



**Gold Wing Road Riders Association
Region H
The Hospitality Region
Texas District
Brownwood Chapter 02
December 2011**



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November Mystery Member Revealed!



Bud Shoaf

We want to thank everyone who turned in a "guess" as to who our November Mystery Member was. Unfortunately, no one guessed correctly! Thanks, Bud, for being such a good sport and sharing your "days gone by" picture.

We also want to thank everyone who has turned in a picture to use. We'll run one a month, so don't get discouraged if yours is not run right away....we'll get to them all! We are also looking for more pictures.... how about yours?

Next Gathering



Christmas Party & Lunch

**December 11th
400 S. Commercial Avenue
Coleman, Texas
(details on page 6)**

Do you know this member????



This is one in a series of pictures we publish in our newsletter of members when they were young(er).

If you think you know who this is (or, if you just want to make a guess), please e-mail or phone your editor no later than the 20th of this month. In next month's newsletter, we will publish the names of all (if any) who guessed right. The actual identity of the member pictured will be divulged in next month's newsletter. There is no prize to be awarded since this is not a contest. It is simply another way we can have fun....and remember our motto is friends for FUN, safety, and knowledge.

We sincerely hope that all our members will join in the fun and send us (either by e-mail or snail mail) a picture to use for this project. If you snail mail the picture, we will be happy to copy it and return it to you. Hey...you don't want to miss this chance to stump your friends and keep them guessing, do you?

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December Birthdays

- 4th Sandra Burns
- 8th Mary Graham
- 9th Dave Simmons
- 19th Bert Jordan
- 21st Derald Burns
- 23rd Alyce Dietly
- 28th Bob Davis

Toys For Kidz



WOW! What a response we had to our request to provide Christmas toys for children in the Brownwood area. Sixteen bikes and trikes left the Wal Mart parking lot in Brownwood and rode to the Starz Bingo Hall to deliver the toys.

After some visiting and picture taking, we headed out for a ride led by Rick & Alyce Dietly. The weather had warmed up just a bit, but certainly not enough to give anyone heat stroke. As we rode across the bridge at Lake Brownwood (at least that was what the sign said), we looked to the right and saw only a couple puddles of water. On the left, all we could see was a vast expanse of dried weeds. This drought we have endured this summer has certainly hit that lake hard! Our ride ended at Humphrey Pete's in Early. The sign said the food was "Pig Lickin' Good". While the food certainly was tasty, we didn't see anyone "lickin' a pig".



What Is Mid-Winter Roundup?

Mid-Winter Roundup is the annual “business meeting” for Texas Chapters and the Texas District Team. There will be breakout sessions for all Chapter Officers and Team Members to meet with their respective Texas District Team Members to discuss items pertinent to their positions within their chapters and to process any necessary paperwork.

The new 2012 Chapter Couples of the Year will also be introduced and presented with their COY ribbons and medallions.

This year’s meeting will begin at 8 am January 14 at the New Braunfels Convention Center located at 375 S. Castell Ave., New Braunfels, TX.

All GWRRA members are welcome at this event. It’s a great place to learn more about how your chapter operates.

New Assistant District Educators

An addition to the Texas District Team has been announced. Rich & Kathy Hipp, participants in Chapter S2, have been appointed to serve as Assistant District Educators.

FABULOUS FIFTIES

is the theme for the Region H Convention

March 29-31, 2012

at the Marshall, Texas Convention Center

One of the many events being offered during this convention is an ART PARTY. Participants will be provided with all the supplies and step by step instructions to create your personal masterpiece. The class will last 2 – 3 hours and the acrylic

painting on canvas, of a scene from Caddo Lake, will be yours to take home as a remembrance of the 2012 Region H Convention. The class size will be limited and available to adults only. The lesson, for the novice or “artistically challenged” will be presented by a professional artist/teacher.

The Host Hotel, Holiday Inn Express, is offering a GWRRA rate of \$85 per night and includes a full breakfast. Reservations can be made at 903-934-9700.

