



Texas Chapter U

October 2006



Northeast
San Antonio

From the CD's **GWRRA Membership**

Everyone joins GWRRA for different reasons. Many to gain new friends, others for the rides and fun, and even some just for the Gold Book. Others of you have just been members for a long time. I would hope that most of you joined because you like to ride your Goldwing! There are no requirements to participate in a chapter and you can participate with any chapter you so desire. When participating with a chapter, no strings are attached, no extra costs and for most, no responsibility. There is a chapter staff who plans the rides, the meetings, does the newsletter, the website, keeps track of monies, help train and educate us. How much easier can it get to participate with a chapter than that?

The staff tries very hard to make the chapter fun for all and schedule rides that many will want to attend. But in some cases, not everyone will be pleased with the rides or how things are going or what we are doing. The meeting place or day might be a problem. The rides may be the wrong times or not where they want to go. We may ride too slow or too fast. Or maybe you have heard some not so positive stories about past history of the chapter. Is there is something you would like to see or do differently? Do you know a ride that the group would enjoy? Just let anyone on the staff know. Don't just give up and not come back, we need your feedback to make this chapter work; good or bad! I say again, we need your feedback! Yes, we will listen and try to integrate your ideas!

There are almost 90 families, couples and members in the chapter U area. The area is large as it stretches from 281 to Bulverde & Spring Branch over to New Braunfels, then to Seguin and down to Floresville. For some of you, it

takes an hour or better just to get to our meeting place at the Golden Corral or ride departure point at 3009 and IH-35. We have seen many of you and would love to see you all from time to time. For those of you that are new, come on by and meet new friends and have some fun! We have had quite a few new faces lately and we hope you will become regular! For those that have been long time members, stop by one of our meetings or join us on a ride. You are always welcome and I am sure we all can benefit from your experiences! For the rest of you who may not have attended a meeting or ride in some time, come on back. This is 2006 and we have a new group of people to meet and have fun with.

Check our website often: www.texaschapteru.org ! We have lots of great rides coming up in the next 2 months. We are picking up some new sponsors for the chapter as well. Joe Harrison Motor Sports has just signed on and we hope to get Alamo Cycleplex and the new owners of Wing-Things soon! Our door and raffle prizes should be much better! Hope to see you all there!

Ride Safe & Have Fun
Brad & Jill Severe

WHO WANTS TO BE A CHAPTER EDUCATOR?

The beginning of each year sees a changing of the guard for some of the Chapters. Chapter Directors step down and new ones step up. The same happens in Rider Education. The incoming Chapter Director appoints the Chapter Educator with the consent of the District Educator.

It is an intimidating thought, being responsible for the safety of your friends. If you think about it though, everyone is responsible for their own safety and the Chapter Educator helps each and

every Chapter Participant in obtaining and honing the skills they need to enjoy the sport of motorcycling.

You are not the Ride Police, you don't lecture, you don't preach....you do have an interest or passion in learning more about the sport and sharing the information.

Are you still interested? Read the information below which is straight from the Rider Education Guidebook and if you have the desire, let your Chapter Director or District Educator know of your interest. They will take it from there.

The Chapter Educator, The heart of the Rider Education Program, must have the following:

- Be a current member of the GWRRA and an Experienced Motorcycle rider.
- Be current level II of the Rider Education Program
- Be dedicated to the Safe operation of Motorcycles and exhibit a sincere desire to promote safe motorcycle operations through the Rider Education program.
- Be fully knowledgeable of the Rider Education program and its goals.
- Possess sufficient communications skills, both verbal and written, in order to be an effective representative of the Rider Education program.
- Have the ability to work effectively in a harmonious relationship with the District Educator, Chapter Director, and the Chapter members.
- Preferably be a MSF instructor, but not a must!
- Report activities each month to the District Educator

Duties of a Chapter Educator:

- Promote and implement the Rider Education program at the Chapter level.
- Promote and participate in such activities that will expand the Rider Education program. These should include speaking

at a Chapter meeting and publishing articles in the Chapter newsletter.

