



The Texas District News

GWRRA Texas District Newsletter

"Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge"

From the District Director



June 2022
Vol. 2 No. 1

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Happy June!

At the time of me writing this, we will be just one week away from Wing Ding 2022 in Shreveport La. Donna and I look forward to these every single year; however, this year is the first one where I find myself a little anxious about the trip. While we have no intent on backing out, we are committed to riding those motorcycles there as we are signed up for both ARC and TRC courses. We are keenly aware that the temperatures will be above 100 degrees for at least the trip there if not the whole week. We are lucky as we only must drive from the Dallas–Fort Worth area, just over three hours of travel, but we know several folks coming in from across Texas and from across the nation who will have a lot longer trip. To all of you, we encourage you to hydrate, break the trip into small segments with plenty of rest stops and air conditioning. know the signs of heat exhaustion, which can include nausea, confusion, cramping, and muscle pain. When drinking water, be mindful of how cold it is. While a cold bottle of water helps in bringing down core temperatures, it can also be shock to the system and can make the whole situation worse. If you do not have cooling gear, bring some large bath towels that you can soak in water and wear around your neck or under your jackets. Whatever you do, please be safe and get to Wing Ding in one piece. Donna and I will be traveling in on Sunday most likely earlier in the morning to avoid the heat.

At this time Texas has over 110 preregistrations which by many counts should make us the largest district in attendance. We encourage you to wear Texas based gear, shirts, hats, etc. In the main hall keep an eye out for Texas themed tables, as we will be decorating with yellow roses, bluebonnets and Texas flags! We are looking forward to showing GWRRA that Texas is in the house!

Lastly, another topic we wanted to talk about today is retention and growth of our GWRRA members within Texas. Donna and I are

aware of at least 20 new households who have joined the family since April. This is an outstanding start, and it shows that all efforts that we have been doing to this point are paying off. The more members, the more fun! As the old saying goes, accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative. Listen to your chapter members, you will get a good idea of the health of membership by listening to both encouraging comments, and issues that we need to address. As we now welcome riders of any motorcycle and people of any age, there will be adjustments. While maintaining the social events we are used to, (monthly gatherings, the games we play, the various locations we travel to), we need to make sure that we are offering something for everyone. Ten years ago, when Donna and I joined GWRRA, we joined because of my parents who were longtime GWRRA members. However, the chapters we chose appealed to us because they liked to ride. They showed off all those great roads and attractions that they had fallen in love with previously. New folks join GWRRA mainly to find friends to ride with—after all, this is a motorcycle group. Teaching people safety and motorcycle skills is of no use if the bikes stay in the garage, and we shy away from anything but pristine weather. Yes, I know, it's hot outside. But this is Texas; this is expected weather in the summer. And while it may decrease the length of our rides, we are a tough breed, and ride we can. I can assure you, those chapters that are experiencing growth are the chapters spending the most time in the saddle. Someday, as we grow old, I assure you the stories worth telling will be the stories of rides, destinations, adventures, and yes mishaps. So be active. Cooler weather is coming, albeit, three or four months from now. Be safe and we'll see you out on the roads.

Dan and Donna Rymarz
Texas District Directors
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TEAM GWRRA

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Director of Finance	Randall and Janet Drake	N.A.	financedirector@gwrra.org
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Information contained in this list is correct at the time of printing. To see a current list, visit: <http://gwrra.org/nationalofficers.html>.

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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
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

Visits, Communications, and Wing Ding

Hope everyone is staying cool and safe in this extremely hot weather, take care when riding the heat can sneak up on you quickly. Even with the heat we and others on the District Staff are continuing to make visits to your Chapter meetings. These meetings are important so that we can share information with your Chapter members and answer questions and even give and receive ideas that can be passed on.

This is an effort by the District Staff to open the lines of communications to all, in the past information was not getting to all, we might still miss some but are trying to narrow the gap. Communications is important not just a District level, but at the Chapter level also, please review how you are communicating with your members and with each other make sure all the information is getting to all members. Check how your email, Calling trees, Group Works, Website, and Facebook are working getting to your members and other non-members and make adjustments as necessary.

We are looking on ways ourselves to help improve the communications to our members and possible future members. We are actively using Facebook and now have a link to our page on the District Web Site home page we are doing this to help give you another area to get information, and to open another avenue for outside riders to see what we are doing and possibly join up with us. Starting with July I will be publishing a listing of all the Chapters meeting information on Facebook, and Group Works, and any other resource I can find to publish it, so that others can easily find us. I will be updating this list monthly at least thru the end of the year.

