



The Texas District News

GWRRR Texas District Newsletter

"Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge"

From the District Director



April 2022
Vol. 1 No. 11

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Happy Spring!

The weather has gotten warmer, and the roads are calling out to us. April has been a great time to reacquaint ourselves with our passion of getting on the motorcycles and seeing our beloved Texas. Bluebonnet rides have been going on for the past few weeks. Chapter O in Austin held its annual bluebonnet rally. It's amazing how much more we can do now that COVID infections have been extremely low. As we move forward, we should continue to look for opportunities to attend rallies being put out throughout the year. Supporting your local chapters like chapter "O" in Austin is critical, as many of these chapters count on support of their fellow chapters to continue operating, and just like the District, much of this money that is raised goes to enhancing training opportunities, as well as chapter fun in the colder and wetter months of the year. These rallies are a great opportunity to make new friends, expand our world beyond our local town. Donna and I are hoping to see many of you next week at the Texas district yellow rose rally in Kerrville Texas. We have close to 150 registrations so far, and expect over 200 participants who will enjoy cool rides, training opportunities, fun, and opportunities to win many prizes!

Another great thing happened this month here in Texas! In Tyler, GWRRR has opened a brand new chapter with much fanfare and excitement. Thanks to the efforts of the new CDs, Karen and Gene Kaufmann, the new treasurer Tom Martin, and many new chapter members, this area reached critical mass for a new and healthy chapter. They will be known as chapter E, the Piney Wood riders. In this case, the E will stand for east as they are the eastern-most chapter in North Texas. Chapter E held a celebration meeting on April 12th. We had over 34 attendees from all across Texas as well as the assistant to the Director and District Director of Oklahoma, John Irons and his wife Sean. When we

calculated out the total miles for the people that attended, over 2500 collective miles had been covered. Mother Nature even put on a fabulous display of fireworks throughout the meeting including tornado sirens, horizontal rain, and fantastic displays of lightning. The storms were basically over by the end of the meeting, and everyone was able to return home safely. What a way to bring in a new chapter!

One thing we are definitely aware of is that the chapters with the most members attending the meetings are also those chapters who are scheduling the most rides, and visiting other chapters around them. This simply proves that an active chapter is a growing chapter. The monthly ARL reports are full of members who have either recently joined or folks who have inquired about GWRRR. You will also find many members who perhaps maintain their membership but have drifted away from chapter life over the last few years of lockdown. We may still see a few small cases of COVID, but one thing for sure is that locking ourselves inside our homes and watching TV is not what the human spirit lives for. We are social creatures. We crave company, We crave companionship, and we crave interaction. Hiding in fear is not living. For those who have health concerns, there are measures you can put in place, but do yourself a favor and enjoy those years we all have left. I know that at the end, we will not brag of the times we stayed home alone; we will tell stories of our years on the road in the company of friends far and wide.

Be safe our friends, and I hope to see you at rallies and on the road over the next year.

Dan and Donna Rymarz
Texas District Directors
txdd@gwrra-tx.org
(469) 669-9191

TEAM GWRRA

Directors of GWRRA	Jere and Sherry Goodman	540-623-0447	JereGood@aol.com
Director of GWRRA University	Lorrie Thomas and Dan Clark	N.A.	lorriemthomas@aol.com
Director of Membership Enhancement	Dan and Mary Costello	732-535-2867	mep_director_gwrra@gmail.com
Director of Motorist Awareness	James and Freida Clayson	N.A.	james.clayson@gmail.com
Director of Finance	Randall and Janet Drake	N.A.	financedirector@gwrra.org
Director of Rider Education	Susan and George Huttman	828-368-2249	director-re@gwrra.org
Executive Director Overseas	Alessandro Boveri and Mariaros Bruzzone	39-33-537-0468	alboveri@gmail.com

Information contained in this list is correct at the time of printing. To see a current list, visit: <http://gwrra.org/nationalofficers.html>.

