

# The Texas District News

#### GWRRA Texas District Newsletter

"Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge"

#### From the District Director

May 2022 Vol. 1 No. 12A

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#### Hope you're having a wonderful spring!

This is our favorite time of year. It is the beginning of rally season! At the end of last month, April, Texas held its first district rally in several years. The pandemic had kept us at home and isolated the last couple of years, but it appears to be over for the most part. Texas, along with several of our friends from other states, got together in Kerrville at the YO Ranch [Resort] for the "Yellow Rose Rally." Most would agree that this was a great success. Our training classes were full, we had a fair amount of vendors, and folks took to the roads, enjoyed the good weather and had some great rides in the Hill Country. All who attended enjoyed fun, friendship, and plenty of discussions about safety. The revenue we raised will go to support training and educational opportunities throughout the next [year].

A couple of weeks after our rally, 19 other Texas GWRRA members traveled up to Harrison AR to enjoy their 2022 district rally. We came decked out in our finest Texas apparel and showed them that we Texans travel and support our friends in the other districts. They held a great rally with plenty of training opportunities, games, and friends to spend time with. The weather was a little bit more challenging as storms rolled through. Arkansas roads must be some of the best for riding your motorcycle on! We will be back next year, and in force!

At the end of June, we are planning to attend another great Rally event. Wing Ding is being held just across the border in Shreveport Louisiana. Most of you who are planning to attend have already registered. We will be reaching out to those Texans who have also registered to help us with the bike show, which is

something we traditionally do every year at Wing Ding. They've also given us a list of time slots for registration, and for being door greeters, for those interested in helping out. We hope to see you there. One thing of note, when we are in Texas, we love to see chapter colors. It is a great sense of pride when a wave of colors shows up for a gathering or ride. When we leave Texas to remote events, it would be a good thing for us to all show our Texas pride, to break out our Texas flag attire, and represent the Texas as a whole. If possible, find Texas themed shirts or hats, and proudly proclaim Texas is in the house! Texas District staff will be decorating several tables at Wing Ding with vases of yellow roses, bluebonnets, and Texas flags. Come join us!

As a word of caution, as we move from spring to summer, remember, that it is not only important to be visible, but to stay hydrated. The Texas heat can suck the energy out of you, and dehydration can affect your ability to concentrate and ride vour motorcycle safely. Have a strategy to make sure you are stopping frequently enough to keep yourself healthy in the summer heat. While I enjoy more than my share my coffee, drinks with caffeine will exacerbate dehydration. Water or Gatorade-like drinks are the best to keep your electrolytes up and the temperatures down. There is nothing wrong with visiting DQ for ice cream and some air conditioning. It's what us Gold Wingers are famous for!

Keep riding frequently and safely, and we hope to see you out on the roads, and in the rallies!

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
<b>Executive Director Overseas</b>	Alessandro Boveri and Mariarosa 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: <a href="http://gwrra.org/nationalofficers.html">http://gwrra.org/nationalofficers.html</a>.

