

Chapter T
Texas District
South Central Region H
GWRRA

April 2017



WINGNUT

Each month, Chapter T, awards this coveted award. If you are not riding, you are not winning.

Congrats to Jim Woodul for the month of March!



Next Gathering:
May 23, 2017

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Greetings Chapter T,

There have been several rides that the chapter has been on since our last gathering. Hope you have been able to attend some of them. If you missed them, listen to the stories as those who attended tell about the fun they had and the great food they enjoyed.

As we write this article we have enjoyed a great day attending Chapter J's rally in Beaumont and then Chapter N2's chapter gathering in Humble. We hope you will look for opportunities to support other chapters by attending their meetings and rallies as a way of encouraging them to come support chapter T. Speaking of which, it's never too late to start planning for T-Fest, October 14th.

We will be traveling tomorrow to Marshall for the Region H Rally (April 27-29) and hope some of you are planning to be there also. Next important event is the Texas District Rally in Wichita Falls, May 18-20. This is where we will official take the reins of the district. Hope you will attend this event and support us in our new position as you have supported us at the chapter level.

Well the time has come and we are stepping down as your Chapter Director's. But we aren't going far, only to your Texas District Director's. We have thoroughly enjoyed our 8 years as your director's and will still be around for most chapter events. But as you know we love to travel and ride, and will continue to expand our circle by attending rallies and making new friends. We know you will continue to support Rick as he takes over the leadership of the chapter as you have supported us. What has made our time as your directors enjoyable is that you all pitch in and help with any task when you are asked.

We hope to lead the Texas District as well as we hope we have lead the chapter, and bring some of the things we do in chapter T to the other 22 chapters in Texas.

See you ridin',

Jim and Alvalin

Rider Education

"Safety is for Life"



Our Motto...

"Safety is for Life"

Our Mission...

"To Save Lives Through Quality, World Class Education"

THE INVISIBLE MOTORCYCLIST

Riding season is here but are we really ready to hit the road? In the last few months I have talked about getting your bike or trike ready to ride, cautions to take as we begin this riding year, and the proper clothing to wear or **"ATGATT"**.

"I never saw him. He came out of nowhere!" That's probably the most common statement heard at a collision between an automobile and a motorcyclist. These statements are usually made by the operator of the auto because the motorcyclist is unconscious (or worse).

As riders we wonder, "How can *they* NOT see us? Are *they* just not looking?"

A lack of attention on the part of the driver does explain some of the car/bike collisions, such as distracted driving because of cell phones, unruly children, eating or drinking, etc. All these can contribute **BUT** some responsibility belongs to the motorcyclist as well.

I know. I know. That's heresy. Let me explain....

- Motorcycles make up about 3% of the "normal" traffic flow.
- People "see" what they expect to see; things like cars and trucks

Unless the rider does something to visually stand out, he can be easily overlooked.

- Motorcycles **ARE** much harder to see than cars/trucks because of their smaller size. A motorcycle can easily be "lost" in the background even with the headlight on.

Many motorcycles have colors that lend themselves to blending into the environment. Particularly dark colored machines (black is the color of pavement after all).

Many motorcyclists wear dark colored helmets (or no helmet at all, but we won't discuss those here) AND dark colored clothing. A number of studies in the US and abroad have shown that a light colored (white, silver, yellow) helmet is more noticeable (during daylight hours) than a dark colored (black, dark red, dark blue) helmet. Why? The driver sees this bright colored "orb" floating above the traffic (most riders heads are

Rider Education

"Safety is for Life"

higher than the hoods/windshields of cars). **It's DIFFERENT!**

Lastly (and sadly), most motorcyclists are not skilled in emergency maneuvers. Over 13% of the motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes made NO effort to avoid the collision. They didn't brake, they didn't swerve, they just rode right into the collision. That's because, after they've gotten their license, they don't practice those kinds of maneuvers regularly (or ever). Motorcycling is a **SKILL!** It takes practice.

So how can you NOT be the Invisible Motorcyclist?

- Position your bike so it can be seen and identified in the traffic stream.
- Wear bright colors
- Consider getting a brightly colored bike
- PRACTICE your emergency maneuvers

Or you could take the advice I got once from a very experienced rider. He told me not to "ride like I was invisible." He told me to ride like they can see me and are actively planning to do something to take me out."

