



The Texas District News

Texas District Newsletter

"Friends for Fun, Safety, and Riding"

From the District Director



November 2023

Vol. 3 No. 6

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Happy Thanksgiving!

It is hard to believe that it is already November. I constantly look at the calendar and wonder where the rest of the year went. It's also hard to believe that EWMA completed its first year around two months ago. At every chapter meeting we attend we have been requesting feedback, and a chapter vote on whether that chapter wants to continue with EWMA or move to an independent status. Every chapter asked has confidently voted that the district and their chapter should remain in EWMA. I consider this a nearly unanimous decision, and so we will continue as an EWMA organization. The Texas District will cover all the charter fees for 2024 for all chapters. This works out to \$75 per chapter. For 2025 we will need to revisit this based on district funds, ride-in participation, success of fundraising events, and/or the solicitation of cooperative vendors. Donna and I have the intent of continuing as District Directors in 2024 unless someone else volunteers or EWMA chooses to replace us.

With this new affirmation of Texas being a part of the EWMA family, I feel comfortable in encouraging newly prospective members to join the organization, and for our current members to renew their memberships. I also encourage everyone to feel comfortable recruiting others to join us in this fraternity of riding enthusiasts! New members can join either through ewma-world.org website or by filling

out the attached form I am asking George to include in the newsletter.

Over the past year I have given much thought over what value the EWMA organization offers its members. After all, this is a common question people ask me when I broached the subject. This is obviously not the old GWRRA nor does it offer all of the things we had become accustomed to over the years. The realization was that the old organization was not healthy. Yearly they bled membership mostly through attrition as the membership had aged and moved on to other things in life, or to the great mysteries beyond this life. The new organization was built to try to change those trends and become a more open organization of other brands of motorcycles, and a world beyond the diminishing attendance of Gold Wing rallies. Texas has hosted two ride-ins that were broadly enjoyed. These events were less expensive to put on and more geared towards exploring the roads surrounding the whole city. The types of motorcycles that attended varied greatly. I have concluded that this holds the best hope for success for any motorcycle organization. Additionally, the cost of membership is extremely low. \$20 per year for a lone Rider, or \$30 for a couple. If you join, or renew for more than one year there are additional discounts that save you even more money. Donna and I attend at least two chapter meetings per month in the DFW area and sometimes more. Each time we spend more than that on dinner. The list of

(Continued on page 2)

benefits of membership evolves month over month. See some highlights below.

- An electronic version of “the Eagle Book”. This is a continuation of the Gold Book offered by GWRRA which lists other members from across the world who can offer assistance, lodging or other services when you are traveling abroad. As a member you have the ability of offering these same services if you so choose and having your information in this eagle book too.
- Assorted discounts and offers from a variety of vendors resourced by the staff of EWMA, such as hotel discounts, rental cars, training opportunities and marketing materials through Vistaprint.
- As a member, each person you recruit to our organization can get you free months of membership for yourself and your family up to six months per year.
- Access to the national home page that includes forums in which the canonical advice, epic ride opportunities and other chapters worldwide which you can attend at any time.
- An open invitation to attend the events of all EWMA chapter and district rallies and ride-ins, as well as motorcycle centric cruises organized each year.

Perhaps the greatest offer of all has nothing to do with product nor services, but instead is the sense of belonging our members feel to one another and to the chapters and the district of Texas. The knowledge of knowing that you can show up at any other chapter

event in the state of Texas or anywhere else and know that you will be in the presence of people who share the same passion for motorcycles and the same desire for camaraderie. These chapters and districts are led by volunteers who have committed time and money towards offering a safe venue for sharing ideas, knowledge and ride experiences. Whether a rider is new or well-seasoned, they will benefit from being part of a group where riding safely is the major focus.

To encourage folks to continue to join this new organization, Texas will be sponsoring a raffle. From the very first member who joined back last year, to the newest of members, each new membership or renewal of a previous membership will receive entry into a raffle for at least \$500 to be drawn in March at the Yellow Rose Ride In in Kerrville, Texas. You will NOT need to be present to win. For couples memberships you will receive two raffle tickets. If you sign up for multiple years, you will receive a raffle ticket for each person, times the number of years you signed up for. Between now and then the Texas District team will be looking for sponsors to allow us to increase the prize money that will be given at that time!

We appreciate the support you all show to you Texas District and Chapters!