- Keep such records as necessary to facilitate keeping Chapter members current in the Rider Education program.
- Promote and/or arrange CPR/First Aid training at the Chapter level.
- Assist member in obtaining Riding Courses.
- Objectively observe and critique Chapter riding habits in a manner which will produce positive results. ***
- Attend your District Rally when possible and assist in the Rider Education Booth.
- Liaison with the District Educators, supply input and share ideas which will assist in making the Rider Education program universally accepted by your Chapter.

*** The way we approach this issue is not to aggressively confront a person with a riding problem, but find the training and things needed to assist the rider with a fault in making the choice to improve and give that person the tools and assistance to do just that.

Example: Your Chapter has a noticeable problem riding as a group. They believe proper following distance is anywhere within radio range. You grow concerned and want to make some positive changes. Arrange for a seminar, or literature to be made available to your members regarding Group Riding.”

Keep the Shiny Side Up!

**John & Lydia Bourg
District Educators
Master Tour Riders
4647 & 4646**

From the Co-Rider's Corner...

November was another month of great rides and great times with Chapter U! We are thankful for all of you that brighten our lives by coming and

riding with us and sharing your friendship! We hope we have upcoming rides planned to interest everyone! The November 11 ride to the Motorcycle Museum may make us co-riders thankful that the backs of the Goldwings are so comfortable while the ride to the Automotive Museum on November 18 may bring back all sorts of fun memories that we can share with each other. The last weekend of November, we have a ride to the historic Berclair Museum which is only open the last Sunday of the month for 2 hours! In December, we are planning lots of rides that will celebrate the season. December 2 brings a ride that will include a candlelight tour (in the afternoon) of historic homes in Gonzales. December 9 includes a ride to Dripping Springs and "Christmas on Mercer Street." December 16 is a ride to the Fredericksburg Trade Days (you may need to bring a trailer) which includes all sorts of Christmas gift ideas as well as its standard antique, flea, and craft offerings. Plus every ride we try to plan for great "eats!" Suggestions are always welcome both for rides and good places to eat!

We hope that we can offer both riders and co-riders in Chapter U something of interest so you will come out and join us for a ride. Perhaps you will get a little Christmas shopping in but I know that you will enjoy riding and sharing friendship with Chapter U. We are always happy to see faces we know and get to know new faces. So check the weather, dress accordingly, and come join us for some fun!

Jill Severe

Upcoming "Knowledge" Opportunities

Greetings to all from the Leadership Training Division. Magaly and I have been very busy preparing for the upcoming training sessions. We have a Horizon's Training in Seabrook on Saturday and Sunday the 18-19th of November. We have 24 people registered so far and look forward to meeting and spending some quality time with all of you there. There are still some openings in this training session, but please contact us soon to register if you would like to

attend. We have a number of the Knowledge Enhancement Classes scheduled during the Mid-Winter Roundup in Kerrville on Jan 6th. This will be followed by a Horizon's Training in Amarillo on the weekend of Jan 13-14 at the West Texas A&M Campus. We will be providing more details for this training in the November and December Newsletters. We are really pumped about all this interest and are searching for ways to better serve you, our members. Please feel free to share any suggestions you may have to better provide information and training to Magaly and me at TxTrainer@gwrratx.org. So, let's review. We have the following list of Training Opportunities:

- 18-19 November, 2006 Horizon's Training Seabrook Volunteer Fire Department Seabrook, Texas 6 January,
- 2006 Knowledge Enhancement Mid-Winter Round-Up Inn of the Hills Kerrville, Texas
- 13-14 January, 2007 Horizon's Training West Texas A&M Amarillo, Texas

So, the Texas District Staff is off and running to serve you, our Friends. Please take advantage of these opportunities and contact us if you see a way to make these wonderful fellowship opportunities available to others. Thanks for the wonderful support from our CD's as well as the Newsletter Editors who have taken their time to assist us by sharing this information with all of you. A special **THANKS** to Chuck Brom and Greg Garrison for their efforts in setting up the Seabrook Horizon's. Further thanks to Dave Griffin, TX-A CD for leaning forward to make the Amarillo Session a success in January. Without forward thinking leaders such as these it would not be possible to provide these training opportunities for all of you.