Don't know about you but we are just a few days for heading out to Wing Ding 43 in Shreveport, Louisiana. It is right next door to us so we hope you can make it we should have a lot of fun, and remember to wear something Texas to show your pride, we will be wearing every day. Hope to see you there.

Lyle & Sheri Altes

Texas Assistant District Directors

GWRRA



GWRRA UNIVERSITY UPDATE June 2022



Randy and Kathy Reese

Texas District University Coordinators

512-744-3635 rmreese@sbcglobal.net

University How-To's

The GWRRA University website www.gwrradot.com has a plethora of information for officers and members. One useful link is the pull-down menu entitled "University How-To's". It contains several common questions we receive and offers a response to them. Here is a list of some of the information available to you - Try it!

How - to - Access	Links
Accessing Your Data (PDF Tutorial)	My RE-Information Tutorial 2018
Dealer Program	Access Dealer Program Dealer Program How To Instructions Dealer Membership Dealer Member Benefits Form
District Ride Coordinator	District Ride Coordinator
GroupWorks How To's	GWRRA - GroupWorks_How To Add Or Invite Members GWRRA - GroupWorks_How To create and edit subgroups in list settings GWRRA - GroupWorks_How To create a group event GWRRA - GroupWorks_How To make a post for members (2) GWRRA - GroupWorks_How To create and send a group email to members (3)
How to access Wing World Magazine Online	How to Access Wing World Magazine Online
How To For Social Media	How To For Social Media
How to Have a Chapter Gathering	How to Have a Chapter Gathering
How to Interview Volunteers	How to Interview Volunteers
How To Manipulate Data on ARL	How To Manipulate Data on ARL
How to Organize a Parade	How to Organize a Parade
How to Parade	How to Parade
How to Participate in GWRRA	How to Participate in GWRRA
How to Set Up a Mall Show	How to Set Up a Mall Show
How To Update Your Membership Information	How To Update Your Membership Information
How To Write a Nomination Letter	How To Write a Nomination Letter
My Rider Education Database	My RE-Database
Zoom Call - Tools	How To Set Up a Zoom Account

HOW SAFE IS YOUR HELMET?

Leo Smith, Jr. —GWRRA Texas District Educator

BUYING GUIDE FOR BEST MOTORCYCLE HELMETS

Riding a motorcycle can be a fun and thrilling experience, but it can also be very dangerous. Riding without the right protective gear could get you seriously injured or worse, even if you're the most responsible driver.

When it comes to motorcycle safety gear, a helmet tops the list. Choosing a high-quality motorcycle helmet that will keep you as safe as possible is very important, so you need to know what material and weight are best for your riding habits, as well as what comfort features and safety standards can help make the helmet most effective.

TYPES OF MOTORCYCLE HELMETS

Full-face motorcycle helmet

A full-face motorcycle helmet has a wrap-around chin bar and flip-down shield so your entire face is covered. This type of helmet offers the most protection while you're riding.

Open-face motorcycle helmet

An open-face motorcycle helmet covers the top, crown, and back of your head while featuring a flip-down shield that makes it look similar to a full-face helmet. It doesn't offer the same protection as a full-face helmet, but its visibility is usually better.

Dual-sport motorcycle helmet

A dual-sport motorcycle helmet is designed for people who use both on- and off-road bikes. It combines the comfort of a street helmet with the style of an off-road helmet.

Half-shell motorcycle helmet

A half-shell motorcycle helmet covers only the top portion of your head, so there isn't much coverage in the back of the head. It allows you to feel the wind on your face as you ride, but it offers little in the way of protection.

Modular motorcycle helmet

A modular motorcycle helmet usually has a flip-up chin bar, so you can switch between a full-face and open-face configuration by simply pressing a button. It's the most versatile type of motorcycle helmet available.

WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR IN A MOTORCYCLE HELMET?

Helmet shell material

The exterior shell of a motorcycle helmet can be made from a variety of materials, including polycarbonate, carbon fiber, and fiberglass composite.

- Polycarbonate tends to be the least expensive material, and it flexes on impact.
- Carbon fiber is a fairly expensive but lightweight motorcycle helmet material that absorbs energy evenly on impact.
- Fiberglass composite is also a fairly expensive motorcycle helmet material. It can flex, crush, and split on impact.

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Liner and padding

A motorcycle helmet should have an impact-absorbing liner that provides further protection for your head. Look for a liner made of styrofoam or expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam that's densely packed to properly deflect the impact of a hard fall. You should also choose a helmet that has some interior padding that cushions your head and ensures a snug fit.