Be sure to mention GWRRA to get this special rate.

News From Phoenix

Melissa Eason, GWRRA COO, has announced a minor change to the Office Max Retail Connect Card Program that was established January 1, 2009. The Retail Connect Card has a specific number attached to it, and **that number has changed.**

GWRRA members can go to :

<http://gwrro.org/membership.html>

and log onto the Office Max page to retrieve the new Retail Connect Card. Or, call Member Services at 800-843-9460 or email them at memberservices@gwrro.org.

Members of GWRRA are eligible to take their Office Max Retail Connect Card to any Office Max retail store location and receive discounts on a long list of products. The special number on each card will then be scanned and GWRRA’s special pricing will automatically appear at the register when you are ready to purchase your products.

MEMBERS' CORNER

Editor's note: we love to receive articles from our members and will publish them on a space available basis. If an article is too long to fit in one issue, we may have to split it up for future issues or if we do not have space in the next issue, we'll be happy to hold it for a future issue. Articles may be edited for spelling, grammar and content.

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(The following article was submitted by John Thomas)

(continued from November newsletter)

CHRONICALS OF WING DING 2011

Day 6
July 7, 2011

This morning began at 5AM. Had to get up early, get dressed and get down to the river for a morning riverboat cruise/breakfast. We actually made it on time, boarded the boat and got underway. This day may be better than the last. Down the river we go, eating breakfast from the buffet that was served. It was okay I guess, after about 30 minutes, we do a 180 and head back to the dock. The cruise is over. Now, this is when the day gets interesting. We were to have a luncheon at the Tellico Visitor Center. Simple enough, right? My lovely bride programmed in the directions into the Garmin with the directions given us in our fix-it package. Be aware, that this is a \$30.00 per person ticket, so I am expecting great things. Anyone who knows me knows I don't mind spending money on a great thing! We leave Knoxville guided by our faithful Garmin guide. We make it to Alcoa then onto HWY 129/ Wait, isn't HWY 129 the same as Deal's Gap?? We must have to turn off the road up ahead somewhere. We ride on. As we start to climb, I question the Garmin that is saying, "Ride on wing rider, ride on without fear or apprehension". So, we ride on with only a slight bit of apprehension. We climb, we ride the curves, we coast and we climb, on and on. We cross over into North Carolina on HWY 129 and discover we are in fact on the tail of the dragon!!! The Garmin says to ride on brave wing rider, ride on with no fear so we rode

on. We reach the top of the mountain and start down. We wind, we coast, we brake many times, IT WAS GREAT!!!! The Garmin says ride on brave wing rider; you are conquering the dragon's tail. At the bottom of the mountain we came upon Deals Gap Motorcycle Resort. There were all kinds of motorcycles there, all kinds of riders too. All came to ride the dragon. We bought our "I been there t-shirts" and an "I been there patch". We walked around awhile until I could feel my butt again then back on the wing to find that \$30.00 per person luncheon. The Garmin led us on; the roads did not straighten out however. As a matter of fact, we were climbing and winding again. After many miles our trusty Garmin proclaims, "You have reached your destination." Great, but.....we are on top of a mountain adequately called the Skyline. We were actually up in the clouds. However, there was no visitor center, there was no \$30.00 per person luncheon, and there was nothing there except other wing riders with their trusty GPS units that had led them astray as well. At this point all I wanted was my \$30.00 per person luncheon. Thank goodness for some reason someone thought this would be a good spot for toilet facilities, it was. After visiting with the other lost wingers, we all decided to continue on the road and see where it would take us. Wouldn't you know after about another twenty miles of ups and downs, round and round, we arrived where we were supposed to be? Amazing! The home of the \$30.00 per-person luncheon. Boy was I hungry. There were Native Americans beating drums, chanting and dancing around. I didn't know if this was supposed to have been our entertainment or if they were still trying to drive the white man from their lands. They may have been doing their rain dance because it rained every afternoon since our arrival. Oh well, on to the tent to get our \$30.00 per-person meal. We get in line, read the menu and WHAT, are you kidding me? Buffalo burgers or trout fillets, are you kidding me? The burgers smelled and tasted