God bless,

Dan and Donna Rymarz
Texas District Directors, EWMA
Dan.Rymarz@outlook.com

COMING EVENTS

Date	Chapter	Event	Location	Contact/E-Mail	Phone
December 9	★	<u>North Texas Toy Run</u>	Main Event Grapevine, Texas	northtexas Toyrun@gmail.com	
May 16–18	AR	<u>Arkansas District Rally</u>	1515 Pioneer Dr Harrison, Arkansas	Louis and Pam Wofford director@diamondstateriders.org	479-883-2621
June 29–29	AL	<u>Alabama District Rally</u>	Clarion Inn Sheffield, Alabama	Danny Baker jdbaker1951@yahoo.com	205-590-1445
August 29–31	★	<u>Eagle Wings Rendezvous</u>	KI Convention Center Green Bay, Wisconsin	Patty O’Neill ewmacfo@gmail.com	408-639-0415

This information is provided for the convenience of our members. Information is obtained from various sources. No warranty is made with respect to the accuracy of any information on this page, the calendar pages, or any other page in this newsletter, and the Texas District staff shall not be held liable if any information is incorrect. You are advised to verify the accuracy of this information prior to attending any listed event. This information is subject to change without notice.

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Anita M. Alkire, CEO

Bruce Beeman, president

Jim Berry, Director, Region B

Website: <https://www.ewma-world.org/>

TEXAS DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Directors	Dan and Donna L. Rymarz	469-669-9191	txdd@gwrra-tx.org
Assistant District Directors	Lyle and Sheri Altes	512-897-0860	txadd2@gwrra-tx.org
District Treasurer	Karen Walker	682-667-5609	txtreasurer@gwrra-tx.org
District Member Enhancement	Gary Wheatley	713-859-6589	txmec@gwrra-tx.org
District Member Enhancement	Mike Pineda	210-707-8411	txmec@gwrra-tx.org
Skills Enhancement Coordinator	Randy and Kathy Reese	512-744-3635	txduc@gwrra-tx.org
Ride Safety Coordinator	Jim and Deedee Evans	512-576-8890	txcov@gwrra-tx.org
Ride Safety Coordinator	Vince and Tammy Scott		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

Texas District Website: <http://www.ewma-tx.org>

Information contained in this list is correct at the time of printing. Last update: 27 May 2023

Chapter Staff as of September 2023

Chapter	Area	Chapter Leadership	Contact Info
<u>Pine-E Woods Riders</u>	Tyler	Director = <u>Kaufman, Karen and Gene</u> Treasurer = Martin, Tom Ride Coordinator = Chuck Chestnut	314-402-8271
G	Tomball	Director = <u>Deluke, Joe and Tammy</u> Treasurer = <u>Stan Brown</u> Ride Coordinator = Greenway, David	713-498-3201
<u>Roadrunners G2</u>	Greenville	Director = <u>Wiggins, Jim and Barbara</u> Treasurer = <u>Augustas, George</u> Ride Coordinator = Wiggins, Jim and Barbara	903-217-4066
H	San Antonio	Director = <u>Griffin, Keith and Milligan, Paula</u> Treasurer = <u>Charles Fleming</u> Ride Coordinator = Charles Fleming	210-478-8928
J	Orange	Director = <u>Kimbrough, Randy</u> Treasurer = <u>Pierson, Debbie</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	409-201-1955
Hill Country Wings	Castroville	Director = <u>Michael Pineda</u> Treasurer = Charlotte F Ride Coordinator = Donna W	210-707-8411
<u>M2</u>	Spring	Director = <u>Gresak, Scott & Linda</u> Treasurer = <u>Andrew Woodward</u> Ride Coordinator = <u>Tim & Kathy Bryan</u>	281-386-7800
<u>O Capitol Wings</u>	Austin	Director = <u>Jim & Deedee Evans</u> Treasurer = <u>Sheri Altes</u> Ride Coordinator = Ken Burnett / Steven Thomas	512-576-8890
<u>“P” Pleasure Riders</u>	Granbury	Director = <u>Roberts, Christie</u> Treasurer = <u>Graham, Jeff</u> Ride Coordinator = <u>Eddie Roberts</u>	817-279-3928
Rally Cats	Dallas/ Fort Worth	Director = <u>Walker, Don & Karen</u> Treasurer = <u>Moody, Bill</u> Ride Coordinator = Rymarz, Dan	817-821-4388
<u>S2</u>	League City	Director = <u>Newman, Scott & Debbie</u> Treasurer = Karen Rudisill Ride Coordinator = Jim Denton	281-804-1181
<u>Central Texas Wings</u>	Killeen	Director = <u>Gene & Quinta Harris</u> Treasurer = <u>Brooks, Tim and Young</u> Ride Coordinator = Open	254-289-6036
<u>W</u>	Ft Bend Harris County	Director = <u>Cindy Harris</u> Treasurer = Suzanne Neal Ride Coordinator = Greg Edmond	386-846-8521

Gremlin Bells

By Tom Sprague

Gremlin Bells, also known as Guardian Bells, Motorcycle Bells, or Spirit Bells, are a good luck charm attached to the bottom of motorcycles that are believed to protect riders while on the road.

What Are Motorcycle Gremlins?

