

Chapter T
Texas District
South Central Region H
GWRRA
<http://centexwings.org/>

June 2017



WINGNUT

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

Congrats to Gary Tracy for the month of June 2017



Next Gathering:
July 25, 2017

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Howdy, Chapter T!

Well, well, well! This is the second gathering with a change in chapter leadership!

I would like to welcome and extend to both LeRoy and Andrea Douglas my heartfelt gratitude for accepting the Chapter Director positions. They have served in various capacities in the chapter, since 2006, and are currently the webmaster for our website and the T-Fest vendor coordinators. They are destined to continue to move this chapter forward as we approach a new decade.

I shall remain as the Assistant Chapter Director and Newsletter editor, so that we may continue with a strong leadership team.

As many of you went on rides and other events last month, I took two weeks off and spent the time learning to shoe horses at the Oklahoma Horseshoeing School, in Purcell, Oklahoma. I quickly became the "grandpa student" as I was the oldest student at the school, but, I showed those young whipper-snappers, that an "old dog" can learn new tricks! This was a very intense, both physically and mentally demanding course (and some of the students are remaining for 8 and 12 weeks), where we spent the first hour each day in a classroom, and then the next 7-8 hours either "under" a horse, shoeing it or at a forge making horseshoes.

I completed the 2-week course with a certificate and the capability of shoeing my own horses, at some point when I purchase them!

I had a great time and am looking forward to a busy summer!

Safe Rides!

Rick Simmons, Assistant Chapter Director

Rider Education

"Safety is for



Our Motto...

"Safety is for Life"

Our Mission...

" To Save Lives Through Quality, World Class Education"

Last month Dale and Carleen discussed the Levels program within GWRRA, since we are now in full swing in the summer riding season, I would like to review an article I wrote several years ago concerning team riding.

As you know, GWRRA highly supports and endorses safe riding. Whenever you are on a ride with more than one bike, you have to take into account possible safety issues...you cannot just think of yourself, but you also need to think about the safety of the other riders and co-riders. It is for this reason GWRRA established certain procedures and guidance when riding with a group. GWRRA offers a couple of training seminars to assist with this (Road Captain Course and Team Riding seminars).

A team consists of two or more bikes on the same ride. As such, safety, fun, and enjoyment is ensured when following the set of "Rules of the Road". Some of them include ride planning (i.e. route, breaks, speed, team size, and start/end of the ride). The ride leader or Road Captain, has to take into account type of bike, level of rider experience, and weather when determining the route, breaks, and yes, even speed. Every member of the ride will ride their own ride, granted, but in being a member of that ride there needs to be an information exchange between rider and Road Captain on possible limitations so that the ride will remain safe for all throughout the ride. The speed of the ride should not exceed the posted speed limit or should be based on the road conditions for a safe ride; however, the speed of the ride should also take into account the experience level of the riders and be based on the rider with the least experience. This will ensure the team doesn't get overly spread out (everyone is able to stay in formation), and the least experienced rider will gain valuable experience and confidence in team riding - and will not drop out of the ride.

Rider Education

“Safety is for Life”

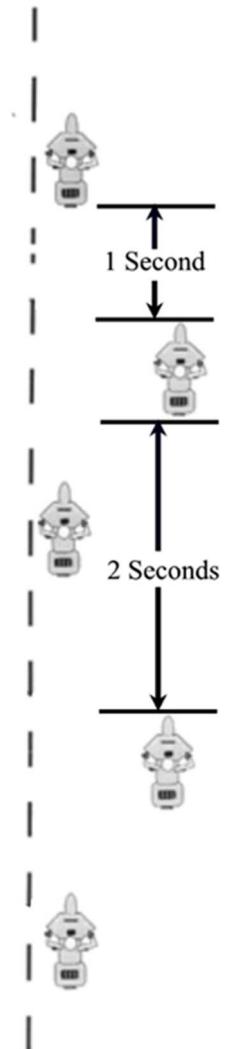
Part of safe team riding is maintaining the formation at safe intervals. Formation riding keeps all members of the ride safe by not allowing other vehicles to leap frog through open gaps. They will be forced to pass the entire group and not endanger individual riders. Now, formation riding is not as easy as one thinks...because the rider must concentrate on maintaining a safe following distance...I too, find my mind wandering during team rides, and lo and behold, I have created a gap a semi-tractor/trailer could drive through...