This is a short taken from the GWRRA website to illustrate the interactions between autos and bikes. Every week we read or hear of an accident involving a motorcycle. Here recently, a lot have resulted in death.

If the auto drivers are not seeing us we need to double our efforts to be seen, this article points out ways to do just that. We all know them but a lot of times forget to use the techniques mentioned.

"WE MUST BE SEEN TO ALLOW US TO RIDE SAFELY."

See Ya Ridin',

Dale and Carleen
Chapter Educators



Rallies and Rides

Bluebonnet Rally

On 8 April 2017, Andrea and I headed over to Fredericksburg to Chapter O's Bluebonnet Rally. We were joined on the ride over there by Danny/Peggy Thacker, Ron Decker and our newest member Gary Tracy. We departed Killeen and headed out on Hwy 195 and wound our way back and forth to Marble Falls on my normal route. I always try and find the hills and curves as much as possible. In Marble Falls we took Hwy 281 down to Johnson City and then 290 over to Fredericksburg. It was a normal smooth ride over to the rally site. Once we arrived, we were met at the rally by members Jeff/Penny Hungerford



and Jerry Parnell!!! We all had a good time and showed Gary the ropes of how the rallies go. Chapter O had plenty of games, door prizes, silent auction items and a great lunch meal. Vendors had plenty of items for sale and I am sure we helped to keep them coming back!! We met a couple that we hadn't seen in years and a lot of others that we get to see all the time. Once the rally was over, we took FM 965 over by Enchanted Rock and then 16 back to Llano. After a quick stop, we took 29 over to Burnet and FM 963 over to Oakalla and then up to Cove. Hwy 190 was our final route back to Killeen (Jesse and Gina Martinez). It was a great ride and I am sure fun was had by all.



LeRoy and Andrea Douglas



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Rallies and Rides

Our Trip to Utah!!

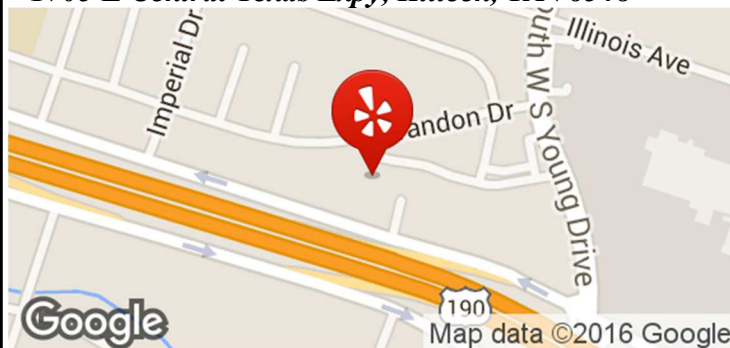
From 10 April thru 16 April 2017, Andrea and I made a trip to Utah. It was our first time going out West and had planned this for some time, but at the last minute made it happen.

Day 1: We departed at 5:15AM headed to New Mexico with the threat of thunderstorms near Abilene. We knew that the storms would be severe but were pretty sure we could get out of the area before they hit. All I can say was it was perfect timing!! We breezed thru Abilene and headed northwest to Lubbock without seeing a drop of rain. Once we left I20 and began our trip to Lubbock, the winds took over and blew us from side to side. We took a quick stop to rest, look at the radar and suit up for an apparent rain storm. Well we got all of about 4 drops of rain on the windshield, the winds died down some and we hit the New Mexico border with plenty of daylight ahead. We planned on stopping early in N.M. but decided to get as far as we could. We made it to west of Albuquerque and stopped for the night. First day: 685 miles!!



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Rallies and Rides

Day 2: Once again it was an early start and we guided the Goldwing's onto I40 and took off for our destination; Kanab, Utah. With the cruises set on 70, we enjoyed the light traffic and scenic beauty of west New Mexico until we got to Gallup. There it was Hwy 264 over into Arizona and the numerous miles thru Indian Territory. Not a lot to see but we did take some routes that had a lot of beauty. We hit Hwy 191 north to Many Farms and took BIA 59 over to intersect with Hwy 160. We stopped in Kayenta for a quick bite. Outside of Kayenta, we hooked up with Hwy 98 over to Page, Arizona. We



stopped outside of Page at the Glen Canyon Dam for a quick break and photo op but stayed there over an hour talking to visitors to the area and others who wanted to stop and take pictures of the bikes. We knew it was getting late and headed the 90 miles over to Kanab for the night.