According to legend, many a mile of roads are littered with evil spirits or gremlins that lie in wait, waiting for unsuspecting bikers to pass by close enough for them to latch on to their motorcycle. These evil little creatures are thought to be the source of most bikers problems and bad luck, such mechanical issues, and at worst, can make a biker crash, such as if they were to chase animals into the road. As gremlins and evil road spirits are said to mostly lurk on the road waiting on their next victim, hanging a motorcycle bell below the bike will capture them as you ride over them, and the tinkling bell will drive them insane, forcing them to eventually leave or fall off.

What Is the Story Behind the Gremlin Bell?

But how did this tradition start? It all starts with a story that originated many, many years ago in the high desert near the US-Mexico border

The Legend of the Gremlin Bell

It was a bitter winter night in December. The cool desert air was crisp, the moon lighted the night sky, and the desert cactus cast eerie shadows. An old grey bearded biker was returning from a road trip to Mexico, his bike loaded with Christmas gifts he had purchased to give to children at an orphanage near where he lived. Shortly after crossing the border, he thought he saw something in the distance but couldn't be sure. He thought his mind may have been playing tricks on him, but as the biker rounded a corner and neared the location in the road, he crashed without warning and was thrown from his bike, slamming into the desert floor. Disoriented, the old biker looked up and in shock, realized what he had seen. There in front of him were a group of gremlins, rejoicing in

their success. The road gremlins began moving toward him as the biker lay on the ground, barely alive and unable to move from the impact. With nothing to defend himself, it seemed like the end of the road for the old biker. However, he noticed one of his saddlebags had broken loose in the crash and quickly reached out, pulling it close to him. Grabbing the gifts from the bag, he threw them at the nasty little group of approaching gremlins to scare them off. He threw present after present, but the gremlins did not stop. Reaching into the now nearly-empty bag, he was down to his last items – small bells he had purchased as gifts for the children. As a last resort, he rang them as quickly as he could, hoping the noise would scare the gremlins away.

The Nearby Bikers

Now, it just so happened that two bikers coincidentally were camping nearby. Over the quiet night air, they heard a bell ringing in the distance. Of course, largely assuming they were alone in the vast desert, this was something unexpected for them to hear. The two bikers went to investigate the source of the ringing. Nearing the noise, they came across the old biker laying at the crash site, the road gremlins eagerly waiting to claim their reward. The bikers attacked the gremlins, fending them off and sending them fleeing into the night. The old biker wanted to repay them for saving his life and offered them payment for their help, but they refused. Determined to pay them back in some way, as a gesture of good will, the biker cut his saddlebag tassels and tied the very bells that saved his life to the two bikers bikes, telling them that if they should ever need help, ring their bells attached to their bike and it could just save their life.

Note: Can you buy your own Guardian Bell? As a rule of thumb, you shouldn't purchase your own bell, as it's said that the bell works only when gifted to you.

From the Sons of Eden website
Published Jan 2, 2021
Submitted by Tom Sprague

Membership Enhancement Coordinator

By Gary and Becky Wheatley

Region B / Saving Our Texas Chapters – 2023

How can both the District and Local Chapters work together to not only save our chapters from closing but working together to add chapters? Here are a few things I thought might help in correcting this problem. The Texas District has 2 individuals helping with membership, one near San Antonio, representing the southern part of the state. The other individual is near Granbury representing the northern part of the state. We would like to have more participation with each chapter. We would like each chapter to have someone that would keep tabs on both active and non-active members. If there are less than 10 active members, we the district would like to be notified, this would give us a chance to see if we can help with this before it gets too low. For example, send us an e-mail of how much showed up at your monthly gathering and how many on your rides or social gatherings. We would be glad to assist with whatever it takes to increase the interest, and have less non-active members, or members not renewing at all.

- 1) We need more smiling faces at gatherings, a willingness to help other members however way we can.
- 2) We need members that are willing to teach classes so other members can progress in the levels program.
- 3) We need the position of Sunshine Individual filled in each chapter to help members in need, no matter what it is, if nothing else but call members that we haven't seen in a while.
- 4) To all chapter members, call your local chapter for all concerns you have, and the district is also available. Please, let us help you with your local chapter!!!

Currently we have 11 chapters in the state of Texas. There is a possibility of another chapter closing in the Houston area and there have been too many closings since EWMA was organized. Though there was no fault of EWMA it has been a real shock for some, during this transaction from one organization to another.

Like I said at first, we need to be a team and add chapters, NOT LOSE THEM!!!

Hoping you all had a great Thanksgiving and wishing you and your family a Merry upcoming Christmas.

Gary Wheatley
District Member Enhancement



31st Annual North Texas Toy Run



To Benefit the CHILDREN at the SALVATION ARMY SHELTER of Ft Worth, TX

All Bikers Welcome!