Look at the interval graphic. A safe formation (staggered) maintains a 1 second following distance with the rider on the diagonal and a 2 second interval with the rider directly to her/his front. If the formation must go to a single file, then maintain a 2 second interval with the bike ahead of you.

A very important part of safe team riding is communication. The neat thing about GoldWings is they are all citizen band radio capable (for a small mortgage 😊). It is an absolute that the Lead (Road Captain) and the Drag (last bike in the formation) have good communication. The CB radio is the best method for this. They are then able to work together and regulate the pace/speed of the ride based on traffic conditions, formation gaps, and any other information that needs to be passed on. Within the formation, a strategy is to place riders with radio communication in between riders without communication - helps to ensure all riders stay together (especially if there has to be a route deviation or the team has to negotiate traffic signals in towns and cities).

For those riders without a radio (and for those with radios to ensure information is passed), there are some important hand signals that will help keep everyone safe. Please note in these pictures the bare hand was used for demonstration and contrast. Always wear gloves when riding.

The first is the “Single File”: As shown in the picture at the right, the arm and index finger are extended straight up.



Rider Education

The second is the "Stagger Formation": As shown in the second picture, the arm and the first and fourth fingers are extended straight up (forming a "ram's horn").

The third is the "Hazard in Road": Point immediately with emphasis. Sometimes done with right arm or left foot.

The last is the "Stop or Slow": Arm extended straight down, palm back.

Keep your rubber side down!

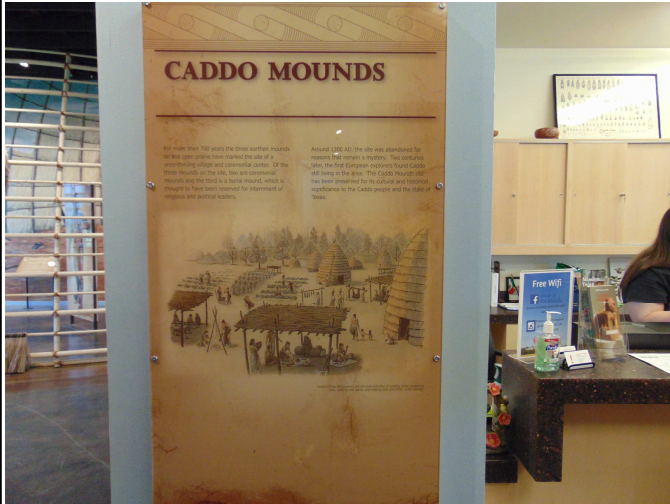
Rick Simmons
Assistant Chapter Director
"Safety is for Life"

"Safety is for Life"



Rallies and Rides

Mudbug Rally



Once again we were out on the road, this time headed to Deridder and the annual Mudbug Rally hosted by Chapter M of Deridder Louisiana. We left early in the morning on Friday joined by Gary Tracy. Our plan was to ride some back roads and get a look at some different roads than what we had done in the past. We headed over and picked up Hwy 7 towards Crockett. In Crockett, we picked up Hwy 21 and stopped at the Caddo Mounds State Historic Site for a quick visit to their muse-

um. We looked around, picked up a couple of gifts and hit Hwy 21 again towards Nacogdoches and then picked up Hwy 59. Dodging rain, we road Hwy 59 till it intersected with Hwy 84. There we headed east and stopped to eat in Logansport. We ate and headed out towards Leesville via Hwy 191 that wound back and forth to South Toledo Bend State Park. We decided not to stop but put it on a list to go back to. We made it into to Leesville and stayed the night there.

Next morning it was on to Deridder and the American Legion Hall for the Rally. There we met up with members and new Texas District Directors, Jim and Alvalin Woodul. We had loads of fun, played some games and ate some great food before the closing ceremony. After the rally, we headed back down to South Toledo Bend for a ride and scenery tour. We stopped for a view of the area and photo ops before heading back to the motel. We all ate dinner (great food) and then said out goodbyes to Jim and Alvalin and tucked the bikes and trike away until the morning.

On Sunday, we headed out early in the morning for the ride home. Once again rain was in the forecast but nothing more than a drizzle hit our windshields and we were back in Killeen right after noon.