Day 3: The highlight of the trip awaited and we were very excited to head north and see what was in store. We stopped in Orderville at a German Restaurant and Bakery for some brötchen (German style rolls) and continued on our trek to Bryce Canyon. It was very busy for a weekday (Easter Week and spring break for some) so we entered the park and headed for the farthest point to put all of the stops on our right side. We arrived there and immediately had to stop for some foreign visitors to take pictures of the bikes. Now about the Canyon!! It is probably one of the most beautiful sites we had ever been to. It was just amazing what mother nature had formed and the absolute breathtaking views at every stop. We spent about 4 hours in the park, but made sure not to take it all in. We wanted something to come back to. We left the park and headed east on Scenic Hwy 12. I had looked at the brochures and looked the route over on google maps, but was excited once we hit the road, since this was the type of roads I love to take. It took us 4 hours to drive the 120 miles and



Rallies and Rides

stopped for the night in Bicknell. We were able to eat at a movie theater in Bicknell and got us a very big waffle cone of ice cream. What a way to end the day!!

Day 4: Well this was the day we had planned on ending up in Colorado, but instead decided to retrace our route from the previous day and end back up in Kanab!! We are so glad we did because going the opposite way, we were able to see and take pictures of things we had missed. Snow was on the mountain but the roads were clear but windy and cold. We took Hwy 12 back to Hwy 89 and then back to Orderville, of course to stop at the bakery again. There we ate lunch, then got back on the bikes to Kanab. We knew we had to catch up on some rest, so we just checked in to Parry Lodge, did laundry and did some walking around the beautiful town. We ate at the Iron Horse Restaurant and got back in the room for some shut eye!!

Day 5: Time to head back towards Texas, so we hit the road for Springerville, AZ. We took Hwy 89A down south that runs thru northern Arizona thru some great looking scenery and then opens up wide to a beautiful valley. We started out with temps in the mid 30's and ended up in Springerville in the mid 70's. It was a great ride, and we took several different route changes before stopping in Winslow, Az. We did a quick tour of the town and took some pictures of the very famous corner. We stopped to eat at Denny's and quickly headed southeast to our destination after filling our tummies.

Day 6: This was by far the coldest and hottest day of the trip. We knew that we would lose two hours for daylight savings time so headed out before sunrise thru the mountains of eastern Arizona. We were able to get many picture of Elks in the town of Alpine and then headed east towards New Mexico. We stopped at the border to take pics and add clothing. As we left, the temperature was 28 degrees in the mountains but very light winds. We were going up and down and thru the many curves until we hit open land and we were able to cruise down to I20 in Demming NM. We stopped at a tourist shop and to start shedding our layers of outerwear. As we passed El Paso, it started building temperatures into the 80's and before we arrived in



Rallies and Rides

Ft Stockton, it reached a temp of 90. We stopped for the night and got a very good night sleep knowing that tomorrow we would be home.

Day 7: The weather forecast for this day looked gloomy and we were sure we would hit rain before we arrived in Killeen. The previous day had shorted out my headlights so we headed out on I10 with Andrea leading and me with just my driving lights on. By the time we hit Iraan, it started getting brighter, but with the clouds, it still took another 30 minutes before it was bright enough for me to lead the way home. 190 miles from the house we took on drizzle, but never got the downpour we were expecting. We made it in to Killeen before lunch and started downloading and cleaning the bikes.

In all, we took over 2500 pictures for the seven days with around 2200 saved ones. This was probably one of the best trips we had taken and are really looking forward to our next trip to Utah!!

LeRoy and Andrea Douglas

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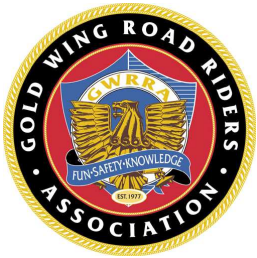


Justin Mitchell
Co-Owner & General Man-

Mitchell Motorsports is a family-owned and operated trike, motorcycle, ATV/UTV, and outdoor power dealer. We specialize in building trikes for Motor Trike and California Sidecar. We now have in-house financing for local buyers. Our desire is to ensure you have the best experience while at our store and long after. We consider customer satis-



Travis Mitchell
Co-Owner & General Man-



From National:

Wing Ding 39

From President GWRRRA



Volunteers are needed! Areas needing assistance include: booths, registration, ticket sales, stages shows, retail store, grand parade, bike show, contents, trade show greeters, assistants for field events and courses.

