 15 - (Spring Creek BBQ - 5613 FM 1960 Rd. E, Humble 77346 - 281-812-0645)

**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*

## Riding Aware...*Steve & Billie Fleming* Chapter Educators



### Ghost Rider

A friend told me about seven years ago, when I bought my first Gold Wing, that “the best way to survive on a motorcycle is to ride as if no one can see you.” If we ride as if we cannot be seen, it forces us to take the responsibility for our own safety a lot more seriously. Even though I have ridden motorcycles for over 40 years, that was the first time anyone told me that simple truth. I have been very fortunate for all those years; I have been down a few times through the years, but I have escaped serious injury from riding. Only once have I had a rider and I sincerely hope that is the very last time I have an incident.

### Beware of Gadgets



Our Gold Wings are a magnificent creation. Riding a Wing is like nothing else I know. We have all kinds of gadgets and creature comforts built into these luxury touring machines. We have stock AM/FM/Weather band radios that give a variety of listening pleasures. We add CB radios, XM radios, MP3 or CD players, radar detectors, GPS devices, and camera mounts to film our favorite rides. All of these gadgets or “toys” add to our riding pleasure, but they come with a price tag that not only puts a strain on our wallets, they tax our attention while riding. This often places us in peril due to drawing our attention away from safety, which should be the primary concern while riding.

I can attest to just how quickly something can happen that changes your ride. Most of you will remember that Billie and I were stranded in California in 2007, when a momentary glance at the GPS distracted me enough to prevent me from reacting quickly enough to a lady suddenly stopping in front of me. I have thought of it often. We were so close to missing her that reducing my reaction time by 1 second would probably have averted the accident all together. There were a lot of factors that contributed to the accident, glancing at the GPS was only one, but it was probably the biggest factor.

Taking a trailing course offered by GWRRA would have been very helpful as well, because we had just bought our first trailer at Wing Ding. I was not use to the added stopping distance required, when pulling a fully loaded trailer. I failed to give the extra space cushion which also decreased the amount of space to react to the situation.

Staying out of the center track close to intersections would have also probably given me better traction for stopping. Even though I broke the front break lever trying to stop, the bike seemed to just slide into the rear of the car.

The trailer continued forward, breaking the hitch and pushing through the back fender and twisting the frame of the bike. Long story short, it ended our motorcycle trip up the west coast to Canada and totaled our Wing. My brother had to come from Albuquerque, N.M. to Ukiah, CA, to pick up our trailer and take us back to his house. The lady sustained no damage to her car that I could see and she did not file a claim.

By riding aware, I could have seen the pedestrian standing on the curb and anticipated her reaction better. By knowing my route, I could have avoided checking the GPS at that particular moment. Using proper braking techniques may have also saved us. I am not sure to this day that I even used the foot brake. I know that for the longest time, I mainly used only the front brake. I have since changed my riding style. The Experienced Rider Course (ERC) taught me how to properly bring the bike to a quick stop safely by using the combination of both the front and rear brakes.

### Internal vs. External

I've shared with you some of the internal things about riding aware. That is the things that you have control over. Now let's look as some of the external things, that is the things that surround us that we should watch out for.

(Rider Educators, cont.)

### The Other Guy



We've all seen the Harvey Wall Bangers driving down the highway, weaving back and forth, crossing into the lane or running off of the road, while trying to mess with their cell phones. These drivers playing with their gadgets are responsible for many highway accidents and fatalities every year. What can we do to protect ourselves from this particular hazard?

Riding aware means that we are looking for the unexpected. That is the things in our immediate environment that could present a danger to us like someone driving erratically. If you see someone crossing the line or weaving back and forth in their lane, you should give them extra space. Ride as if they are intentionally waiting for you to come along side, so they can swerve into your lane and take you out.

### Space-saver (do-nut) Spare tires



Riding aware means that you are watching the vehicles around you. Lookout for the cars that are riding down the freeway with a space-saver spare on their car. That tire is not designed for high speeds and a warning on the tire tells the driver not to exceed 50 mile per hour. These are designed for temporary use to get the vehicle to a repair shop. A lot of people do not know they are not supposed to use that tire on the front of the car. If they use this tire on the front of the car, it will affect the handling and steering of the car. They should put the do-nut spare on the rear and take the good one from the rear to place on the front, if it is the front tire that is flat to avoid this problem. Give them extra space. That tire can blow and cause them to lose control of their car and take you out.