## **TEXAS DISTRICT OFFICERS**

District Directors	Dan and Donna L. Rymarz	469-669-9191	txdd@gwrra-tx.org
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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
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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
<b>University Coordinator</b>	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	txcoy@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
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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
Е	Tyler	Director = <u>Kaufman, Karen</u> Treasurer = Martin, Tom	636-485-4319
<u>G</u>	Tomball	Director = Deluke, Joe & Tammy Assistant Director = Norwood, Brian Membership Enhancement = Larry & Sally Dresch Treasurer = Stan Brown Ride Coordinator = Greenway, David	713-498-3201
<u>G2</u>	Greenville	Director = Wiggins, Jim and Barbara Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Barbara Wiggins Treasurer = Augustas, George Ride Coordinator = Wiggins, Jim and Barbara	903-217-4066
<u>H</u>	San Antonio	Director = Griffin, Keith & Milligan, Paula Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Smith, Dan Treasurer = Charles Fleming Ride Coordinator = Charles Fleming	210-478-8928
<u>J</u>	Orange	Director = Kimbrough, Randy Assistant Director = Jeanis, Charles & Kathy Membership Enhancement = Dorothy Thomson Treasurer = Pierson, Debbie Ride Coordinator = Open	409-201-1955
<u>K2</u>	Castroville	Director = Michael Pineda Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Open Treasurer = Charlotte F Ride Coordinator = Open	210-707-8411
<u>M</u>	Arlington/ Mansfield	Director = Smith, Leo & Margaret Assistant Director = Schoenthal, Chris & Lynn Membership Enhancement = Seguin, Jeff Treasurer = Greenwood, Mark Ride Coordinator = Hasiak, Patrick	757-753-3715
<u>M2</u>	Spring	Director = Gresak. Scott & Linda Assistant Director = Open Membership Enhancement = Gresak, Linda Treasurer = Andrew Woodward Ride Coordinator = Tim & Kathy Bryan	281-386-7800
<u>O</u>	Austin	Director = Burnett, Ken & Terri Assistant Director = Jim & Deedee Evans Membership Enhancement = Winfield, Robby Treasurer = Winfield, Patricia Ride Coordinator = Ken Burnett	512-497-1259

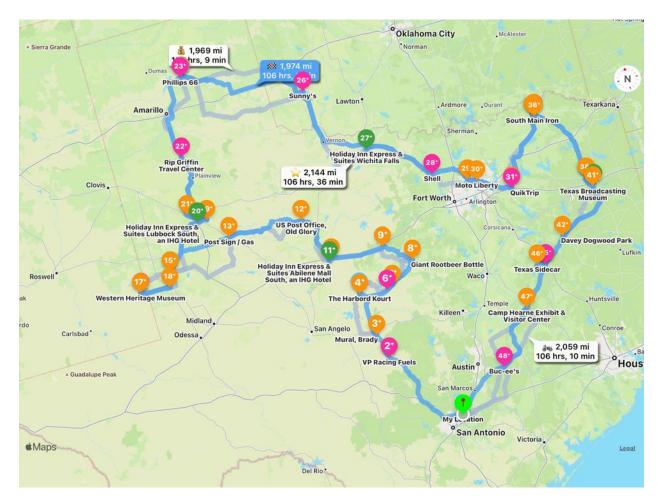
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<u>O</u>	Austin	Director = Burnett, Ken & Terri Assistant Director = Jim & Deedee Evans Membership Enhancement = Winfield, Robby Treasurer = Winfield, Patricia Ride Coordinator = Ken Burnett	512-497-1259
<u>P</u>	Granbury	Director = Roberts, Christie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

## GWRRA, Texas District, Chapter U Motorcycle Grand Tour of Texas, 2022



When it comes to great ideas and long rides, you can expect Pat Wall to have some input! Once again, similar to the 2021 Motorcycle Grand Tour of Texas, Pat came up with a ride that would qualify all Riders as finalist's in the Tour, with 25 of the 50 required points visited. Chapter U participants are well on their way to having most of the 50 required points to become tour finishers.



Basic route and stops along the way

(Continued on page 6)

The purpose of the tour is to explore and experience the great state of Texas on your motorcycle. It is meant to be a fun exploration; it is not a race, and it is not a 1,000 mile a day event. We visited tour stops that included roadside attractions, historical sites, memorials, unique geography, and biker-friendly businesses and non-profit organizations the tour helps support.

On April 19 at 7:00 a.m., the following people met at Kent PowerSports in Selma, TX to begin our 2,000+ mile ride, which consisted of over 48 stops, and averaged over 400 miles per day for 5 days: Pat Wall, Sam (Brick) Reagle and Co-Rider Beth, Roland Morales, Maria Morales, Tom Hendricks, Wade Wells, Wayne Young and Co-Rider Rabbit, and Ron Perry.