You can volunteer by going to the following website: <http://utility.gwrra.org/volunteer-wing-ding-39/>



From Region:

Discover the Hospitality Region

"Boogie Woogie" Down To Marshall

Region H Rally

April 27, 28, 29, 2017



From District:

TX District Rally: There will be changes from previous rallies:

The talent show has been replaced; there will be "Tribal Fun Games" on Friday and Saturday; a Chapter Feud Championship will replace the "Not So Newly Wed Game". Find the full schedule on the Rally Web Page!

<http://www.gwrra-tx.org/news/2017WichitaFallsRallySchedule.pdf>



2017 Save the Date



April 2017

22 April - Chapter J Rally - Beaumont, Tx

22 April - Ride to Llano - Llano, Tx

25 April - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

27 - 29 April - Region H Rally - Marshall, Tx

May 2017

9 May - Chapter T2 Gathering - Georgetown, Tx

18 - 20 May - Texas District Rally - Wichita Falls, Tx

23 May - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

27 May - Chapter LA-M, Mudbug Rally - Deridder, LA

June 2017

1 - 3 June - Missouri District Rally - Branson, Mo.

13 June - Chapter T2 Gathering - Georgetown, Tx

23 - 24 June - Kansas District Rally - Hutchinson, Ks.

27 June - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

July 2017

14 - 15 July - Arkansas District

Rally - Eureka Springs, Ar.

25 July - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

August 2017

22 August - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

29 August - 2 September - Wing Ding 39 - Grapevine, Tx

September 2017

26 September - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

28 - 30 September - Oklahoma District Rally - Muskogee, Ok

October 2017

14 October - T-Fest Rally - Harker Heights, Tx

12 - 14 October - Mississippi District Rally - Gulfport, Ms.

24 October - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

November 2017

28 November - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

December 2017

8 December - Chapter Christmas Party - Harker Heights 378158



Wingin' Fun Corner

March 2017 (Answers)

Wingnut Funny Business

A man appears at The Pearly Gates.

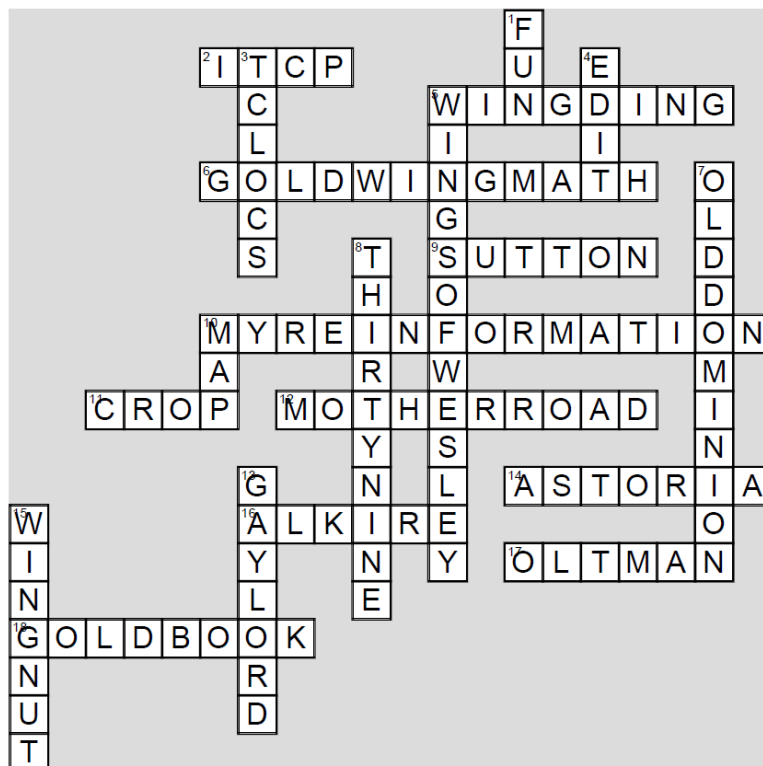
"Have you ever done anything of particular merit? Have you exhibited courage?", St. Peter asks.

"Well, I can think of one thing," the man offers.