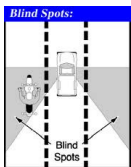
### Tire Debris



Large trucks often use re-tread tires, which come apart at highway speeds leaving dangerous pieces of the tire all over the road. This debris is common on our highways as trucking companies look for ways to increase profit by reducing operating costs. Some of these hazards are large enough to cause us real problems on a motorcycle. They can appear seemingly out of nowhere, when the car in front of you rides over it. Often cars will pick them up as they run over them and hurl the debris down the road and possibly into your path. Be sure you have your space so that you have time to take evasive action.

If you are passing one of these large trucks and hear the thump, thump, thump from one of the tires, make sure you get away from them as quickly as possible. The tire could blow and take you out.

### Avoid Blind Spots



Riding aware is being sure that you limit the amount of time that you are in the blind spot of other drivers. Our smaller profile makes us easily hidden by other vehicles and less likely to be seen in their mirrors. Even fluorescent clothing will not help us, if we are in their blind spots. A lot of trucks are posting signs on them that say, if you can't see my mirrors, I can't see you.

Stay alert and arrive alive. Until next time...lots of miles with lots of smiles.

### **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 [rsmith1962@gmail.com](mailto:rsmith1962@gmail.com).

**Leadership Training**  
*Lynn Heene, Texas District Trainer*



## **BEING TRUE**

Maintaining credibility requires clear thinking. Sometimes it's easy to compromise on a seemingly insignificant principle. The first thing to remember in maintaining credibility is that it is never easy. It takes strength, persistence, discipline and character. In fact, there are six key elements to credibility.

### **1. Be True to Yourself**

The better you know yourself the better the decisions you will make. Strong leadership is built on mutual understanding and respect. Leaders must ask constantly: Who am I? What do I believe? What do I stand for? What are my convictions? You must clarify your own convictions, beliefs and values. Once they are clear, you can incorporate them and translate them into guides both for yourself and GWRR.

### **2. Be True to Your Followers**

You are not there to lead them up the garden path. Strong leadership is built on mutual respect and understanding. Followers come to believe in their leaders and worthy of trust. You cannot only be seen to be true to your followers; you must actually be true to them.

### **3. Be True to Your Values**

Credibility entails being true to your values. An organization with conflicting values will never survive. Shared values are the glue that binds an organization together. In difficult times, return to your core values and stick to them.

### **4. Be True to Your Long-term Dream**

Credibility is built when we are true to our long-term dream. Every dream is a journey not a destination. As leaders you will have ups and downs, but it's important to remain true to the dream, even in the down times. Hang on to the dreams and be true to your dreams.

### **5. Be True to Your Purpose and Vision**

People long to see a consistent life-long pattern in their leaders. It gives them a sense of security that their leader won't change from one day to the next with the next wave. Keep your purpose clear, simple and honorable, be faithful to it. Others will believe in it when you do.

### **6. Be True to Your Principles and Beliefs**

Having principles is integral to all leadership. Beliefs and principles are what drive us. Always be true to your principles. Don't waffle or take a backward step as a leader. Be clear and precise. The world is full ambiguity and grayness; make a difference by standing out from the crowd.

***Be The Leader...Lead By Example...Maintain Trust...***

(This article appeared in the Texas District News in May 2011.)

Do you have a question about GWRR policy or operations?  
If so, here is your opportunity to receive feedback from the Director of GWRR.  
Send your questions to: [Director@gwrra.org](mailto:Director@gwrra.org).  
Questions & answers will be addressed in the Insight newsletter.

## By the Book

*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.gwrro.org](http://www.gwrro.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 Dale Wingrove (former Region H Trainer) for the inspiration to write this month’s article based on ideas he wrote in December 2006. Revisions have been made to keep it current.*

### **GWRRA and the Alcohol Policy**

Since it is the riding season for almost everyone regardless of your location and weather, I thought it would be appropriate to cover the Alcohol Policy of GWRRA. This is a very timely topic ***at any time*** of the year, but especially when our Members are out on their motorcycles riding.