"The Wild Bunch"

Starting from Selma we rode as far West as Hobbs, NM, East as far as Kilgore, and North of Amarillo to the little town of Borger. Needless to say we visited many places in between these locations. Riding in Texas never fails to make one reconsider just how large Texas is; how diverse the various regions are; the size of the farms and ranches; the number of energy dominated locations, i.e., windmill farms and oil derricks; the abundance of good primary and secondary roads that could be driven at higher speeds; and of course, the heat and wind. We travelled through temperatures as high as 102 degrees, with winds gusting as high as 25+ miles per hour. Hydration was essential, and food, water, and gas stops kept us on our toes and made for a safe trip.



Pat, Brick, Ron, Maria and Roland in Gladewater, TX

Texas has a fascinating history, great roads to ride, varied geographic regions, cool towns to explore, and many nice folks to meet.



Ron and Maria enjoying the West Texas sunshine

(Continued on page 8)



Palo Duro Canyon

All of the Riders and Co-Riders who participated in this portion of the Tour made it to 27 of the 50 points on the 2022 Motorcycle Grand Tour of Texas, and therefore will qualify as Tour Finalists. Our goal now is to visit the remaining points and have everyone become Tour Finishers.



Stopping in Old Glory, Texas

It sure was good to see so many of you at this year's Yellow Rose District Rally. We believe that everyone had a good time. And we hope you got to have the time to see some of the local sites and also get some riding in as well. We also got several of you your much needed ARC, TRC and Medic First Aid courses. We know there are others of you still needing those courses. Please in contact with Leo and Margaret Smith, our District Educators; they are continuing looking for places where they can hold more training classes and hope to have more info soon.

We also want to congratulate our new Texas District Couple of the year Jim and DeeDee Evans. We believe they will be a great couple for the District and will represent all of Texas proudly. Speaking of Couples Of The Year, we had a reunion get together for all Couple Of The Year, past and present, which included couples from other districts, several past couples, and a great group of current couples. We had a great discussion about the program and got some ideas for the program in the future, and hope we answered any questions our new couples had. Like I said, we have a great group of couples this year, and we hope if you see them at a future Rally or Chapter functions, you will stop to get to know them and let them know how proud we are of them as they represent our Chapters and the District.

We hope some of you noticed that some of the staff, us included, were wearing different clothing than normal; it was all Texas themed— Western hats, Texas Flag shirt, even Texas Belt buckles and suspenders. There is a reason for what we wore, as you know this year's Wing Ding is in our neighboring state in Shreveport La. Since we believe that so many of you will be going to Wing Ding this year since it is so close to us, we want to encourage you to wear Texas, it can be clothes like we will be wearing or something as simple as a Texas ball cap or scarf anything that shows we are from Texas and proud of it. In addition to our clothing at the evening events, we are setting up tables where we can all gather and be Texas proud and loud. Our tables will be Texas themed— we are still working on those details and info will follow, but let's get together and have fun with this. Hope to see you all there!

Many of you might not know, but the Texas District has a Facebook page where we post pictures of different events and visits, and we will be posting rallies and other events and information. So please follow us on the below link.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/736753967150486

GWRRA Texas District | Facebook

Lyle & Sheri Altes
Texas Assistant District Directors
GWRRA

May 2022



## GWRRA UNIVERSITY UPDATE May 2022



Randy and Kathy Reese

Texas District University Coordinators

512-744-3635 rmreese@sbcglobal.net

#### **Dealing with Stress**

This month's article comes from our monthly Insight newsletter and is written by University Director Lorrie Thomas.

"With all this stress, social isolation and disruption, it's no wonder if you've been feeling the effects, even being more forgetful or absent-minded," said Jacqueline Stenson, NBS News contributor, a health and fitness journalist who has written for The Los Angeles Times, Reuters, Health, Self and Shape, among others. "If we're under a lot of stress, sometimes it can very negatively impact retrieval of information," said Daniel Schacter, a professor of psychology and director of the Schacter Memory Lab at Harvard University.