"Once I came upon a group of bikers who were bothering a young woman. I told them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So...I approached the largest and meanest looking one, and smacked him on the head, kicked his bike over, ripped out his earring and threw it on the ground, and told all them to get out of here!"

St. Peter was visibly impressed. "When did this happen?"

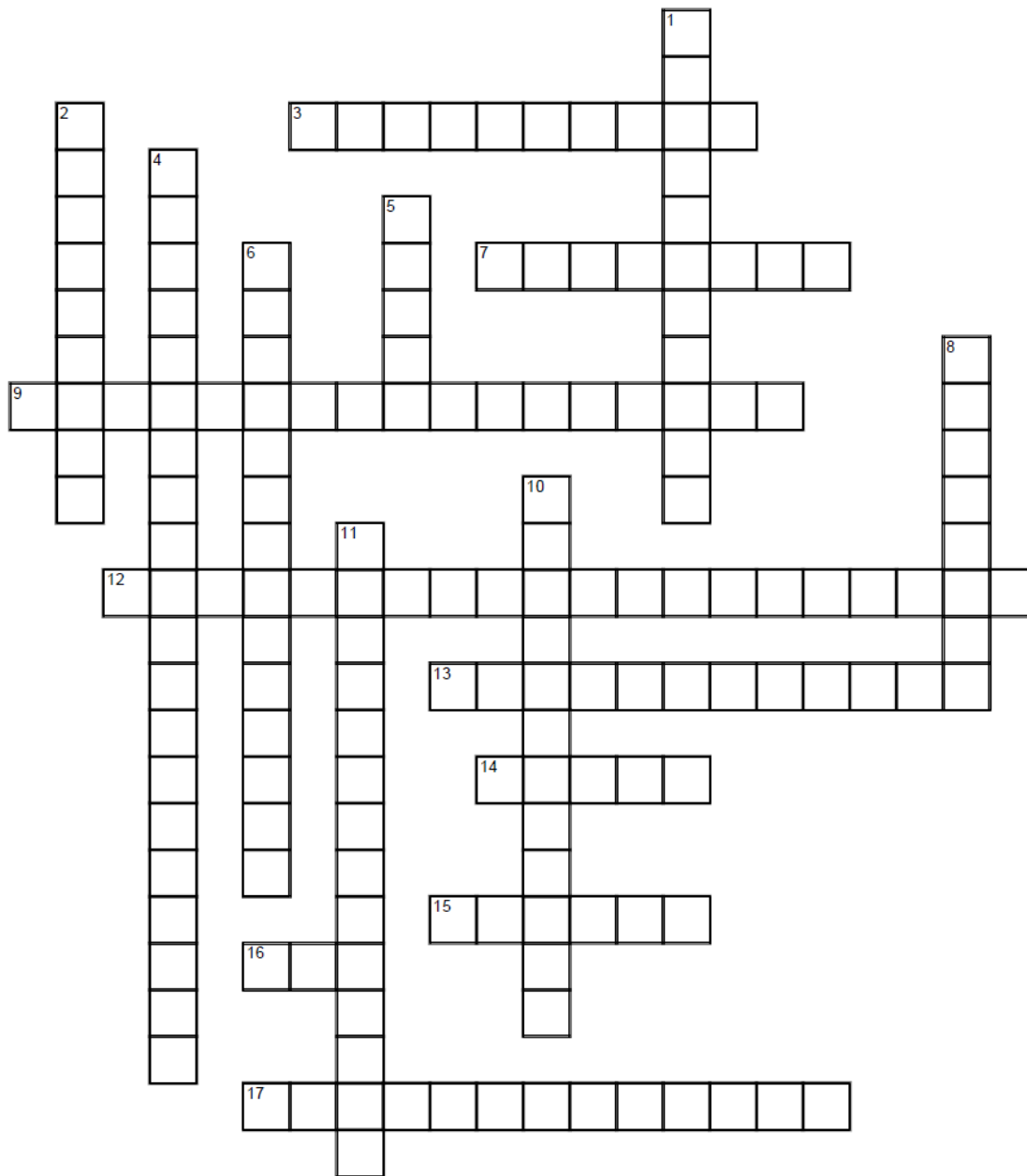
"Just a few minutes ago..."