Rallies and Rides

Strawn, Texas



A ride to Strawn, Texas was next on a list. This time to visit and eat and Mary's Café for Chicken Fried Steak. Andrea and I were joined by Gary Tracy, Danny Thacker, and Chapter O members Rob and Trish Winfield. We left out from Cove and made our way on Hwy 190 to Kempner. There we cut off and rode FM 2313 and 580 towards Lampasas. Once there we hit Hwy 183 to Goldthwaite. North of Goldthwaite we hit Hwy 16 towards. We took a

quick break in Comanche and the back on Hwy 16 for 48 miles to Strawn. We got there early and were able to quickly find a table. We enjoyed the food and talk, filled up the bikes and back on the road towards Gatesville. Danny led us on back roads to Hico and then to Gatesville where it was time for some good ole ice cream. We stopped at DQ!!! There we split up with Danny staying in Gatesville, Rob and Trish headed to Temple and Gary with us on the road back to Killeen. It was a very hot day, but nothing so hot to make the ride anything but enjoyable. We were back home around 5, cleaned the bikes/trikes and put them to bed. Another great ride with Chapter T and friends.

We hope you will join us on the next ride!!!

LeRoy and Andrea Douglas



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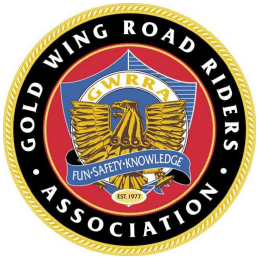
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From National:

Wing Ding 39



On Thursday, August 31, Wing Ding 39 will feature a selection of Guided Rides designed by local GWRRRA Members! These rides will be of varying lengths (from 1.5 to 3 hours).

Several Self-Guided Ride options will also be available throughout the event.

Visit the 'Local Rides' Booth inside the Wing Ding registration area!



From Region:

Region H is also charged with the bike show, which will be held Saturday morning in the parking lot of the Grapevine Mills Mall. The bike show will be the same format as last year. It will be a "People's Choice" event. The plans now call for staging between 8:00 and 9:00am with display and judging between 9:00 and 11:00. We will have our bike show team looking for volunteers, so if they approach you, join in for a great time.



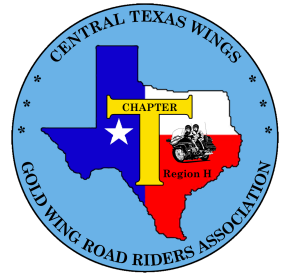
From District:

Our first major effort will be to have a District Education Weekend. This will be the avenue for you to take the training that you need to attain and maintain your levels in the Rider Education Levels Program. We feel that by offering this training at a separate time you won't have to spend your fun time at the rallies sitting in the classroom.

Editor Side Note: Once instituted this will replace our chapter's quarterly education weekends.



2017 Save the Date



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

****7 October - T-Fest Rally - Harker Heights, Tx****

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

14 October - Chapter K2 Rally - Castroville, Tx

21 October - Chapter H Rally - San Antonio, Tx

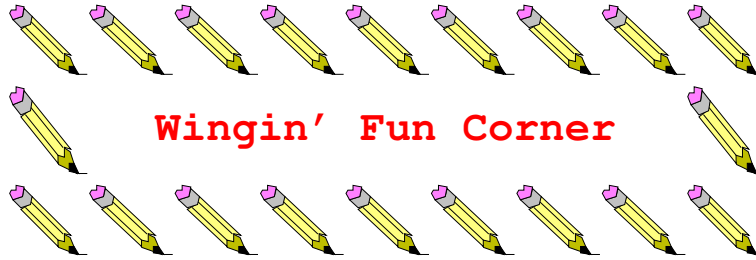
24 October - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

November 2017

28 November - Chapter Gathering - Killeen

December 2017

8 December - Chapter Christmas Party - Harker Heights



Wingin' Fun Corner

Wingnut Funny Business

May 2017 (Answers)