Helmet weight

A motorcycle helmet shouldn't be too heavy, or it may be uncomfortable to wear. However, if you choose a helmet that's extremely lightweight and flimsy, you won't get much in the way of protection. We advise looking for a helmet that weighs about three pounds. This helps ensure that the helmet is both comfortable and as safe as possible.

Size and fit

Most motorcycle helmets come in three sizes: small, medium, and large. It's extremely important to get the fit right, or the helmet won't provide the necessary protection.

A helmet should feel snug, so it's in contact with most of your head and the sides of your face. But it shouldn't be so tight that it puts a great deal of pressure on any one area. To get the proper fit, measure your head and consult the sizing chart for the brand that you're considering to see which size is appropriate.

Retention system

A motorcycle helmet's retention system is the means by which it stays in place on your head. For most models, that means its chin strap. Look for a comfortable chin strap that will keep the helmet on your head should you have an accident.

Comfort

There are a variety of features that can make a motorcycle helmet more comfortable to wear. Vents and breath deflectors can keep your head and face from getting too warm inside a full-face motorcycle helmet. An integrated sunshade can help keep the glare from affecting you as you drive, while wind reduction measures can help ensure that your ride isn't overly noisy.

Safety standards

To ensure that you're getting a good motorcycle helmet, it's important to check that it meets key safety regulations. Choose a helmet that adheres to the Department of Transportation (DOT) safety standards; this will be indicated by a DOT sticker on the back.

If you're extremely concerned about the safety of your helmet, you may wish to select a model that's approved by the Snell Memorial Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides stricter safety guidelines than even the DOT. You'll find a Snell sticker on the back of helmets that meet Snell standards.

TIPS

- For the safest riding, you should get a new motorcycle helmet every few years or after any accidents that you have.
- Keep your helmet clean by washing it with water and mild soap. Petroleum-based cleaners can damage the helmet's outer surface.
- If your helmet's face shield gets scratched, replace it quickly. A scratched shield can affect your ability to see where you're going.
- Store your helmet in a secure, flat area where it's unlikely to fall and suffer damage. Keep it away from gasoline, cleaning products, and exhaust fumes as well.

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NEW EURO HELMET TESTING STANDARDS WILL LIKELY LEAD TO CHANGES WORLDWIDE

Full-face helmet tech hasn't changed much since the first Bell Star came out back in 1963. The recipe is now commonplace: A tough (usually plastic or plexiglas) exterior shell over an impact-energy absorption layer, commonly made of polystyrene, which is even more commonly known as styrofoam. That's right, your precious melon is being protected by a fancy-named cousin of packing peanuts under a painted (and usually stickered-up) shell, usually made of plastic. Yikes?

It doesn't *sound* very "safe," but that initial basic design idea has proven effective over time and saved countless lives (and head injuries). Decades of testing, research and refinement have given us the stylish, highly functional lids we rely on today, with features like carbon-fiber shells, built-in sun visors, modular front openings and high-tech communication systems. Now, the helmet testers in the Eurozone have upped the helmet-testing regimen with a new safety standard, known cryptically as "ECE 22.06." As we are sure you're well aware, it's an upgrade over the well-known but dated ECE 22.05 standard, which you memorized long ago. ECE 22.06 actually went into effect in January in the EU, but according to a moto.it, helmet makers hoping to sell hats in the EU after July 1st will need to hit the .06 mark.

So what will change – at least for Euro-spec helmets (and probably for everyone else as well)? The ".06" standard may result in thicker, heavier outer shells, especially for helmets with a plastic/fiberglass exterior. Carbon and Kevlar hats may not thicken up due to their superior impact qualities. Additionally, the inner polystyrene shell may also get thicker and layered, which would result in a larger overall helmet that also weighs a bit more.

One major new testing protocol will be rotational testing, which could lead to the increased integration of MIPS-type technology designed to let the helmet rotate slightly around the rider's head upon impact, which spares the rider's head a significant percentage of impact energy (and neck twisting). Other testing vectors will include helmet behavior in a crash when equipped with cameras or communication devices such as those from Sena and Cardo, etc. They'll even be testing visors, including pelting them with a rather heavy bit of steel shot to simulate catching a piece of debris off the roadway. If you've ever been hit in the visor by a pebble while riding behind a truck on the highway, you know what we mean.

Redesigning helmets is not a cheap endeavor for manufacturers; so don't expect the EU-compliant lids to be on the bargain shelf. There is at least one .06-certified helmet already on sale, the Arai Quantic, which actually debuted in 2020 well ahead of the new standard. At around \$600, it's not unreasonably expensive. And to be clear, the ECE standards don't *officially* impact (sorry) U.S. DOT and the voluntary Snell ratings in the U.S. and other markets. But expect the .06 specs to eventually work their way into U.S. market lids since helmet makers don't like to make separate versions of helmets for different markets if one standard will meet all the others. Again, as of July, all EU helmets being sold will have to meet the new standard.