Ride Safe, Have Fun, Learn something each day and take care of your Friends.

Ron & Magaly Griffis

District Trainers

RIDING IN GROUPS

“Ride your own ride” is a phrase you hear a lot. This applies to group riding as well. You are still responsible for your own safety. What does this mean?

Be aware of your limitations. Is the group riding too fast for your comfort level? Tell them and if they do not slow down, move behind the group and slow down to the speed you are comfortable with. You can catch up with them at the next stop. If you speak up you may find that others agree with you. Some people love to take a curve with a lot of lean, some do not.

Be aware of your surroundings. The group is riding in traffic and needs to move over a lane. There are times it is not safe for the Road Captains to move the group at one time. Even if you are given the okay to move, look before you move. “Look left, go left” is more than a saying. Look to make sure nothing has changed and it is safe to move over before you do it.

Turning is another instance when you need to look before you move. The lead may have turned at the stop sign onto a new road but can you do so safely? Never assume it is safe for you to go just because the person in front of you did. Always look and decide for yourself if conditions are safe for you.

The holidays are coming up which means that there will be many sponsored group rides, such as Christmas Toy Runs, that you may want to participate in. This type of group riding has it's own issues. This type of group ride still rides in staggered formation but the formation is tighter.

Do you know the person riding in front of you, in back of you, next to you? Are you comfortable riding with people who may not have the same skills you have? What about people who may not have experience riding in groups? Are you confident that your skills are up to the challenge? You cannot always choose your riding partner. If you need a little more space cushion, create it. It is always up to you to create your margin of safety. If you do not feel the ride is safe, pull out and let them pass on. There will always be another ride.

Ultimately it is up to you to protect yourself while on a motorcycle. A law enforcement officer or friend cannot take away all the risk factors. It is up to you to minimize your risk as you ride your own ride.

Keep the Shiny Side Up!

John & Lydia Bourg
District Educators
Master Tour Riders
4647 & 4646

Ride & Event Schedule

Our ride schedule is very full through the middle of January. It becomes more and more fun as participation increases. If you haven't been on a ride yet, or haven't been on a ride in a while, please select one or more rides and put it on your calendar. The enjoyment of sharing a ride and the camaraderie is what this Chapter is all about, and it will be more fun if “U” participate.

We will be setting up a ride planning meeting sometime the end of November/1st of December to fill the schedule out to April or so. It will be open to everyone who wants to attend. This way you can make your ride ideas known. Details will be posted on the web. As usual, feel free to submit your ideas for rides that you think the group would enjoy!

November 2006

Saturday 11 November - Lonestar Motorcycle Museum, Vanderpool, TX We will eat burgers at the cafe there! Admission charge is \$5. Meet at Wal-Mart 9am. Pick up at 46 & 281 at 9:30 Maybe take a cruise thru Lost Maples SP if we have time!

Wednesday 15 November - Chapter "U" Gathering, Golden Corral Restaurant; 2301 Pat Booker Rd; Universal City. "Meet-to-Eat" at 6:30 pm. Information Sharing begins at 7:30pm.

Saturday 18 November - Ride to the Central Texas Museum of Automotive History in Rosanky, TX. [Click here for more info](#) We will leave the pickup point at 10am and stop for Bar-B-Q in Luling on the way. This is a joint ride with Chapter H.

Saturday & Sunday 18-19 November - Horizons class will be hosted by Chapter S2 of League City and held at the at the Seabrook Volunteer Fire Department.

Sunday 26 November - Berclair Mansion, Only open the last Sunday of each month: Berclair Mansion located between Beeville and Goliad. It is only open on the last Sunday of each month, and then only for 2. Admission is \$10. [Click here to read more](#)

December 2006

Saturday 2 December - Gonzales candlelight tour of historic homes. We will leave the Wal-Mart at 10:30 and stop and get some lunch along the way. Tour begins at 2pm.

Saturday 9 December - Ride to Dripping Springs for the 2d annual Christmas on Mercer Street. We can eat at the Salt Lick or maybe Riley's bar-B-Q. Details to follow soon.