One of the few “rules” we have as Volunteer Leaders (meaning a Region/District/or Chapter officer in GWRRA language) is the “Alcohol Policy.” And unfortunately, it is one that is often misinterpreted. During the times I have been involved in presenting the Officer Certification Program (OCP), questions and discussions always seem to need clarification concerning the Alcohol Policy. Information regarding the Alcohol Policy can be found in the Officer’s Handbook on page D-15, and the policy is stated in ***very clear and precise statements***.

Basically, the Alcohol Policy has four parts to it. As representatives of GWRRA, Voluntary Leaders may not (***at any GWRRA event***):

- 1) Sell alcoholic beverages,
- 2) Profit from the sale of alcoholic beverages,
- 3) Distribute as an award or prize any alcoholic beverages, and
- 4) Encourage its use by advertising its availability or causing it to be available.

While GWRRA makes no attempt to legislate policy as it relates to an individual’s freedom, we must give strong consideration to potential liability exposure of the Officer group.

There are a couple of areas where Chapters, Districts, and Regions have the potential of misinterpreting this alcohol policy. They may not have any type of alcoholic beverage as a door prize, or as a part of a raffle at a poker run or gathering. Also, they may not pay for any alcoholic beverages to be served at a picnic, get-together, or Christmas party. They are not supposed to advertise BYOL parties.

Now, don’t get me wrong. This does not mean that every Member of GWRRA must be a non-drinker or “teetotaler.” Although this policy may seem very stringent, it is not new, and has been in existence for many years. GWRRA Members may still exercise quite a bit of freedom, when it involves the consumption of alcohol.

This policy does not prohibit Members from consuming alcoholic beverages during a GWRRA event. As a matter of fact, any GWRRA Member may purchase and consume alcoholic beverages whenever they want – as long as it is not paid for, or encouraged by, a Volunteer Leader. Members may even bring their own beverages with them to a GWRRA event.

Of course, for those who ***do*** choose to consume alcohol, your fellow Members will still expect you to ***exercise good judgment and responsibility***. Even though most people are not willing to admit that they cannot “hold their liquor,” alcohol ***will*** affect your judgment. And, when it is time to leave the event, you are not only putting your own life at risk, but also that of your fellow Members if you choose to drive or ride.

So, in consideration of all your GWRRA family and friends, wait until you have parked your “pride and joy” and put it to bed for the night, before you celebrate the fact that you have just experienced another wonderful day traveling on your Gold Wing. Let’s stay safe out there, and not do anything that would bring harm to yourself or our Association.

Learn Something New...Then Teach Someone!

## Our New Adventure

By Diane Shults

*Let me tell you a little story...* It was 2005, when my sister-in-law, Karen, came home and said, "We are joining the GWRRA group. I know we don't have a bike, but we will soon enough." After several months, Ricky bought his Gold Wing from Mr. Mike Thacker and we did not see them for months at a time...and that's the end of that story. Karen has tried to get us to join since then. Kenny would have in a second, but I have always been extremely afraid of motorcycles! Time and years went by and she still could not convince me to get on the back of a bike. We started going to the chapter Christmas parties (*acting as their deejay*) and getting to know everyone in the chapter. They were so much fun!

Still I would not get on the back of a bike! Finally a good friend of Ricky's, Jeff, talked Kenny into buying a small bike. A VT500 Shadow and Kenny got me to ride with him to dinner one day (*less than a mile*). This bike was way too small and I wouldn't ride with him. Well again, that's the end of that story!

In May 2010, Kenny and I were sitting in our living room with absolutely nothing to do, while Karen and Ricky were off having the time of their lives with their GWRRA family! As we sat there, looking at each other, asked each other what we could do that day, neither one of us could decide. We had a little spat, Kenny went outside and I wrote down different things to do...(i.e., work on the inside of the house; go shopping; work in the yard; paint the outside of the house; paint the inside of the house; clean house; and go look at bikes!) I put all of the suggestions in a bowl and he drew. Well it took him several times before he got to: Go look at bikes! Really he said? YES, I answered, so I called my brother, who owned a Harley and off we went...JUST TO LOOK!