(continued on page 5)

MEMBERS CORNER continued

rancid the trout looked and tasted like shoe leather. The sides were no better. Although I had been hungry, the very smell of the meal killed my appetite. What had we paid \$30.00 per-person for? Now those of you who know me know that I am slow to anger, had I not enjoyed the ride so much I would have most likely gone postal on some one. Instead, I merely got up from the table placed the garbage in the proper container and walked out. Rather than embarrassing myself with this food, I would have thrown it all away before serving it to anyone. Especially to someone who had paid \$30.00 per-person. In total disgust, we load up and left before I forgot how kind and sensitive I was. We gassed up and left the scene of the crime. Out on IH 75 we encountered a massive traffic jam because the TDOT decided to do a little job on a bridge in the middle of the afternoon rush hour traffic. They had traffic backed up for ten miles both ways. When we got to the bridge, they were painting stripes on the outer shoulder; something that could have been done at night when there was little traffic to interfere with. Genius. I guess all DOT employees go to the same school regardless of what state they work in. Anyway, we make it back to the room, I take a nap then we meet with friends for a while before calling it a day. Did I mention the luncheon cost \$30.00 per-person?

(to be continued next month)

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The following article was contributed by Kay McMahon.

An affordable getaway - - - If your schedule will permit, take time to visit or revisit the Texas Hill Country this Fall. When several of our local riding buddies headed for the New Mexico rally in September, Mac, Arnold, Lucy and I embarked on a ride to the cool Texas Hill Country. We met for an early lunch at the Section Hand Steak House in Brownwood on a Thursday before we began our

trip. That afternoon we rode to Junction, Tx. which would be our base for three nights. We checked into The Legends Inn a small locally owned, casual place friendly to motorcycle riders. This was our second visit to The Legends and we liked their clean rooms and friendly service. After a rest period our first order of business was to drive to the Dairy Queen for our traditional ice cream. Full of our favorite ice cream, we rode to the scenic overlook outside of town. This provided a spectacular view to end a good day.

Day two after breakfast we rode the "Three Sisters" loop of over 100 miles of winding and twisty roads. It was great! But, be aware, there aren't any Pit Stops which Lucy and I discovered after drinking lots of coffee. At the end of the loop, we were in Leakey and dined at Vinny's Italian Restaurant which had been recommended by David Graham. We had a slow, relaxing meal. Then, we were refreshed and rode Hwy 377 from Leakey to Vanderpool. This was a challenging ride with S-curves and outstanding views. We stopped in Vanderpool at the Lone Star Motorcycle Museum for a "look-see" and a cool drink at their Ace Cafe. We returned to Junction on the backroads after a very satisfying day.

Day three we slept late and then enjoyed a big breakfast at Isaack's Restaurant while waiting for the rest of our group. We were joined about mid-day by the "Barber Clan" - - -three of Arnold and Lucy's children on their bikes. Larry and Dawn from the Metroplex, Rick and Brenda from Mathis, Tx. and David and Linda from Bangs. They said, "Why should the folks have all the fun?" After everyone checked into the Inn and had lunch we got on the bikes and rode a partial loop of the "Three Sisters" stopping along the way to enjoy the views. We had a wonderful dinner in Leakey at a Steak House on Hwy 83. The menu was varied to meet everyone's taste. On the ride back to Junction, at twilight, the five bikes traveling together were very careful because

(continued on page 6)

MEMBERS CORNER continued

of all the deer. We saw more wildlife during that drive than we had seen all the other rides put together.