Saturday 16 December - Ride to the Fredricksburg Trade Days, 2-wheel or 4-wheel should be lots of great gifts to buy! Meet at the pickup point at 9:30. We can eat some Oma Sausage or other vendor goodies there.

Wednesday 20 December - Chapter "U" Gathering, Golden Corral Restaurant; 2301 Pat Booker Rd; Universal City. "Meet-to-Eat" at 6:30 pm. Information Sharing begins at 7:30pm.

Saturday 30 December - Impromptu lunch ride. Let's meet and decide where we want to go!

January 2007

Saturday & Sunday 6-7 January - Mid Winter Roundup! District open meeting in Kerrville with classes and more! More info later.

Saturday 13 January - Fredricksburg National Museum of the Pacific War. We will leave the Wal-Mart at 9am and pickup at 46 & 281 at 9:30. Cost for the museum is \$6 [Click here for more info!](#) We will find someplace to eat downtown.

Wednesday 17 January - Chapter "U" Meeting, Golden Corral Restaurant; 2301 Pat Booker Rd; Universal City. "Meet-to-Eat" at 6:30 pm. Information Sharing begins at 7:30pm

Chapter U

Serves northeast San Antonio & surrounding areas

Acting Chapter Directors: **Brad & Jill Severe**

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Chapter U (new) website address:

<http://www.texaschapteru.org/>

Chapter Gatherings:

3rd Wednesday of every month

Golden Corral: 2301 Pat Booker Road

Universal City

Eat between 6:30 – 7:30

Fun and Information Sharing at 7:30

Senior Dating

Dorothy and Edna, two "senior" widows, get together for their regular weekly tea date.

Dorothy is always asked Edna advice. "That nice George Johnson asked me out for a date," she says. "I know you went out with him a few times, and I wanted to talk with you about him before I give him my answer."

"Well, I'll tell you the honest truth," Edna answers. "He shows up at my apartment punctually at 7 P.M., dressed like such a gentleman in a fine suit, and he brings me such beautiful flowers! Then he takes me downstairs, and what's there but a luxury car... a limousine, uniformed chauffeur and all. Then he takes me out for dinner... a marvelous dinner... lobster, champagne, dessert, and after-dinner drinks. Then we go see a show. Let me tell you, Dorothy, I enjoyed it so much I could have just died from pleasure! So then we are coming back to my apartment and he turns into an ANIMAL! Completely crazy, he tears off my expensive new dress and has his way with me -- two times!"

"Goodness gracious!" Dorothy says. "So you are telling me I shouldn't go out with him?"

"No, no, no," Edna replies. "I'm just saying, wear an *old* dress!"

A 98 year old woman wrote this to her bank. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in the New York Times.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my check with which I endeavored to pay my plumber last month.

By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the check and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honor it. I refer, of course, to the automatic

monthly deposit of my Social Security check, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account \$30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank.

My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways. I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and- blood person. My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank by check, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an offense under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope. Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete.

I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative.

Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Notary Public, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me.

I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modeled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

- 1-- To make an appointment to see me.
- 2-- To query a missing payment.
- 3-- To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- 4-- To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- 5-- To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- 6-- To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- 7-- To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required. A password will be communicated to you at a later date to the Authorized Contact.)
- 8-- To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 9-- To make a general complaint or inquiry, the contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

(Remember: This was written by a 98 year old woman)

JUST GOTTA LOVE SENIORS!

Mid-Winter Round-Up

Saturday January 6, 2007

At The Inn Of The Hills

Kerrville, Texas

800-292-5690

See The Texas District Newsletter

OCTOBER ISSUE At

WWW.GWRRRA-TX.ORG

for Seminar Schedules & Times

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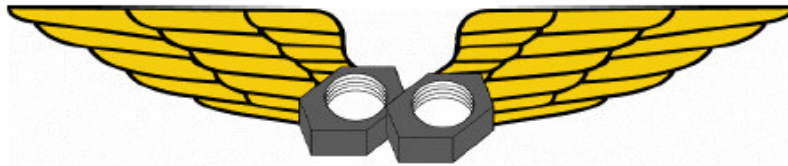
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