Well, needless to say, we went to only one Harley dealership and was there all day long. That evening, Kenny rode home on a brand new ULTRA CLASSIC ELECTRA GLIDE HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE! This is a much bigger bike and, although I was scared, I started to ride with him. Then we began to venture farther and farther out.

Although we ride a Harley, Karen & Ricky talked us into becoming associate members of GWRRA. As new "empty nesters," this has proven to be one of the best

things we could have ever done and "I" would like to send out a special thanks to Karen & Ricky for not giving up on me!

We went to our 1<sup>st</sup> Convention...the Louisiana District Convention in Lafayette, LA, on April 7 - 9. We were so excited; it would be the longest trip yet on the bike. I was on vacation all week, so I had plenty of time to pack...2 pairs of pants, 2 T-shirts, 2 pairs of socks, 2 pairs of shoes. Karen said I could only take two of each item. It was okay with me, because Ricky was taking our bag in his trailer. Wednesday afternoon, I was finally packed.

Thursday morning finally arrives, up at 5:30 a.m. and leaving at 6:30 a.m. for the meeting place...Flying J on 242 & 59. It was a beautiful morning and a wonderful ride...all was great! We arrive at the convention center hotel that afternoon. It warmed up a lot from the time we left the house and was really pretty hot by the time we arrived. I'm still getting use to wearing a jacket, so I was ready to take it off. Karen & Ricky, Mike Morgan, and us pull up to the hotel; before Kenny stops, I had already unzipped my jacket. Boy was that better! I jump off the bike getting ready to go into the hotel and it is still pretty warm. I AGAIN, unzip my jacket, all the sudden I feel a really cool breeze...OH MY GOSH!! I look down to see my exposed belly! I quickly turn to Karen and said...stand in front of me...quick! I realized I had unzipped my shirt as my jacket was already unzipped! I turn towards Karen and quickly zipped up. (*Guess that is why the Hotel check in clerks were so nice to us!*) And this was just the beginning of my adventure.

Still really excited to see what the convention was all about, we hurried to our room, got situated and headed for the hotel where it was being held. We watched all of the beautiful bikes come and go as they arrived...Gold Wings, Gold Wing trikes, and cool trailers. Finally there was another Harley. That way we weren't the only Scooter trash. Ha! Ha!

After we completed our registration, I rode the simulator bike...yep, crashed! (*Now you know why I do not ride my own!*) We looked around a while and went to eat "crawfish." Everyone was so nice and we met so many new people. Our own group made us feel like we have been there from the beginning.

The next several hours were spent sitting outside with everyone. So many jokes, and yes, there were quite a few about “HARLEYS” and “ZIPPERS”, horses, little dogs, and, of course, “THAT’S NICE!”

After our faces hurt so much from laughing, we turned in for the night. The next day was going to be a good one! We had a lot planned...shopping, classes, games, and Kenny still had to decide what he was going to buy...lights, pin stripping or having our names painted on our helmets.

We got up early ready to go and walked over to the convention and looked around, visited with everyone, shopped, visited again, and Kenny finally decided...we were going to get our helmets painted! We made the appointment and would bring them back later. We shopped a little more, then everyone decided to go eat at Shoney’s. I was very impressed...the food was great! We left there, headed back to the convention to take the Co-Riders Course. I was looking forward to this as it was going to be the beginning of our Level’s program.

We were all walking back to the hotel, when Kenny decided to stop and get our helmets. He told me to go ahead with everyone else, but I had to stop and go with him to help, as if he could not carry two helmets by himself!

We are walking, helmets in hand, talking, and then all the sudden, Kenny is picking me up! I stepped off the curb and on to a rock, my foot went one way, my body went the other, and my helmet went rolling...my helmet! We were in front of a car shop and I wanted to hurry and get up, before anyone saw me, but it was not that easy. (*I’m sure it was really funny behind those shaded glass windows.*) I could not stand. Boy, this was great! I thought if I sat there for a second, I would be able to continue on walking. Well, that did not work! I could not put any weight on my foot at all. I decided Kenny would have to take me back to the room for a while, yep, you guessed it, on the second floor and no elevators! Poor Kenny, but he did it; he got me up the stairs and into the bed. He put ice on it and I stayed off it for about an hour. We called Karen after a while and said we thought it was broken and, maybe, I needed to go to the hospital. Soon after, Karen & Ricky and Mike & Robin and Mike Morgan were there to take a look and yes, they thought the same...broken! They had already arranged to borrow a car and had it there. Mike and Robin drove us to the hospital.

