

Chapter T

Texas District

GWRRRA

www.centexwings.org

February 2018

WINGNUT

Each month, Chapter T, awards this coveted award. In January it was awarded to Suzanne M. If you are not riding, you are not winning



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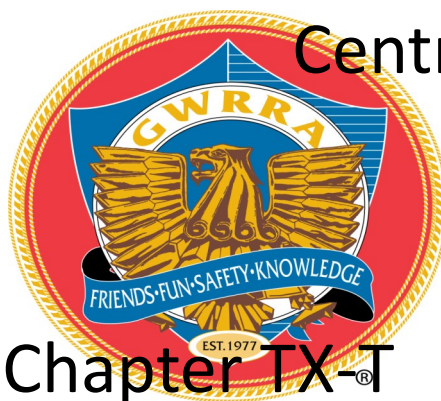
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Next Chapter Meeting ;

March 27th



Central Texas Wings



Chapter TX-T®



Hello Chapter T and Friends,

Welcome to the month of February, which was pretty cold and wet. Mr. LeRoy is doing well and says "Hello" to everyone. He is saving up for his new ride!

I tell you all, with the Video chats these days, things are so much easier to stay in touch with your loved ones. Riding season can't be here soon enough and I am sure I speak for everyone. Our first Team Meeting was accomplished this month and it went pretty well. The Team Meeting is open to all Chapter Members. We are always looking for new ideas. At this point I want to say "Thank you" to all members who joined us that day and the great work everyone is doing for the Chapter. We also went on a Birthday dinner Ride for Danny T. at Linda's Mexican Restaurant in Kempner. Most of us went in our four wheels, but we had one bike. Great turn out and our Birthday child looks still young. Food was great!

If you did not participate at "The 2018 Goldwing Wrench Party " at Killeen Power Sports, you have missed a great time. We had a wonderful turn out and everyone had fun. Even LeRoy, who watched it on Facebook live. Please read more in Jose's article about this event.

The Texas District Education weekend is just around the corner. You still have time to register. This is a great way to keep your levels in good standing, learning new things, refreshing your memory and making more great friends. The deadline for registration is 1 March 2018. The class schedule will be posted shortly after from the District. For more upcoming rides and events, please check our website regularly. Hope to see everyone soon on a ride or event. Remember, only if you participate, You find out how much fun you can have.

Until than, be always safe on your rides! Allzeit gute Fahrt!

Andrea Douglas

Chapter Director

Habit Strength

By Randy and

Kathy Reese. Texas District Educators

By definition, habit strength is “a function of the frequency with which an action has been repeated in a stable context and has acquired a high degree of habitual automaticity”. In other words, do something the same way enough times and you don’t have to think about it to complete the task.

Think of your day-to-day activities as habits; virtually all behaviors are habits. Every time you brush your teeth or tie your shoes, you do it the same way out of habit and (usually) don’t have to think about it. That’s because you’ve been doing it for so long it comes naturally to do it the same way. Initially someone had to teach you the right way to do all these things. But what if they taught you incorrectly or you have been doing it wrong for so long that you have developed a bad habit? I know that I for one have been scolded by my dentist in the past for not brushing properly.

Habit strength also relates to your riding skills and their development/maintenance. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change or even to recognize that you do it. Think about how you handle stop and go traffic; do you consciously think about down-shifting or when (or when not) to put your feet down? How about driving into your driveway and garage? "It’s just second nature, I do it all the time." you say. That's a strong habit; is it a good or bad habit?

What if I ask you about delayed apex turns or where to look coming into a blind right hander or when you downshift/brake coming into an unfamiliar blind turn? Most people will answer differently, but here's a personal example. It took me over 3000 miles of riding my 1800 before I stopped downshifting coming into twisties. After years of riding my 1500, I naturally shifted to 4th when coming into curves. I know consciously that I don't need to do that as much, with the power/torque of the 1800, but occasionally I still catch myself doing it and have to fight this unnecessary habit. Can you say habit strength?



Ride Safe!

Ride Often!

Practice Good Habits!

The following are the 7 worst habits that the MSF would like you to avoid.

Avoid entering corners too fast and braking deep into the turn. The (4) recommended basic steps in approaching and turning through a corner are: SLOW (down to a comfortable speed before entering the turn), LOOK (where you want to be going and as far into the turn as possible), PRESS (the inside bar to counter-steer in the direction you want to go) and ROLL (on the throttle or at least keep it steady through the turn).

Putting your feet down before you come to a complete stop. Keep your feet on the pegs right up until it's time to stop - then, when you are almost completely stopped, set down your left foot so that you can still use the rear brake with your right foot.

Not squaring bars to the chassis when you come to a stop. To avoid a last minute wobble when you stop, keep looking straight ahead to help keep your bars straight.