Forgetting why I entered a room or not knowing where I left the motorcycle keys is bad enough, but have we lost the ability to retrieve information that can affect riding safely?

The past two years with COVID and the stress of variants still lingering, we probably have experienced that loss and should consider seriously how we can attempt to undo the damage. Being aware that we may not have all the information readily available, it is time to renew and refresh in the classroom, on the range, and while practicing in parking lots.

Rider and co-rider, Chapters and other groups that ride together will all benefit. Being as sharp as we can be while riding is more than the inconvenient long search for the keys, it can mean that we have a better chance to all return safely home.

Check in with your District Educators or University Coordinators to plan a training event. You may still forget why you entered the classroom, but once you do, you'll be better for it.

## WORKING HARD RIDIN' SAFE

## Leo Smith, Jr. —GWRRA Texas District Educator

What a fun and busy month we've had despite all the hard work! The District Yellow Rose Rally was the first rally we've been involved in at the District level. Like everything else, practice makes perfect (or so they say). We are thrilled and proud to see so much interest returning to participation in The Levels Program. Since the Yellow Rose Rally until this writing twenty-eight members either signed up for The Levels Program or applied to advance their status by at least one Level, some by two or three Levels. A total of 47 Levels were increased. In addition two members were able to apply for Level IV which have been sent up to National Headquarters, already approved and just awaiting a Master number be assigned. Congratulations to all! Along those lines there were 12 ARC participants, 10 TRC participants, 23 FA/CPR participants and 16 Co-Rider Seminar participants. There were also several University classes offered; haven't got the number of participants in those classes but heard many positive comments about the content and interactive arrangement.

Compliments also go out to those members who took the time to visit the Share the Road truck display. All this training increases our knowledge and skills to help us be safer on the road.

A great big hug or hand shake and thank-you to all the RE instructors – Sam Belinoski, LeRoy Douglas (previously a Texan, but now an Arkanite), Lydia Bourg, Chet Roby, Lynn and Cindy Harris as well as all the University Instructors. We couldn't have done it without you! Although we did not have the time to ride or do any sight seeing around Kerrville it was a pretty picture for us to see everyone working together to help get members up-to-date and current in their Levels.

Speaking of getting current, if you missed out on some of the needed training we hope you will be able to catch them at Wing Ding 43 or another upcoming District Rally. The grace period deadline is fast approaching – June 30, 2022! THAT'S IT – THERE AIN'T NO MORE (extensions). If you think you are eligible to advance in a Level – meaning if your requirements expired or will expire on or after January 1, 2020 you are granted a grace period that has been extended until June 30, 2022. The time you have been non-current in your Level will not count against you, but once the deadline hits, that does not apply anymore. If you our your chapter needs any training to get or keep current, please contact me immediately so we have time to arrange training.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart! Leo Smith Jr GWRRA TX District Educator Use this form to help you document and keep track of Chapter events and activities for the quarterly report due to your District Educator on April 1, July 1, October 1, and December 31 of each year.

Name: Chapter: Date:

Date	Event	# of Participants	Date	Event	# of Participants

Events can include chapter gatherings, visiting other chapters, any ride with 2 or more participants, rallies, parades, district and national events, non-bike activities, and anything you do that is FUN!

**# Newsletter Safety Articles:** 

**# Newsletters Distributed:** 

Please return each Quarter to Leo Smith Jr., Texas District Educator

txed@gwrra-tx.org

## Ride Coordinator

#### It's Rally Time

For most of us down South, Spring has sprung. No more cold weather, and the riding season is in full swing. What better way to enjoy your friends, past and present, than to attend a rally.

It gives us a chance to ride roads that we either haven't been on in a while, or an opportunity to ride some new ones.

And don't only think of something close by. Venture out and add a new state or two to your riding list. Plan those routes, find those backroads, and don't forget to book those hotels. You don't want to end your long day of riding having to search for a room until the dark hours of the day.