TEXAS DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Directors	Dan and Donna L. Rymarz	469-669-9191	txdd@gwrra-tx.org
Assistant District Director	Sam and Anita Belinoski	936-582-0077	txadd@gwrra-tx.org
Assistant District Director	Tom and Dawn Sprague	858-755-6071	txadd2@gwrra-tx.org
Assistant District Directors	Lyle and Sheri Altes	512-415-1920	txadd3@gwrra-tx.org
District Treasurer	Alvalin Woodul	254-258-2043	txtreasurer@gwrra-tx.org
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Photographer	Donna L. Rymarz	469-669-9191	txdd@gwrra-tx.org
District Educators	Leo and Margaret Smith	757-753-3715	txed@gwrra-tx.org
Assistant District Educator Medic First Aid Coordinator	Leo and Margaret Smith	757-753-3715	txmfa@gwrra-tx.org
Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Gary Wheatley	713-859-6589	txmec@gwrra-tx.org
University Coordinator	Randy and Kathy Reese	512-744-3635	txduc@gwrra-tx.org
COY Coordinator	Lyle and Sheri Altes	512-415-1920	coycoordinators@gwrra-tx.org
Couple of the Year	Tom and Dawn Sprague	858-755-6071	txcov@gwrra-tx.org
Motor Awareness Coordinator	Sheri Altes	512-415-1920	txma@gwrra-tx.org
Ride Coordinator	Sam Belinoski	936-582-0077	txrides@gwrra-tx.org
Vendor Coordinators	Dawn Sprague	512-844-6033	txvc@gwrra-tx.org
Webmaster	Tom Sprague	858-755-6071	webmaster@gwrra-tx.org
Newsletter Editor	George Augustas	972-226-3845	nle@gwrra-tx.org

Information contained in this list is correct at the time of printing. Last update: 25 March 2022

Chapter Staff as of April 23, 2022

Chapter	Area	Chapter Leadership	Contact Info
E	Tyler	Director = <u>Kaufman, Karen</u> Treasurer = Martin, Tom	636-485-4319
<u>G</u>	Tomball	Director = <u>Deluke, Joe & Tammy</u> Assistant Director = Norwood, Brian Membership Enhancement = <u>Larry & Sally Dresch</u> Treasurer = <u>Stan Brown</u> Ride Coordinator = Greenway, David	713-498-3201
<u>G2</u>	Greenville	Director = <u>Wiggins, Jim and Barbara</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Barbara Wiggins Treasurer = <u>Augustas, George</u> Ride Coordinator = Wiggins, Jim and Barbara	903-217-4066
<u>H</u>	San Antonio	Director = <u>Griffin, Keith & Milligan, Paula</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Smith, Dan Treasurer = <u>Charles Fleming</u> Ride Coordinator = Charles Fleming	210-478-8928
<u>J</u>	Orange	Director = <u>Kimbrough, Randy</u> Assistant Director = <u>Jeanis, Charles & Kathy</u> Membership Enhancement = <u>Dorothy Thomson</u> Treasurer = <u>Pierson, Debbie</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	409-201-1955
<u>K2</u>	Castroville	Director = <u>Michael Pineda</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Open Treasurer = Charlotte F Ride Coordinator = Open	210-707-8411
<u>M</u>	Arlington/ Mansfield	Director = <u>Smith, Leo & Margaret</u> Assistant Director = Schoenthal, <u>Chris & Lynn</u> Membership Enhancement = Seguin, Jeff Treasurer = Greenwood, Mark Ride Coordinator = Hasiak, Patrick	757-753-3715
<u>M2</u>	Spring	Director = <u>Gresak, Scott & Linda</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = <u>Gresak, Linda</u> Treasurer = <u>Andrew Woodward</u> Ride Coordinator = <u>Tim & Kathy Bryan</u>	281-386-7800
<u>O</u>	Austin	Director = <u>Burnett, Ken & Terri</u> Assistant Director = <u>Jim & Deedee Evans</u> Membership Enhancement = <u>Winfield, Robby</u> Treasurer = <u>Winfield, Patricia</u> Ride Coordinator = Ken Burnett	512-497-1259