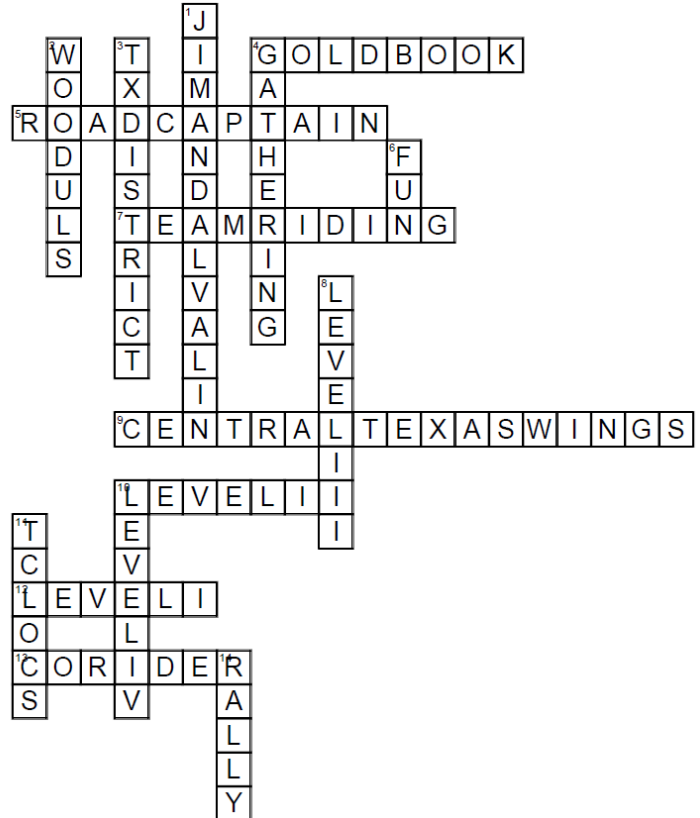
Yesterday I got stuck behind a young girl riding a horse. No matter what I did, I just couldn't get past her. I was tooting my horn, and hanging out the window yelling at her. She still wouldn't let me past.

There was a guy on a motorcycle behind me and he was waving too.

I was getting so wound up and frustrated. "It's people like you that cause accidents!" I shouted.

Eventually, I just couldn't take any more so I looked around to make sure the coast was clear...

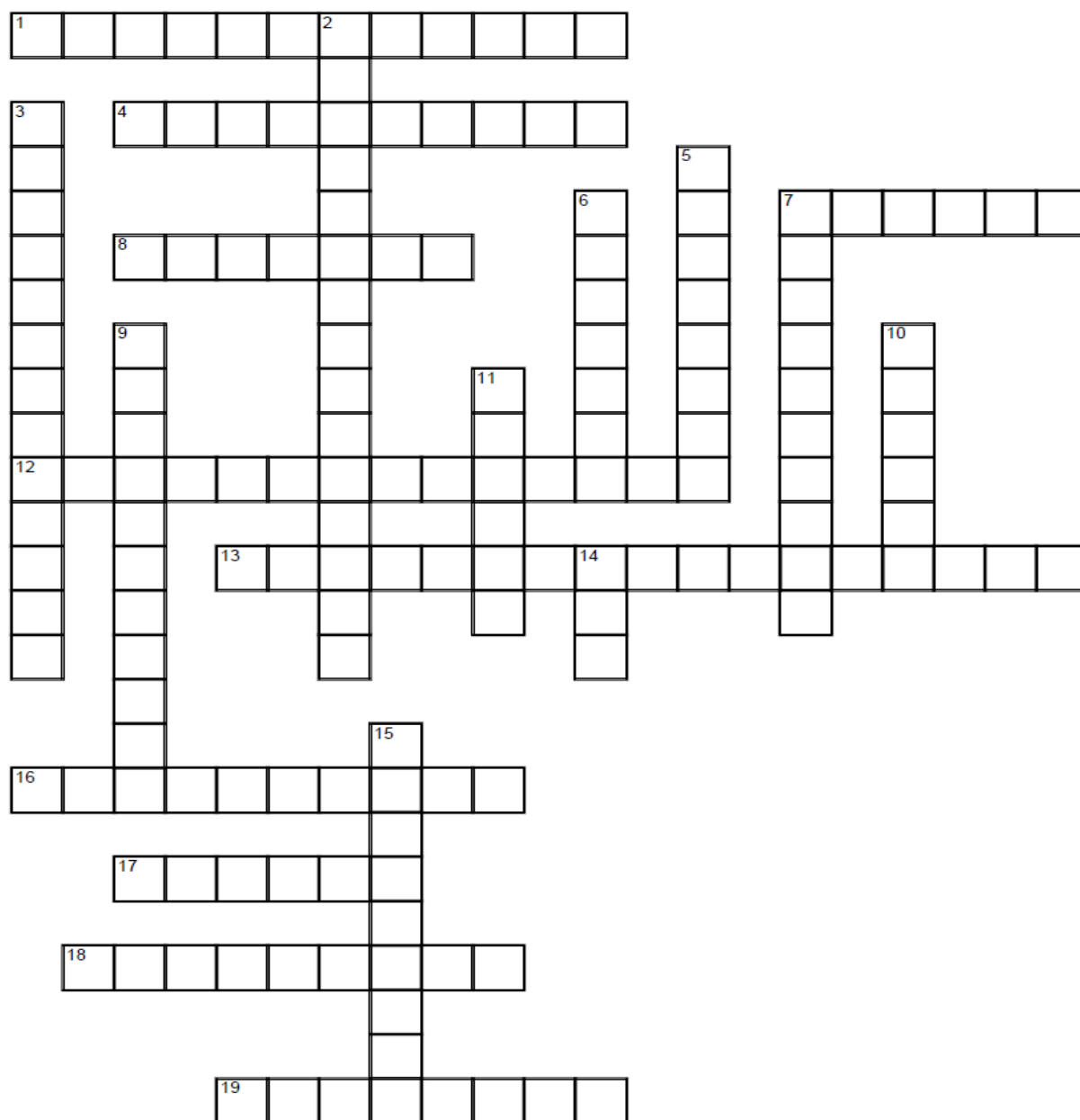
... and then I jumped off the carousel.