After a couple of hours and several x-rays, Mike and Robin brought me back with a broken foot, on crutches and a temporary cast! Of course, the pictures had already circulated, so everyone knew that rock had really kicked my butt!! I was really bummed, but everyone was so nice. Karen and Ricky talked to our hotel manager and they agreed to give us a room on the bottom floor. They packed and moved our stuff to the new room. As I got out of the car at the host hotel, the manager was there at the door. He could see I had no idea what I was doing with the crutches and offered me a wheelchair. He was a lifesaver. I kept the wheelchair the entire weekend. Everyone made sure I was doing okay at all times.

As the Louisiana District Convention was our first long ride, my first broken bone, and our first convention and trip as members, we still had a great time and it was due to the people we were with. Chapter N2 has really awesome people, it truly is a “Family” and we are very proud and excited to be a part of it. Kenny and I are looking forward to the many new adventures we will share with our new “Family!”

I would like to say a special thanks to the following people: (1) Mike & Robin Thacker for taking me to the hospital and keeping Kenny and I entertained, while we were waiting; (2) David & Christina (*with Chapter M2*) for the use of their car. It would have been a pretty rough ride to the hospital on the bike. Also an extra special thanks to them for bringing me home and staying with our chapter on the way back! That was wonderful; (3) Robin Smith for offering to come pick me up in the car; (4) Karen & Ricky for making arrangements with the hotel to move our room from the top floor to the bottom floor and then moving everything; (5) Mr. Ed, the Holiday Inn manager, for letting me borrow the wheelchair for the weekend; (6) everyone else for the making me smile and keeping the jokes coming as well as the great support (*Linda & Steve, Steve & Billie, Bubba & Carolyn, and Mike Morgan*); and last but not least (7) my wonderful husband, Kenny, for being such great help!

So in closing let me just say...If there is any way you can make it to the Louisiana District Convention next year, make sure you go. It is so much fun and you will laugh so much, you just might wet yourself, but watch out for those Ninja Rocks and all the scooter trash. As for our N2 family, Kenny and I will see you there!

## TRAILER MAINTENANCE DAY

*By Rex & Ann Nix*

Saturday, May 7, was a beautiful day with mostly sunny skies and a constant breeze to keep the temperatures comfortable. It was going to be a great day to hang out and check everyone's trailer that showed up at the Nix's.

The doors were open and the tools were ready at 8:30 a.m. to start the day. We had a total of three people, two bikes, and two trailers for our second Trailer Maintenance Day. The first trailer was a cargo trailer and we decided for a full service. Up on jack stands and we were ready to get started.

Off came the tires and bearings. The bearings went into the cleaning solvents to remove old grease and grime. This allowed for a clear visual inspection of the bearing to make sure they weren't pitted, broken, or any other damage apparent. Also the wheel hubs have a grease seal that does two things; it keeps water out and keeps grease in. After inspection, their bearings were packed with marine grease that resists moisture and high temperature breakdown. Then the bearing races were inspected for any damage or extreme wear conditions. After passing inspections, the hubs and axles were cleaned one last time and packed with grease. Then all parts were re-assembled with special care given to the bearing tightness.

At this time we went under the trailer to inspect every bolt, every weld, the springs, the axle, the

tongue, the coupler, we made sure the wires were not damaged, the light fixtures were ok, and then the spare tire was carefully checked as well as the spare tire mount. Finally, the other tires were given a very careful inspection for cracks or any obvious damage and then remounted on the axles.

Now we made sure all the tires had proper inflation and we are nearly finished. We drop the trailer back on the ground, plug in the lights and make sure all lights work properly, before we move on to the next trailer.

The second trailer was a Kwik Kamp camper trailer and it was given the same treatment. After having done all the work on the camper trailer, we decided to have lunch. Ann had prepared hamburgers for everyone, while Rex was finishing up the last bit of work.