Chapter Staff as of April 23, 2022

Chapter	Area	Chapter Leadership	Contact Info
<u>O</u>	Austin	Director = <u>Burnett, Ken & Terri</u> Assistant Director = <u>Jim & Deedee Evans</u> Membership Enhancement = <u>Winfield, Robby</u> Treasurer = <u>Winfield, Patricia</u> Ride Coordinator = Ken Burnett	512-497-1259
<u>P</u>	Granbury	Director = <u>Roberts, Christie</u> Assistant Director = <u>Wheatley, Gary</u> Membership Enhancement = Eftink, Ken & Becky Treasurer = <u>Graham, Jeff</u> Ride Coordinator = <u>Eddie Roberts</u>	817-279-3928
<u>R</u>	Dallas/ Fort Worth	Director = <u>Walker, Don & Karen</u> Assistant Director = <u>Rymarz, Dan & Donna</u> Membership Enhancement = Walker, Karen Treasurer = <u>Moody, Bill</u> Ride Coordinator = Rymarz, Dan	817-821-4388
<u>S2</u>	League City	Director = <u>Newman, Scott & Debbie</u> Assistant Director = <u>Cox, Steve</u> Membership Enhancement = Koerber, Beth & Tom Treasurer = <u>Scholes, Jim & Genie</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	281-534-1864
<u>T</u>	Killeen	Director = <u>Soto, Jose & Celest</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Open Treasurer = <u>Brooks, Tim & Young</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	646-258-5308
<u>U</u>	San Antonio	Director = <u>Hay, Scott</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Burke, Shonale Treasurer = Morales, Maria Ride Coordinator = Shared	210-414-7288
<u>W</u>	Ft Bend Harris County	Director = <u>Shah, Ashar</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Gottlieb, Glenn Treasurer = Suzanne Neal Ride Coordinator = Coleman, Robert	248-227-2816
<u>W2</u>	Waxahachie	Interim Director = <u>Rymarz, Dan</u> Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Open Treasurer = <u>Byler, James</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	469-669-9191 972-679-3944

YOUR NEW TEXAS MEC (2022)

What an honor it is to write an article for the Texas District Newsletter. Looking forward to a great year within this district team representing a lot of great members of GWRRA !!! We are also looking forward to putting names with faces at the Yellow Rose Rally! We are going to have a great time! Here it is, time to get your bike or trike out and knock the cobwebs off, wash, wax, and get ready to ride. No wait, this is Texas, we ride year-round!!!

With all the bad news of chapters folding nationwide within the organization, we were honored to be in Tyler, Texas on 04/12/2022 for the inaugural day at the new Chapter E. Chapter Directors, Karen and Gene Kaufman, moved from Missouri and the Treasurer, Tom Martin, moved from Santo west of Weatherford, TX, to the Tyler area. What a great collaboration that was!!! If I am right, there were 38 in attendance at the meeting.

Our main concern this year is promoting efforts from all chapters in reaching out for new members. Yes, fun is what it is all about, but we also want to share that fun with new members.

What we will be working on in the future will be ensuring chapters that do not have either new members or prospective members on the ARL, reach out to the District Texas category that are not assigned anywhere, and also Expiring and Expired members.

Gary & Becky Wheatley. Texas MEC

txmec@gwrra-tx.org

Coming Events

Date	Chapter	Event	Location	Contact/E-Mail	Phone
April 28–30	TX	<u>Texas District Rally</u> (See flyer in this newsletter.)	Y.O. Ranch Hotel 2033 Sidney Baker St Kerrville, Texas	Dan and Donna Rymarz txdd@gwrra-tx.org	469-669-9191
May 19–21	AR	<u>Arkansas District Rally</u>	Quality Inn Convention Ctr Harrison, AR	Louis and Pam Wofford director@argwrra.org	479-883-2621
June 28–July 2	*	<u>Wing Ding 43</u>	Shreveport Convention Centre Shreveport, LA	http://gwrra.org https://wing-ding.org/	800-843-9460
October 29–29	OK	<u>Oklahoma District Rally</u>	Ponca City, Oklahoma	John and Shawn Irons Ironsline3414@gmail.com	405-747-4618

Chapter Visits

First off, I would like to thank the Chapters that Sheri and I have visited this past month for the warm welcome we have received. It has been great to get to meet as many of you and to get reacquainted with a lot of old friends we have not seen in a long time due to covid and general life events. If we or someone else from the District staff have not visited your Chapter yet be assured we are coming.