Day four we rode the Fredericksburg-Luckenbach loop. After the heavy dinner the night before we all agreed to have breakfast at McDonald's before checking out of our motel. The morning ride was cool and refreshing. To our surprise when we arrived at Luckenbach they were gearing up for the accumulation of a big charitable event. We arrived as the bands were warming up and the grills were getting hot. Motorcycle riders were greeted warmly and treated like stars. We sampled the different foods but didn't stay for the boot scooting. Of course, when Lucy's in the group you have to make time for shopping and what better place to shop than Fredericksburg. Our group said good-byes and went our separate ways in Fredericksburg. We arrived back in Brownwood - - after a DQ stop for ice cream in Mason - - around 6 pm.

After riding in South Dakota and Tennessee this summer I can tell you the roads in the Hill Country compare favorably. Best of all, the roads are in Texas and are close enough for an enjoyable week-end. The Texas Promoters have a saying, "Whether you are searching for an elusive S-curve that sends shivers down your spine, the best food in Texas or motorcycle-friendly towns, it is all in the Texas Hill Country." We agree! Enjoy an affordable getaway.

Do you see your membership number

in this newsletter? If so, call (325-382-4469) or e-mail (jensim@web-access.net) and identify yourself as the lucky member before the next regularly scheduled Chapter gathering (usually the second Saturday of the month...unless notified otherwise) to qualify for your \$5 winnings. Hey, it's not like winning the lottery, but you can always put it in your gas tank (not the money, but the gas you can buy with it!)

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

CHAPTER 02

CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 11



**It will be at the Coleman Library
Annex**

400 S. Commercial Avenue

Coleman, Texas 76834

We'll start the festivities with lunch at one o'clock. And, you don't need to bring any food. Everything will be furnished!

However, to ensure having enough food for everyone, we need to know how many people we will be feeding. So, please RSVP to Rick & Alyce (325-692-6298) or e-mail at: rdietly@clear.net

NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 2nd.

And, of course, we'll have our ever-popular Chinese Gift Exchange. Each person is asked to bring a wrapped gift (not to exceed \$10 in value) and we'll enjoy "trading" our gifts. The (285374) gifts should be non-"gender specific" so they would be appropriate for whoever ends up with them

Mark your calendar.....

for the following dates. More information on these events will be provided prior to the time of the event in our newsletter, on our web page, or by e-mails. We just want to give you a “heads up” on some of the dates we have planned Chapter activities occurring.

December

**11 Chapter O2 Christmas party
Library Annex, Coleman
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
(see page 6)**

2012

January

**14 Mid-Winter Roundup
New Braunfels, Texas**

**21 Chapter O2 Chili at the Lake
Details will be provided in the
January newsletter. (NOTE:
this is a week later than our
regularly scheduled gathering
due to Mid-Winter Roundup)**

March

**29-31 Region H Convention
Marshall, Texas**

April

**12 – 14 Louisiana District Convention
Lafayette, LA**


**14 Texas Chapter O Convention
Fredericksburg, Texas**

**27 Pre-Convention Dinner Ride
Riverside Park, Brownwood**

**28 Texas Chapter O2 Convention
and Duck Race, Riverside
Park, Brownwood, Texas**

May

**17 – 19 Texas District Convention
New Braunfels, Texas**




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**GWRRRA
December Anniversaries
(date joined)**

CeCie McCoy 2010

For Sale By Members

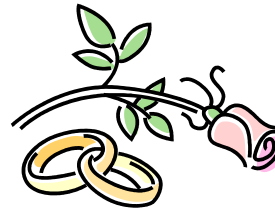
**2002 Honda Goldwing Trike 1800
(Champion kit) \$22,000.00**

Too many extras to mention. (I'll try) New tires, floor boards, freeway boards, fog lights, chrome bumper, 6 running lights, chrome trailer hitch, Butler cup holder, Upholstered seat > covers w/eagles on back rests gel pads under seat covers.. Driver back rest, luggage rack, 2 flag poles w/eagles. Approx 18 items chromed. Bike has 52,000 miles, always garaged. Excellent condition. Nothing needs > to be done to the bike. Includes American Legend Cargo Trailer. Trailer has chrome wheels, w/spare tire. Carpeted. Enclosed cooler. Nice trailer, seldom used. Matches the bike.