Along with chips and black beans, those burgers were cooked to perfection and we had a great lunch. We sat for a while just talking about anything a winger can imagine, before we called it a day. All tools put away and the trailers ready to go, we were all packed up, and said our goodbyes. The day was a good one, great company, lots of conversation, and just hanging out with friends.



### 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.

## SECRET SISTER REVEAL

*By Sharon Rainwater*

As Robin Smith said...there's a lot of estrogen in the air. So true as 15 ladies gathered together on Tuesday evening, May 10, at our gracious hostess' home (yeah Diane Shultz!) for food, fellowship, and the revealing of our secret sisters.

First on the agenda was eagerly filling out the information sheet on yourself to be passed on to your "new" secret sister towards the end of the evening. Also during this time, Diane was putting the finishing touches on our delicious meal...green salad, fruit plate, chicken spaghetti, rolls, and beverages. I would give her credit for dessert too, but she wasn't responsible for those delectable treats. Someone next door with a heart of gold and a bearded face made our desserts...RICKY! We got to choose between pecan pie and chocolate meringue pie (or if you were like me...both)...yummy! Mike Thacker doesn't know it yet, but Robin is hosting our next reveal in August. I wonder what he'll whip up for dessert. Maybe something fresh from the garden!

Next came the actual consuming of our meal and the reading of a poem created by none other than our in-house poet, Kenny Shultz, Diane's husband and Karen's brother. Let's just say it was brilliant and "bee" related and "rated." Such talent among our hive!

And then...the revealing! Karen was the gift distributor and did a fine job. Lucky me, I got to start the unveiling by opening up my present first.

And opening it slowly I did with Marie Rich leading the chorus...saying "just open it...rip the paper." Unbeknown to them, I really do like to open my presents *slowly*. I was asked who I thought my secret sister was...so I said a name...and was wrong. But either way, I made out like a bandit! And, I would say that was true with everyone except one. We were missing one of our secret sisters. I know the situation will be rectified in the end. I was not the only one who guessed wrong on who their secret sister was and many stories were shared as the gifts were unwrapped.

Next came the drawing of new secret sisters. Some had to put their form back in the bowl as they had drawn their own name...ha. With a shy or should I say sly peak at their "new" secret sister's form they held, you could already see the clogs turning in their brains as they contemplated what goodie they would soon be sending to their new "sister."

Karen shared a neat idea for "revealing" at the next revealing scheduled for August and she'll be sharing more information on that in the next few months. In the end, lots of laughter was exchanged as well as hugs and big smiles as we left to go home, having gotten better acquainted with one another. Life is too short to not enjoy! So whether it be activities like this or maintenance day or rides on our two or three-wheelers, it's never boring or more fun being a part of Chapter N2. We rock!!!

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## NEW ADDRESS



Here is Carolyn Thomsen's new address in Illinois for those who need to add it to their address book. In May, she suffered the loss of her aunt.

1702 N. Benton Street  
Johnston City, IL 62951

## MY FIRST TEXAS DISTRICT CONVENTION

*By Linda Stich*

On Thursday, May 12, we left Flying J, some in rain gear and some in vehicles headed for the Texas District Convention.

We stopped in Cameron, TX, for a tour of the Cameron Jail Museum. We had fun taking pictures of everyone in jail and Rex sitting on the pot. There were a lot of interesting items on display, including time period dresses, which were beautiful. We also went to the courthouse and looked around, amazed by the lovely woodwork. We enjoyed a delicious meal of fried fish, hush puppies, cole slaw, and huge cinnamon rolls served at Bea's Kitchen. Steve Fleming, our Rider Educator, delivered a great speech about sharing the roadway with motorcyclists. After lunch, we hung out for a while until the rain subsided. The senior citizens were very nice and friendly. Then it was time to head towards our destination...Killeen, TX.