The purpose of these visits by the District staff is to get to know the Chapters and the members to help assist us to better inform and help you with any questions, ideas, or issues you may have, and help your Chapter to continue to run smoothly. We at the District want you to know we are here to support the Chapters and their members.

When we visit we will try to pass on the latest news on what's going on around the State or within GWRRA, this includes any training that is coming up including ARC, TRC, Medic First Aid, GWRRA University classes etc. Or if you want to hold one of these training events we will be glad to help you plan, and set it up. We also will bring flyers/registration or other information about Rallies, Ride-Ins, or other events that are being held around the District. If you would want assistance in planning and/or setting up such an event we will be glad to help you. We are also there to pass along ideas and gather ideas on recruiting new members. We will try to answer any questions you have about GWRRA or other general questions you might have, and if we don't have the answer at the time we will find out and get back to you with an answer.

We are presently working on putting together a packet that we can bring with us to the Chapters that will have brochures on things like the Levels program, Motorist Awareness, etc. that we can hand out or leave with you. Remember we are here to support you the members so please ask any questions you have, or pass along any ideas you might have, we will answer the questions to the best of our ability and spread your ideas along to others, who knows who those ideas could help.

Hope to see you at the District Rally. It should be a lot of fun, and if we don't see you there, we will see you soon at one of your Chapter events.

Lyle & Sheri Altes

Texas Assistant District Directors

GWRRA



GWRRA

UNIVERSITY UPDATE

March 2022



Randy and Kathy Reese

Texas District University Coordinators

512-744-3635 rmreese@sbcglobal.net

ITCP and GW-101 Multi-District Training

Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Kansas are teaming together to host two Training classes over the long Labor Day Weekend, September 3 and 4, 2022. Both classes are FREE and will be held in Stroud, Oklahoma. See the flyer below for details and contact persons.



SEPTEMBER 3 & 4, 2022

GWRRA UNIVERSITY TRAINING EVENT

Presented by the multi district areas of Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas and Texas & the Director of GWRRA University, Lorrie Thomas as she helps us in this weekend's training.

Sept 3: ITCP Instructor Training. With this you will be able to facilitate any module on the University site that your RE levels would allow. In order to participate you must:

- First you must watch the 4 videos at gwrradot.com under the tab "ITCP Training"
- Then complete the ITCP Inquiry Form
- Finally, Lorrie will contact you by Zoom for an instructor's interview.

This must be done before you can participate in the Instructor Training.

Sept 4: This will be GWRRA 101 – A great opportunity to learn more of the history and leadership responsibilities in GWRRA. Anyone who is a member will benefit from this training

Please RSVP Mark Classen

mnlclassen@gmail.com

by 6/30/2022

8:00am – 5pm
Event held at the
Cattle Country Lodge
1200 N 8th Ave
Stroud Oklahoma
74079



Reminder
Please bring your GWRRA
membership card the day of
event Thank you!!

No Charge on Sessions

Lunch costs TBA

ROOMS WILL BE HELD AT
THE CATTLE COUNTRY
LODGE. PLEASE CONTACT
THE LODGE FOR ROOM
INFORMATION

Be sure to mention GWRRA
 Training Event

918-968-9515

Keep Calm, Safety On

Leo Smith, Jr. —GWRRR Texas District Educator

After an accident, the people you ride with want to be useful. They will feel helpless enough if they aren't medical professionals with adequate gear to start making a difference, for in serious accidents, first aid seems superficially valuable or is even impossible to render. If they have access to communications and to important information, however, they can still help save your life. Here are a few tips to keep in mind should you incur such a situation. The first four are offered to enable your fellow riders to help you immediately, the rest over the longer term.