Sources:

NY Daily News Reviews: Best Motorcycle Helmets - <https://reviews.nydailynews.com/reviews/best-motorcycle-helmets/>, Jennifer Manfrin

Adventure Rider Ride The World: <https://www.advrider.com/new-euro-helmet-testing-standards-will-likely-lead-to-changes-worldwide/>, Bill Robertson

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

Ride Coordinator

By Sam Belinoski

One of the best parts of belonging to GWRRA is our opportunities to see and ride new places and longstanding friends. Our trek began early Tuesday morning of May 17. Our goal was to attend the Arkansas District Rally in Harrison, AR. Our total one-way trip was just at 550 miles. We chose to split this into two days, spending the night in Hot Springs, AR. Along the route, we HAD to stop at one of our favorite lunch spots in Hope, AR called Big Jake's Bar-B-Que. Now, this is not as good as TEXAS Bar-B-Que, however, the Fried Pies are a wonderful indulgence.



We overnighted in Hot Springs, AR looking forward to the second part of our journey, Hwy 7! Wednesday morning was another wonderful day and Hwy 7 was in our sights!



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A wonderful point about traveling during the week is the lack of traffic. Many a time we found ourselves seemingly the only vehicle on the road.



Once we arrived at the host hotel in Harrison, the fun was about to begin.

All things rally started Thursday at noon. Numerous things to do were in the works to get ready.

Burgers, hotdogs, and of course ice cream was available at the opening ceremonies at a nearby park. They squeezed in a lot of motorcycles in a small space.

The Arkansas District team had acquired the use of the local college for classrooms, space for indoor vendors, and even riding classes all in one spot. They had both an Advanced Rider course and a Trike course as well as other Rider Education and many University courses available.

Anita was even asked to speak at the Level 4 Master's Breakfast.

A surprising "wow" moment was on the ride home. We left Sunday morning with a temperature of 53 degrees. At some point, and a bit of altitude, the bike said 49. So glad we looked up the weather before we left!



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	*	<u>Wing Ding 43</u>	Shreveport Convention Centre Shreveport, LA	http://gwrra.org https://wing-ding.org/	800-843-9460
September 9–10	KS	<u>Kansas District Rally</u>	Independence Civic Cener Independence, Kansas	Kathy or Denny Chestnut culkath@gmail.com	n.a.
October 29–29	OK	Oklahoma District Rally	Ponca City, Oklahoma	John and Shawn Irons Ironsline3414@gmail.com	405-747-4618

ALOHA from Kansas !

*2022 Kansas District Rally
September 9 - 10, 2022*



*Join us at the
Independence Civic Center
410 North Penn Ave,
Independence, Kansas*

HOTEL INFORMATION:

APPLETREE INN PHONE: (620) 331-5500
201 N.8TH - INDEPENDENCE, KS 67301

KING BED ROOM \$65 + TAX - 2 QUEEN BED ROOM \$75 +TAX
(HOTEL HAS AN ELEVATOR)

RESERVE NOW! ROOMS BLOCKED UNTIL AUGUST 27TH

Information may be subject to change and
we will do our best to keep you advised

Gold Wing Road Riders Association
2022 KANSAS DISTRICT RALLY

“Aloha from Kansas”

September 9 - 10, 2022 Independence, Kansas

Host Motel:

Appletree Inn
 201 N. 8th 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

Please Print

Rider: _____ GWRRR # _____ Age _____ (optional)
 Co-Rider: _____ GWRRR # _____ Age _____ (optional)
 Address: _____ City _____ State: _____ Zip _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____
 Your Chapter _____ Your District _____ Miles to Rally (if riding) _____

Grand Prize drawings will be Saturday evening during the dosing ceremony

50/50 Drawings on Friday and Saturday evening

	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
GWRRR Life Member	_____	\$25.00	_____
GWRRR Member	_____	\$30.00	_____
Non GWRRR 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 Officer in GWRRR (any level)? Your title _____

Are you a current "Couple of the Year"? Chapter _____ District _____

I/we agree to hold harmless GWRRR, Kansas District GWRRR, any co-sponsoring organizations and any property owners for any loss or injury to self or property by reason of participation in this event. I/we agree to assume responsibility for any property that I/we damage.

Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

Co-Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to **GWRRR Kansas** and mail with registration to:
Carolyn Stevens, District Treasurer, 6410 Aberdeen Street, Wichita, KS 67206.

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