Having low eyes. Means you're not looking far enough ahead. You should be constantly scanning far ahead at various intervals and don't fixate on anything for more than a split second.

Not using the front brake enough (if at all). The front brake will provide most of your stopping power on most bikes and, apparently, a lot of self-schooled riders are afraid of doing an endo if they grab too much of the front. Proper braking technique involves a coordination of the use of both brakes.

Using the "two finger" method of braking. When riding on the street, the correct method is to roll off the throttle and progressively squeeze the front brake with all four fingers.

Using poor lane position when riding in a group. Keep out of other rider's blind spots, keep in a staggered formation while riding in groups, allow room for unexpected maneuvers and maintain maximum visibility.

I re-took the Advanced Rider's Course a few months ago. I've been riding for over 50 years and yet initially had issues with some of the maneuvers. The instructor was all too happy to point out the causes for my problems and by the end of the session I was going through just fine. All I needed was someone to point out the bad habits, how to do it the correct way and practice. "It feels funny", I would say about some of his suggestions. Sure it feels funny, it's not the way I'd become accustomed to doing it.

Bad habits or good, they're just as strong. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change it. Only learning the right way and with a lot of practice will make you a better rider. Which would you rather have working for you, riding habits/skills that can help avoid or get you out of a tight situation, or habits that lead to a bad situation?



Texas District Education Weekend

March 10-11, 2018 • TAMU Central Texas • Killeen, Texas

Registration Form

Chapter: _____

Rider _____ GWRRRA# _____ Exp Date: _____
 2nd Rider/Co Rider _____ GWRRRA# _____ Exp Date: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # (____) _____
 Rider's email _____ 2nd Rider's email _____

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY MARCH 1

Riding Courses/MFA filled on first come/first served basis
 Classes offered 8:00 am – 5:00 Saturday and 9:00 – 1:00 Sunday

Riding/MFA Courses

	QTY	COST	TOTAL
Trike Riders Course – Full Course (Class and range)	_____	\$50 ea	\$ _____
Trike Riders Course – Recertification (range only)	_____	\$35 ea	\$ _____
Advanced Riders Course – Recertification (range only)	_____	\$35 ea	\$ _____
First Aid/CPR – new curriculum	_____	\$25 ea	\$ _____
Road Captain Course *- Full Course (Class and range)	_____	\$5 ea	\$ _____
* Preference given to Ride Coordinators			
Total Enclosed			\$ _____

Seminars/Modules

Co-Rider Seminar (can be used for levels)	_____	FREE
Team Riding Seminar	_____	FREE
Motorcycling for the Mature Rider Seminar	_____	FREE
Module - This One's for Girls - Women in Leadership Roles	_____	FREE
Module - My Enthusiasm Counts – Chapter MEC Role	_____	FREE
Module - You Got Mail – Email Etiquette	_____	FREE

Final Event Schedule will be published by March 1 and is dependent on registration

Waiver: I/We agree to hold harmless GWRRRA, the Co-Sponsoring Organization, and any property owners for any loss or injuries to self or property in which I/we may become involved by reason of participation in this event. I/We also agree to assume responsibility for any property I/We knowingly damage.

Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

2nd Rider/Co-Rider Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sign form and mail with payment (payable to GWRRRA-Texas) to PO Box 10438 Killeen, Tx 76547-0438



Hotel Options
 Residence Inn Marriott, Candlewood Suites, Towneplace Suites Marriott, Holiday Inn, Woodspring Suites, Quality Inn, Sleep Inn, Motel 6, Travelodge, Hampton, Shiloh Inn, and many others. Hotels range from \$84.00 and up. If you need any assistance contact Jim and Alvalin Woodul at 254-634-4658 or 254-458-2079.



REMEMBER WHEN?



Mark your Calendars

March 2018

10-11 March - District Education Weekend – TAMUCT – Killeen, Tx

17 March – Ride to The Oscar Store, Oscar, Tx

22-24 March – Florida District Rally – Orlando, Fl

27 March - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

April 2018

5-7 April - Chapter O – Bluebonnet Rally & Camp Out – Fredericksburg, Tx

12-14 April – Louisiana District Rally – Lafayette, La

20-22 April – Chapter K2 Picnic and Campout – Garner State Park

24 April - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

May 2018

12 May – Chapter LA-M Mudbug Rally – Deridder, La

17-19 May – Texas District Rally – Brenham, Tx

That Motorcycle Vision Thing

Dale Garrett

A “visionary” is someone who has the ability to evaluate current information, use it to project likely developments in the future, and take effective action today to manage future events and avoid having those events manage them. Former President George H.W. Bush famously referred to this ability as the “Vision Thing.” And the Vision Thing also can apply to riding a motorcycle.