Carry a mobile phone when you ride, if possible. If you don't have one or forgot to bring it, ask who in the group has one and where on the bike it is kept. It also helps to have an ICE (In Case of Emergency) number listed.

Carry legible ID and keep it current. If you've moved since your driver's license was issued, you can get a ticket for failing to update it -- as well as cause confusion about such basics as "where does he/she live?" Check or sign the organ donor box on it, if you would want to donate in a worst-case scenario.

Carry a list of medications you take routinely and keep it current. List allergies or medical conditions that EMS techs/ doctors need to know about in order to treat you.

Carry a list of persons to contact and their current telephone numbers, including area codes. If those living with you are likely to be hard to reach, or you live alone, friends who ride with you should be able to figure out easily who to call from information on your bike or your person. (Even if they can gain access to your home by taking your keys from the scene, it doesn't mean they can find your address book).

Hospital and emergency personnel will presume that an unconscious person has given them consent to save his or her life. But even when a rider has a close family member who can legally take over subsequent medical decisions (as far as the hospital's lawyers are concerned), your fellow members may still be uncertain about which family member should be given your valuables, your keys, your jewelry, and access to your home -- especially if the family members argue about it when they get together to meet the witnesses and pick these items up.

It is unfortunately only a cheerful fiction that all of a downed rider's brothers and sisters and in-laws will be getting along splendidly the week that an accident happens -- not to mention the new lover and the ex-spouse. Would you want your cousin who's on parole rummaging through your mail while you're laid up? If you have no skeletons in your closet of relatives, you can ignore these suggestions. But for many of us, there are some troublesome realities among our relatives. So, for the longer term....

Have a durable Power of Attorney prepared appointing someone close to you to be in charge of your business and legal affairs, in writing. "Durable" means the person designated can act for you even if you could not act for yourself (i.e., if you were unconscious, or sedated for a long time). This is not a "form" document that you can buy, but it is usually inexpensive to have it prepared. "Close" means living in your area as well as close by relationship: if someone is making decisions critical to your well-being, he or she will be better informed after talking to your doctors face to face, if possible.

If you have given someone verbal authority to act for you in an emergency, do not leave written authority appointing someone else. Revoke conflicting Powers of Attorney and have a correct one prepared. Then tell someone who rides with you whom you designated! If you don't want to discuss this every time you go out, put a copy of the durable Power of Attorney with the list of phone numbers on your bike, or leave it with someone who is on that list of persons to notify in case of an accident.

If you're riding with someone who goes down and are helping at an accident scene, get the name of the investigating officer in charge and find out where the vehicles are going and where the accident report will be. Take photos if you can. Retrieve the rider's ID, insurance card and personal items from the bike and protect them. Find the lists of phone numbers and medications as soon as possible.

Riders who witness a serious accident will be somewhat in shock even if they were uninjured. If you are managing an accident scene where a friend has been hurt, let bystanders help you as well as your friend, if they can. Don't rush to get to the hospital once your injured friend has been removed from the scene. Take time to collect yourself before riding again. Have a drink of water (shock can make you dry-mouthed), and try to remember to thank the emergency personnel and any bystanders who helped you, before you leave

Revised from GWRRR NC District Newsletter May 2021

Ride Safe, Ride Smart!
Leo Smith Jr
GWRRR TX District Educator

Ride Coordinator

To Be or Not To Be... With Your Helmet

In our continuing effort to encourage a progressive motorcycle safety program, we hereby announce a unique policy that will hopefully benefit all riders. It is a motorcycle helmet exemption program. If you are one of those “hard headed individuals” that wants to let your hair blow in the breeze, who feels a helmet shortens his/her neck, and that in general it is just a pain in the “you-know-what”, this program is for you.