Bootup that GPS, or pull out those maps, and get to planning. The rallies are calling you!

Sam Belinoski

## Membership Enhancement Coordinator

Here it is June 2022! Let's look at the needs for membership moving forward. Even though we need to reach out to both the new members and prospective members, let's not forget how important the expiring, expired, and the District Texas members all on the ARL, Area Run List.

What actually is an Area Run List? If you have never been a Chapter Director (CD) or a Chapter Members Enhancement Coordinator (MEC), you may have heard of it but not necessarily know what it is. There are two reports we receive monthly from the National Office with information on our current membership. The first report is a monthly report that tells us currently the newest members, individuals who have recently purchased a motorcycle, expiring and already expired members, and a list of current members not affiliated with any chapter or at least the information we have. There also could be very active members in this list that needs to be updated in the District Texas members list. There are new names that pop up each month which need contacting. Keep in mind each member does not necessarily look at their membership card regularly and the expiration date could sneak up on them not knowing it has expired. The second report we receive is called a quarterly area run list. This list posts all members and the info we have for them.

We, all chapters need to print off a copy of your chapters' information and take it to your meeting and have each member look over the info we have for them, it may need updating in case we need to reach them.

Hopefully this has been informative to some of our members. If we can assist any member, please let us know! Gary & Becky Wheatley TX DISTRICT MEC 713-859-6589 cell or text txmec@gwrra-tx.org

### **Coming Events**

Date	Chapter	Event	Location	Contact/E-Mail	Phone
June 28–July 2	*	Wing Ding 43	Shreveport Convention Centre Shreveport, LA	http://gwrra.org https://wing-ding.org/	800-843-9460
September 9–10	KS	Kansas District Rally		Kathy or Denny Chestnut culkath@gmail.com	n.a.
October 29–29		Oklahoma District Rally	r onew city, oniumoniu	John and Shawn Irons Ironsline3414@gmail.com	405-747-4618



#### Gold Wing Road Riders Association

#### 2022 KANSAS DISTRICT RALLY

### "Aloha from Kansas"

September 9 - 10, 2022 Independence, Kansas

Appletree Inn 201 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street Independence, KS 67301		Rooms blocked until August 27, 2022 Room Rate: King \$65 + tax 2 Queen Beds \$75+ tax					
		Call for Reservations: (620) 331-5500					
Rider:		GWRRA #			Age(optional)		
Co-Rider:			GWRRA #		Age	(optional)	
Address:		Gty_			State:	Zip	
Email:			Phone:				
Your Chapter	Your District		Miles	to Rally (if ridin	g)		
	Grand Prize drawings will b	e Saturday	evening durin	g the dosing ce	remony		
	50/50 Drawin	gs on Frida	y and Saturda	y evening			
		QTY	PRICE	TOTAL			
	GWRRA Life Member		\$25.00		_		
	GWRRA Member		\$30.00		_		
	Non GWRRA Member		\$35.00		_		
	One Day Pass Member		\$15.00		_		
	One Day Pass Non Member		\$20.00		_		
	District Director		Free		_		
	District COY/IOY		\$15.00		_		
Master Level IV	# #						
Are you an Office	r in GWRRA (any level)? You	rtitle				_	
Are you a current	"Couple of the Year"? Chap	pter	Distric	t			
I/we agree to hole any loss or injury property that I/w	d harmless GWRRA, Kansas District to self or property by reason of pa e damage.	GWRRA, ar articipation	ny co-sponsorin in this event.	g organizations I/we agree to a	and any pro ssume respo	perty owners for onsibility for any	
Rider Signature:				Date:		_	
Co-Rider Signatur	e:			Date:		_	
	able to GWRRA Kansas and mail witevens, District Treasurer, 6410 Ab			CS 67206.			

For additional information contact Kathy or Denny Chesnut at culkath@gmail.com or flitcrew@aol.com