Anyone who has taken the Basic Rider Course knows a motorcycle goes where you look, and effective cornering depends on a rider “looking through” the curve. But in many ways, that only scratches the surface of the “Motorcycle Vision Thing” for riders.

Focusing your sight on the proper “primary” and “secondary” targets is important both to achieving a smooth and effective riding technique and mitigating the dangers incumbent in riding a motorcycle on the street. Primary targets are those of the highest priority, and they demand a rider’s immediate, primary focus. Secondary targets, on the other hand, should be monitored by a rider’s secondary focus, or peripheral vision. For example, when a rider suddenly detects a pothole or other road hazard in his or her peripheral vision, that hazard should, immediately, become a primary target. But instead of fixating on that hazard, the rider should visualize and focus on the best path to avoid it. After the danger has passed, riders should then refocus their attention to the new primary target (i.e., the one with the highest priority).

In the absence of an immediate threat, riders generally should focus as far down the road as their sightline allows, but also keep their eyes roving 360 degrees (by using their mirrors) to detect potential dangers. The farther ahead you focus, the easier it is for your brain to process what you are seeing. It’s as if your bike’s forward motion is progressing at a slower pace. Focusing closer to the front wheel makes the activity being processed by the brain seem to be happening much faster. This often results in jerky rider inputs through the handlebars, brakes, and throttle and less time to detect and avoid hazards.

Let’s consider another example of how this riding technique should work. When riding in a group, particularly if it’s tightly packed, there’s a tendency for riders to focus on the motorcycle directly in front of them, making it their primary target. Because the following rider is not focusing on the road ahead, he or she is constantly braking, accelerating, and erratically executing corners. If, instead, the road becomes the following rider’s primary focus, and the other riders ahead are placed in peripheral vision, the following rider will be smoother and safer.

A rider can practice sharpening up their peripheral vision even when they’re not riding. For example, while walking down a sidewalk, try to pick out details in your surroundings without looking at them directly. With a little practice, riders can master the Motorcycle Vision Thing and improve their riding technique and safety.

Partial reprint of the RoadRUNNER Motorcycle Touring & Travel Magazine May 2009 e-newsletter, permitted by RoadRUNNER magazine, published 6x per year, www.roadrunner.travel.

OUR FIRST RIDE IN 2018

Greetings. What a great 1st Ride we had last month. We met up with Chapter O on for their ride to Reverend Jim's Pub in Buchanan Dam here in Texas. Joining me was Jose and Celest S. and Stephen H. We left a little later in the morning than usual and thank goodness, it was chilly and windy. During our ride the temperature went pleasantly up which made for a perfect day to get some great photos.

We went south on Hwy195 to Florence, did a quick stop in Bertram and Burnett. We then proceeded west on Hwy 29 straight to Buchanan Dam.



At the Pub we met up with 8 members of Chapter O. We fellowshiped with our fellow wing brothers and sister while having lunch on the outside patio.

The food was outstanding! I took photos of different orders, so please check them out on our website. After we were all fed, we hopped on our wings and headed on Hwy 29 to Hwy 281 and back on Hwy 190 home safely. The temperature, when we left, was 75F. Can't beat that for a day in January. Looking forward to the next great ride. Hopefully the freezing and wet weather will clear up soon, so we can enjoy our wheelies!

Andrea Douglas



Greetings Chapter T,

On Saturday, February 24th, fellow chapter members supported our local dealer, Killeen Power Sports, for their 2018 Honda Goldwing Launch Party, at KPS. My wife Celest and I along with Andrea are super happy to see our members show up to this event, and even Leroy got to see the unveiling of his new Goldwing....I mean the new Goldwing of course. KPS owner Jim Foster was on hand and greeted all attendees as well as David, from KPS. We were even treated for lunch and guess what we had? Wings of course.

The 2018 Goldwing Tour on hand was a, Candy Ardent Red, beautiful 6 speed manual transmission. During the reading of the Honda Official Release, David was asked a ton of questions by our members which kept him on his toes. One benefit David and owner Jim had was that they both test rode the 2018 Goldwing tour and they both concur that the DCT version is one heck of a ride. Please check out the photo gallery posted on our website to see all who attended this event and of the new Goldwing. Last week I got to see a Blue, 2018 Goldwing Tour DCT model at Chapter O's meeting. Very nice. One of the echoing sentiment of the day was, "You have to ride the DCT model for yourself and once you do, you may never go back to the manual transmission," David stated. Well, I may just have to do that before passing judgement on this beautiful ride. Well, Celest and I are looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting, March 27th. Please Keep Andrea's son Eric in your prayers. See ya'll soon.

Jose and Celest Soto

Assistant Chapter Directors



Computer Solutions

For your complete computer needs, both hardware and software,
 contact Dan at (254) 680-2983.



John Paulsen
 Director of Creative - Marketing - Social
 Killeen Powersports - Indian of Fort Hood



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