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**December
Anniversaries**

- 5th Tom & Gwen Hart
- 13th David & Mary Graham
- 23rd Arnold & Lucy Barber
- 24th Bud & CeCie McCoy
- 27th Don & Jenny Kinkle



After a few years being a “co-rider” behind Derald, Sandra Burns is once again on two wheels. Sandra had her own bike several years ago and is now “back in the saddle again”! She accomplished her first long ride on her new bike while participating in the Toys For Kidz ride with our Chapter recently.

News From Our Chapter Directors
Rick & Alyce Dietly



Merry Christmas

Keep our Chapter Christmas Party in mind on **Sunday, December 11th**. It will start at 1:00 P.M., at Coleman Public Library Annex, 400 S. Commercial Ave., Coleman, Tx.

Of course, it is a Chapter tradition to have a Chinese gift exchange....so, please bring one gift per person that is not gender specific, value not to exceed \$10.00. The idea is to have fun, so try to be funny; practicality is not a requirement.

Our toy run in Brownwood on Nov 12, sure helped out Santa's stock room. They already have over 500 requests. Afterwards we took about an hour ride through the country side and returned to Brownwood for food. Which brought smiles to the big kids faces.

Have a very Merry Christmas and A Happy and Healthy New Year !

Ride Safe

Rick & Alyce

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Ken's Motorcycle Shop, Eastland

Texas Trikes, Decatur

News from Our Chapter O2 Educators David and Mary Graham



Hello Boys and Girls

It's that time again, I do hope everyone had a great thanksgiving and did not eat too much. This year is slipping by pretty quickly. It will soon be 2012 before we know it, there are some really nice days lately. Hopefully you have got to get out and do a bit of riding, We are very lucky there are not extra long periods of time where we can't ride.

We finally did manage to get the level one patches to Betty and Rodger Sellers Welcome aboard.

The toy run was fun, as always. We had a pretty good turn out thanks to all. The lunch and visit was great, THANKS TO ALL.

As it has cooled down be sure you check your tires. I know you do this anyway, but just a reminder.

Get out the cold weather gear just in case you decide to go for a ride. We are going to have a warmer than normal winter or that's the weatherman is saying now and drier. Hopefully he will miss the drier.

I hope every one is ready for Christmas it will be here before you know it; Christmas Party is just around the corner I do hope every one will try and attend its going to be different and just a lot of fun. Hope to see every one there so be sure make plans to attend.

I want to thank everyone who is in the levels program and those that are keeping up to date hopefully we will get more people in the program and more up grades.

Be safe, ride, often; watch out for every one, there are lots of silly people out there,

Look twice, make sure.

News From Our Membership Enhancement Coordinators

Dave & Jean Simmons



The “gang” rode to Grand Starz Bingo Hall to deliver Christmas toys for Brownwood area children (see story on page 2)

As your Chapter O2 Membership Enhancement Coordinators, it is one part (but not all) of our job to “enhance your membership”. Just what does this mean? We really don’t know unless you tell us!

Of course, part of our job is “paperwork” (or, in this day and age, “computer work”). We are responsible for reporting to our District, Region, and International. We also contact each of you when your names turn up on the “about to expire membership list” to remind you that it is time to renew. We also contact all new GWRRA members located in our area to let them know about our Chapter and invite them to participate.

Of course, when we do encourage new members to attend one of our gatherings, it is the responsibility of the entire chapter to make them feel welcome, get to know them, and maybe even give them a call later to let them know what a friendly chapter we are!

So, what else can we do to “enhance your membership”? Of course we can plan activities such as our upcoming Chili Day at the Lake, but what else can we do? We don’t know if you don’t tell us. Of course, we will not be able to honor all requests or solve all problems, but we will certainly give them all consideration.