We arrived at the Shiloh Inn in time to register at the convention center and attended opening ceremonies at Power Sports. After hot dogs, chips, beans, and sodas, we introduced our heroes and watched the race, cheering Linda Seligman and our "Mom" hero to the finish line. We didn't win, but had fun in the process. Back to the Inn we went and continued the celebration in Mike and Robin's suite. I told Steve and Billie I usually get up at 5:45 a.m. every morning and I would be glad to help them at the Rider's Ed table. Linda called me at 9:30 a.m. to see where I was...sleeping in no doubt! No worries, N2 was in the house and had Security, Rider's Ed, ticket sales, etc., under control. I enjoyed talking to all the volunteers, vendors, and GWRRA members as well as shopping! We went back to Steve and Linda's suite for a brisket lunch...umm good. I finally helped out at the Rider's Ed table in the afternoon. Kenny, Diane, and I went to Horny Toad's Harley Davidson to check it out and do some shopping. ZZ Tops and Leonard Skinner was giving a concert that night and we gave Karen a hard time about winning tickets and not inviting her. Dinner found us at Steve and Linda's suite for tacos and fixins and later to Mike and Robin's for a social gathering after the evening's festivities. The events included talent shows, contest drawings, and more.

Saturday morning arrived cool and windy. Again, more shopping, buying tickets for the 50/50, Chapter

Couple's baskets, quilts, etc., and some of us raking in participation prizes. Kenny, Diane and I went to the Co-Rider education class. Kenny and Diane gave us a demonstration of what to do if the rider becomes incapacitated and the Co-Rider has to try to safely get them off the road out of harm's way. Steve will process our Level I Co-Riders application and then our Level II Education participation. I learned I'm not supposed to be reading, texting, sleeping, or doing puzzles, while being a co-rider. Thanks to the Level IV riders, we were all able to attend the Level IV luncheon from Jason's Deli. We had two motorcycle police officers give us advice regarding motorcycle safety.

That afternoon at the closing ceremonies, Karen and Ricky were recognized for their outstanding contribution to the GWRRA convention and N2 was mentioned as well. We didn't get to bring any baskets home, but several of our N2 family won other prizes from contests or special event entries. The convention was a success even though it wasn't well attended, as in years past, and we all had a good time. In Steve and Billie's suite, we had sloppy joes for dinner and then back to Mike and Robin's for our last evening of fun, where Cat Woman and Batman joined us from M2. And then the unmentionable happened...someone had stolen our "bee children" off the doors and they are still being held against their will...that will be another story.

After breakfast in Rex and Ann's suite, we got ready to roll, but not until the hotel forked over the money they owed Mike and Robin. We had a great afternoon meal at a Mexican restaurant in Magnolia, TX, and then everyone parted ways. There were a lot of hugs and happy faces. I got Robin Smith home safely and all ended well. Robin was a great companion and we got to know each other a little better.

I enjoyed myself immensely and appreciate everyone looking out for me. George had to work this time and didn't get to attend, but he'll be traveling to Wing Ding, which will be a lot larger, while I have to work. Oh well, there will be other events. I'm really glad we have started participating more and enjoying the camaraderie of our group. Thanks for a good time, good food, and all the preparation.

[www.gwrri-n2-humbletx.com](http://www.gwrri-n2-humbletx.com)



## **CHAPTER N2 HUMBLE TEXAS**

# **Gold Wing Road Riders Association**

### **What is GWRRA?**

Founded in 1977, GWRRA is the worlds largest single-marquee organization for the owners and riders of The Honda Gold Wing and Valkyie motorcycle.

More than 82,000 members around the world in 58 countries.

Approximately 900 active Chapters managed by 4,000 volunteer leaders.

In Texas, we ride and promote safe riding by participating in GWRRA's Rider Education Program.

### **Reasons to Join**

1. Wing World Magazine
2. The Gold Book
3. Rescue-Roadside Service
4. Member Discounts
5. Premier Hotel Program
6. Conventions and Events
7. Rider Education Classes
8. GWRRA Credit Card
9. Wing Ding (Annual International Convention)

## 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](http://www.gwrro.org). For this and other news, refer to the GWRRA Home Page at [www.gwrro.org](http://www.gwrro.org)*

### DATES TO REMEMBER...

#### 2011

7/6-9	Wing Ding 33 - Knoxville, TN
8/26-27	Kansas District Convention - Eldorado, KS
10/7-9	Oklahoma District Convention - McAlester, OK

### SHOPPING...

Did you know we had the "rich and famous" among our chapter...okay...maybe kinda famous and not so rich. Robin Thacker was on a website searching for a hairpiece for her helmet and came across [www.hair4helmets](http://www.hair4helmets). When you click on IN ACTION, you'll see *Linda* and *Billie* on the news at the Biloxi Mississippi Rally.