Run will start at **Main Event**, 407 W. State Hwy 114, Grapevine, TX and finish at the **Salvation Army**, 712 W Abram St., Arlington, TX 76013

Rated as one of the top five Toy Runs in Texas by Ride Texas Magazine

Join us to make a child's Christmas Brighter!

Donations can also be made at any Wells Fargo Banking Location. Just tell them it is for the "North Texas Toy Run".

We also now accept Venmo and PayPal!

To donate send email to "northtexas ToyRun@gmail.com"



Saturday, December 9th, 2023

8:30am Registration

10:00am Kick Stands Up

Bring as many Unwrapped Toys as possible



For more information, go to www.northtexas ToyRun.org and

Please support our sponsors!



Eagle Wings Rendezvous

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association

2nd Annual Rally

Aug 29th – Aug 31st 2024

KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI



Take a Scavenger Hunt ride to Green Bay, WI and join your friends at the 2nd annual rally, Eagle Wings Rendezvous! We'll have vendors, FUN, presentations, FUN, guest speakers, FUN, games, FUN, on bike games, FUN, and awesome guided and self guided rides to explore beautiful WI! This is an event you don't want to miss!

Lodging links on website
www.ewma-world.org/rendezvous

Plan for FUN!!!
Daily 50/25/25
On Bike Games
Door Prizes
Guest Speakers & Presentations
Bike & Light Show
First Aid/CPR Class
Vendors, Including Motorcycle stuff, Bling & Chrome

3 Days & Nights of FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!
Thursday GRAND OPENING PARTY FUN, Light Dinner and Entertainment
Friday Night Bike and Light Show Vote for your favorite and enjoy some ice cream!
Saturday Night is Dinner and Closing
***For up to Date Schedule & more info, go to [www. EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous](http://www.EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous)**

GRAND PRIZE and MYSTERY CASH
AND
GRAND 50/25/15/10

Registration Fees (onsite \$10 more)	Cost	Qty	Total
EWMA Members	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Non Members	\$50	_____	\$ _____
Day Passes-available for purchase on site			
Light Dinner on Thursday Night	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Dinner on Saturday Night	\$40	_____	\$ _____
First Aid/CPR—Friday	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Tickets—addition to comped	Cost	Qty	Total
Grand Prize & Mystery Cash—Books of 5	\$10 X	_____	\$ _____
Grand 50/25/15/10— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____

All pre-registrations must be received by August 3, 2024
Make Checks payable to EWMA
 Mail completed forms to:
EWMA
Patti ONEill
2125 Meander
Prescott AZ 86305
For further information
Contact: Patti ONEill
Email: ewmacfo@gmail.com
Phone 408-639-0415
\$15.00 fee on all cancellations
No refunds after Aug 5th 2024

CC# _____
 EXP _____ CVV _____
 Billing Zip Code _____

GRAND TOTAL IN US DOLLARS ENCLOSED: \$ _____

See and purchase our Rally shirt on our website in our store. Pick them up at rally. Some may be available on-site.

Name: _____ EWMA #: _____

Name: _____ EWMA #: _____

Address: _____ Reg/District/Chapter: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

The undersigned, agree to comply with the ideals governing this event and to hold harmless the EWMA, co-sponsoring organizations and property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved, and I/we agree to assume responsibility for any property which I/we knowingly damage. **EWMA reserves the right to refuse entrance to anyone at any time.**

Rider Signature: _____ Co-Rider Signature: _____



Membership Application

Member #: _____
For Office Use

___ New Member Application

___ Renewing Member # _____

MM/DD/YYYY

Member Name: _____ Member DOB: _____
First, Last

Member Name: _____ Member DOB: _____

Member Name: _____ Member DOB: _____

Member Name: _____ Member DOB: _____

Member Name: _____ Member DOB: _____

Primary Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST/PV: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

USA _____ Canada _____ Other _____

Member Phone number: _____ Member Email: _____

Select One:

Individual Membership: 3 years \$65.00, 2 years \$45.00, 1 year \$25.00

Family Membership (2 or more people in household): 3 years \$80.00, 2 years \$55.00, 1 year \$30.00

Payment Method:	Visa	Master Card	Discover	American Express
Name on Card:	Card #:			
Expiration Date:	CVV (security code) on back:		Billing Zip Code:	

I currently own the following motorcycle brands: (please select all that apply)

Honda Harley-Davidson Indian BMW Yamaha Suzuki Kawasaki Ducati Triumph
 Can Am Moto Guzzi Other: _____

Where did you hear about us? (Example: magazine, website dealer, etc.): _____

New Member - Who referred you? Name _____ Member # _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

(Note: Only two signatures required for family membership)

Make check payable in U.S. funds to: **Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association** and mail to:
 6635 W. Happy Valley RD., Suite A104-443, Glendale, AZ 85310.

Revision Date: 11/15/2023