302641-01



June 2017 Puzzle

**Across**

- 1 After 5 years as a Level IV.
- 4 Two or more Goldwings riding together.
- 7 Ensuring your bike/trike is ready to ride
- 8 Fun award at Chapter T-TX
- 12 Chapter T Directors (June 2017)
- 13 Meal at Mary's Cafe.
- 16 Index finger raised up for a Team Ride hand signal.
- 17 Rally where CH T went to Caddo Mounds.
- 18 Diagonal Ride Interval on a Team Ride.
- 19 GWRRA book of knowledge in every state.

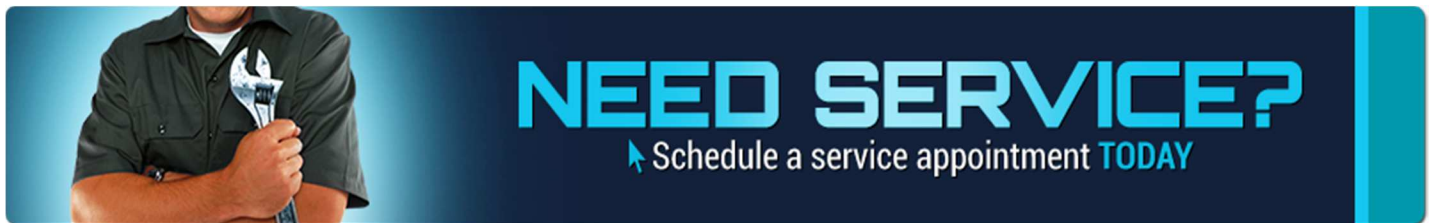
Down

- 2 Where you check your Rider Ed information.
- 3 Important part of safe team riding.
- 5 June Do You Remember?
- 6 Raised index and little finger in a Team Ride hand signal.
- 7 Interval between bikes/trikes in line on a Team Ride.
- 9 GWRRA Ride Leader
- 10 Acronym for always wearing proper motorcycle gear.
- 11 Friends, fun, safety, knowledge.
- 14 The glue that holds GWRRA ideals together.
- 15 40 Year Old Motorcycle Magazine



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Birthdays and Anniversaries



GWRRA

July: Richard D (07), Rickey G (08), Thomas B (14), Robert & Sherri R (14), Scott C (15)

August: Dale & Carleen G (02), Terry B (10), James L (12) Dennis & Roianne A (16)



Birthdays

July: Robert F (6), Harriet F (13), Clifford W (15), Jeff H (23)

August: Ingeburg C (9), Jeanne K (25), Dennis A (28), Penny M (31)



Anniversaries

July: Bill & Ingeborg C (1)

August: Rick & Violet (18)

Do You Remember?!



Who is that co-rider?! And...why
is he a co-rider?!



Chapter T Team

Chapter Directors:

LeRoy and Andrea Douglas
Phone: (254) 702-5556

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
July 25, 2017**



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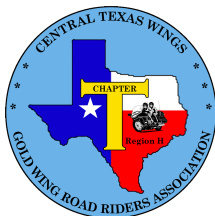
July 2017

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



August 2017

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



September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
		Wing Ding @ Grapevine, TX, USA				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		7pm - Chapter T			Oklahoma District Rally @ Muskogee, OK, USA	