Helmets Are Good For Something



April 2017 Puzzle

**Across**

- 3 Chapter O Rally
 7 Chapter T gathering site
 9 Previous CHT Directors
 12 TX District Rally Theme
 13 A way not to be "invisible"
 14 Founded in 1977
 15 Acronym for always wearing proper motorcycle gear
 16 A local place to service your bike
 17 Phoenix, AZ in 1979

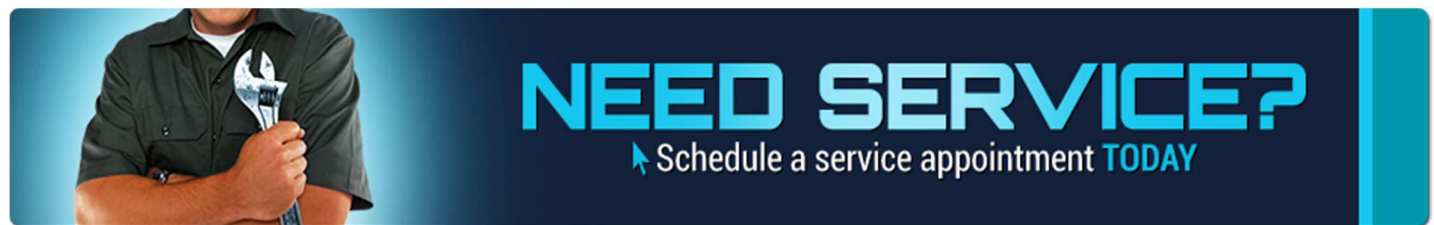
Down

- 1 Wing World Contest
 2 A place to convert a bike to a trike
 4 Region H Motto
 5 40 Years Old
 6 Greeter at 1st Wing Ding
 8 A German bakery and deli
 10 Region H Rally Theme
 11 Site of Bluebonnet Rally



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Birthdays and Anniversaries



GWRRA

May: Deb J (97),
Ron D (98)

June: Young B (03),
LeRoy & Andrea
(06), Bob & Harriet
(06), Jim & Nora
(09)

July: Richard D
(07), Robert &
Sherri R (14)



Birthdays

May: Tim B (1),
Peggy T (8), Jerry
P (12), Jim B (23),
Brady K (28), Mary
Ann B (29)

June: Violet S
(15), Carleen G
(17)

July: Harriet F
(13), Bernadine S
(20), Jeff H (23)



Anniversaries

May: LeRoy & Andrea
D (15), Dale &
Carleen G (28)

June:

July: Bill & Inge-
borg C (1)

Guess Who?!



Blast from the past! Can you guess who this good
looking couple is?!

Their names are hidden in this month's newsletter. . . .



Chapter T Team

Chapter Directors:

Jim & Alvalin Woodul
Phone: (254) 634-4658

Asst. Chapter Director:

Rick Simmons

Rider Educator:

Dale & Carleen Garrett

Ride Coordinators:

Danny & Peggy Thacker

Chapter Couple of the Year:

Danny & Peggy Thacker

Membership Enhancement Coordinators:

Danny & Peggy Thacker

Treasurers:

Tim & Young Brooks

Webmaster:

LeRoy Douglas

Newsletter Editor:

Rick Simmons

Vendor Coordinator:

Andrea Douglas

Team members may be contacted by E-Mail using the: **Contact Us** page of the Chapter T website:

centexwings.org.

**Our Next
Gathering is
May 23, 2017**



www.gwrra-tx.org



www.region-h.org



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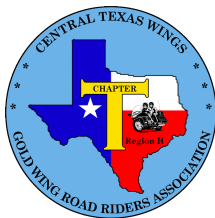


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 9:30am - Chapter T2	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 7pm - Chapter O	17	18	19	20 Texas District Rally @ Wichita Falls, TX, USA
21	22	23 7pm - Chapter T	24	25	26	27 Chapter LA-M,
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 Missouri District Rally @ Branson, MO 65616, USA



June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				Missouri District Rally @ Branson, MO 65616, USA		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		9:30am - Chapter T2 9:30am - Chapter T2				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		7pm - Chapter O			Kansas District Rally @ Hutchinson, KS, USA	
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		7pm - Chapter T				



July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	25	26	27	28	29	1
		7pm - Chapter T				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					Arkansas District Rally @ Eureka Springs,	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		7pm - Chapter O				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		7pm - Chapter T				
30	31	1	2	3	4	5