# 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, June 3

6:00 p.m.

American Legion Hall  
307 Charles Street  
Humble, TX



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

### Texas Cycle Chrome Open House

Houston, TX

Saturday, June 4

3:00 p.m.

Meeting @ Little Mexico in Humble  
Mike Thacker will be leading the ride. We will enjoy an early dinner, before proceeding to the open house.

### Benefit for Jason Hallmark

(this is a co-worker of Daviette Slaughter's husband, Clint)

Saturday, June 4

6:00 p.m.

@ Papa's on the Lake  
14632 Hwy. 105 W  
Montgomery, TX 77356

Jason was injured in a motorcycle accident and has undergone 15 surgeries. The goal is to raise funds for Jason's medical expenses. Donations and different levels of sponsorship are available as well as raffle tickets. For more information go to [www.JasonsFriendsCare.weebly.com](http://www.JasonsFriendsCare.weebly.com).

### Royer's Round Top Cafe

Round Top, TX

Sunday, June 5

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Little Mexico in Humble  
Karen Frazier will be leading the ride to our lunch destination.

### Blueberry Festival

Nacogdoches, TX

Saturday, June 11

6:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J

Randy Rainwater will be leading the ride.

### Social Dinner

Wednesday, June 15

6:30 p.m. (new time)



Mike & Nancy Morgan have chosen (Spring Creek BBQ - 5613 FM 1960 Rd E, Humble 77346 - 281-812-0645) for June's Social Dinner. Ya'll come.

### Keller Williams Friday Night Concert

King's Harbor on Lake Houston Pkwy.

Friday, June 17

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

Free concert hosted by Keller Williams Realty Northeast. The Barry Sea Paradox Band ([www.barrysea.com](http://www.barrysea.com)) will be performing.

### Lone Star Cafe

Jasper, TX

Saturday, June 18

8:00 a.m.

Meeting @ Flying J

Randy Rainwater will be leading our lunch ride.

### Scrapbook Workday

Saturday, June 25

10:00 a.m. - meeting time

American Legion Hall

Come bring your flash drives, pictures, and ideas and join in the fun as we update the chapter scrapbook.

### Chapter Gathering

Saturday, June 25

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!

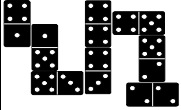


# Happy Father's Day



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

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. 	Texas Cycle Chrome Open House Little Mexico 3:00 p.m. Thacker-early dinner  Benefit for Jason Hallmark @ 6 pm
Round Top Royer's Round Top Café Little Mexico 8:00 a.m. Frazier Lunch ride						Nacogdoches Blueberry Festival Flying J 6:00 a.m. Rainwater blueberry pancakes for breakfast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		<i>Flag Day Reveal</i>	Social Dinner Morgan Spring Creek BBQ - Atascocita 6:30 p.m.			Lone Star Café Jasper, TX Flying J 8:00 a.m. Rainwater Lunch ride
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Father's Day		First Day of Summer				Chapter Gathering American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. Potluck Scrapbook workday 10:00 a.m. - meeting American Legion Hall
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

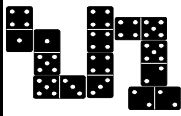
***Birthdays***

Karen Frazier	6/3
Mike Thacker	6/15
Brad Rodger	6/30

***Anniversaries***

Ronnie & Doris Ryals	6/10
George & Linda Stich	6/22

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31					Game Night American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m. 	2
	<i>Independence Day</i>		Wing Ding 33 - Knoxville, TN			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	Social Dinner Rabalais 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	Chapter Gathering American Legion Hall 6:00 p.m.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

***Birthdays***

Suzanne Elrod	7/3
Billie Fleming	7/16
Ronnie Ryals	7/20
Marty Uphoff	7/26

***Anniversaries***

Rex & Ann Nix	7/3
Jeff & Darla Ingram	7/24
Gary & Stormy Young	7/31

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

### **BARNETT CYCLE CARGO TRAILERS**

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