Every rider is “suggested” to wear a helmet while riding. But, if you earn a Certificate of Exemption, you will be excused from this requirement. The program works like this: Basically, if your head meets the standards for head protection, you don't need a helmet. Contact the chapter educator to be tested at the earliest possible date. Upon success for completion of testing, you will receive a beautiful embossed certificate, suitable for framing, identifying your head as conforming to American National Standards Institute (ANSI Z89 and Z89.2, Classes A, B, C, and D) and Department of Transportation (DOT). You will also receive a wallet-sized card that you must carry on the motorcycle. The test includes the following:

1. You will undergo a 24-hour water immersion test. The maximum permitted absorption is 0.5% by weight. The chapter, at no charge, will furnish air.
2. Passing that, an impact test will be conducted. While lying horizontally, with your head resting on a steel plate, an 8-pound steel ball will be dropped on it several times from a height of five feet without damaging your hair.
3. Next, your head will be subjected to the application of a variety of acids, solvents, oils and road surfaces. It must pass without damage or deficiencies.
4. Then, a propane torch will be used to determine if your head is fire resistant. If only slow burning, you may achieve a Class A or B rating. If there are any holes in your head, it will restrict you from Class A rating.
5. On the final test, you must sustain 2,200 volts AC, 60 Hz, for three minutes with leakage currents not to exceed 9 milliamperes. Breakdown has been established at 30,000 volts.
6. All tests must be conducted at a variety of temperatures ranging from -20 degrees to 140 degrees Fahrenheit.

If you don't feel you can qualify, don't despair. Although not as pretty as your hairdo, your motorcycle helmet does provide protection for your head from all the above.

Remember, unless you can receive an Exemption Certificate, you should continue wearing your motorcycle helmet. Not wearing one is a privilege that will be granted only to those who are properly certified and designated as a genuine HARD HEAD!

Sam & Anita Belinoski

Former District Educators

Note: This article originally appeared in the August 2006 issue of *The Touring B News*. Reprinted by permission of author. —*Editor*

GWRRA TEXAS



THE YELLOW ROSE RALLY

APRIL 28, 29, 30 2022

Y.O. Ranch Hotel and Conference Center

2033 Sidney Baker Street

Kerrville, Texas 78028

\$99 a night

Reservations: (830) 257-4440

Vendors, Scenic Rides, Games, Bike and Light

Shows, GWRRA Training Opportunities

Friends and Fun, ALL ARE WELCOME!



Texas District Rally
“The Yellow Rose Rally”
 April 28-30, 2022
 Y.O. Ranch Hotel and Conference Center
 2033 Sidney Baker Street
 Kerrville, Texas 78028



Rally Pins to the first 200 registered
 All Pre-Registrations must be postmarked by **April 21st, 2022**
No refunds of registration postmarked after April 22nd, 2022

<u>District</u> _____	<u>Registration form</u>	<u>Chapter</u> _____	<u>Miles Traveled</u>
<u>Rider</u>	GWRRRA#	Exp: Date	DOB:
<u>2nd Rider/Co Rider</u>	GWRRRA#	Exp: Date	DOB:
<u>Address</u>			
<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>	<u>Phone ()</u>
<u>Rider's e-mail</u>	<u>2nd Rider's e-mail</u>		

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>(All On Site Registrations will be an additional \$5)</u>	<u>QTY</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>GWRRRA Pre-Registered Member</u>		_____	\$30 ea	_____
<u>GWRRRA Life Member</u>		_____	\$20 ea	_____
<u>NON-MEMBERS</u>		_____	\$40 ea	_____
<u>Child 15 years or younger is FREE with registered Adult</u>		_____		_____
GRAND TOTAL				_____

Waiver: I/We agree to hold harmless GWRRRA, the Co-Sponsoring Organization, and any Property owners for any loss or injuries to self or property in which I/we may become involved by reason of participation in this event. I/We also agree to assume responsibility for any property I/We knowingly damage.

Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

2nd Rider/Co-Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sign form and Mail with payment (payable to GWRRRA-Texas) to: Texas District, 4024 Sunflower Lane, Plano, TX 75024

