

October 2017



## WINGNUT

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



**Next Gathering:**  
**Nov 28, 2017**

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## Chapter TX-T

Hello Chapter T and Friends,

Wow, have we had a very busy month since the last gathering. And that's the way we like it!!!

Right after the last gathering, we took a plane ride to North Carolina for our youngest sons wedding, and also to visit our grandbaby!! We had a great time but couldn't spend as much time there as we really wanted. Why? Because T-Fest was on the horizon!! Really want to thank everyone for the hard work that was put forth to make this another successful Rally!! If we didn't thank you in person, please accept it now!! The whole event took place on time and even though there were SNAFUS, we were able to accomplish everything except our volunteer drawing. And we will do that drawing on this months gathering!!

We also went to a couple of Chapter gatherings and two Chapter Rallies during the month and will cover most of this in our ride article. We had great times at all events and with all the prizes that were won, our members who attended should have also enjoyed their times!!

Please don't forget the Region H Fall Ride-In planned for 3-4 November in Arkansas. We will hand out flyers at the monthly gathering, but if you are not there, please download the flyer from the Region H website!!

Next up for our Chapter will be the Veterans Day parade, a short trip to Arkansas, a monthly dinner ride, and preparation for our Chapter Christmas Party. More details will be sent when we have all the information (hopefully by gathering time) and details of what we will do at the Christmas Party.

Please start planning on attending the Texas District Rally on 17-19 May 2018!! If you are going, please go to the Texas District website and look for upcoming information on the: who, what, when, where, and how!!!!!! Make your reservations as soon as possible!!

Hope to see everyone soon on a ride or event, but whatever you do, please be safe doing it!!

LeRoy and Andrea Douglas

406708

## Rider Education

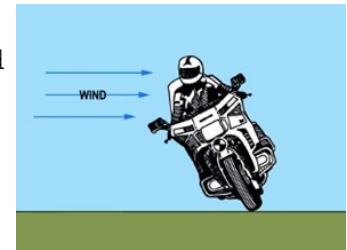
## “Safety is for Life”



One of the trickiest conditions to ride in is high wind, especially if the road is also wet. High winds can be dangerous as they can blow your bike off course. They can also be tiring on a rider and just plain annoying. Most of us don't go riding in gale-force winds on purpose. However, sometimes you simply get caught out by high winds, so you need to be prepared.

### Here are 6 tips for riding in high winds:

1. Steering controls lean. When a wind gust slams into the bike, it is necessary to get the bike leaned upwind quickly. Immediately press both grips upwind. That is, if a gust from the left pushes the bike toward the right, press both grips toward the left. When leaned over into the wind but heading straight, the bike will want to roll back to vertical, so you must hold pressure on the grips to keep the bike pointed where you want to go. And when the gust suddenly dissipates, quickly and firmly press the grips the opposite way to get the bike rolled upright again.
2. Protect your eyes from windblown grit and debris. Where the landscape is relatively bare, say in the desert or along recently-plowed farms, expect dirt and sand to be picked up by the wind. In vegetated areas, leaves, needles, and bark particles will be blown downwind. Vehicles ahead of you will also suck up debris in their wakes. If you are wearing a full-coverage helmet with a face shield, keep it closed. If there is a gap at the bottom of the helmet, wear a neck warmer or bandanna to help block off incoming debris. If you are wearing a half helmet (or no helmet), it is essential to wear tight-fitting goggles to keep the grit out of your eyes. Don't attempt to wipe dry sand or grit off a dirty face shield. Clean it with soap and running water.
3. Avoid getting fatigued. The extra energy expended keeping the bike under control will wear you out more quickly. Take a rest break at least every hour. Get off the bike, find some shelter from the wind, drink some water to stay hydrated, and lubricate your eyes as needed with artificial tears. Don't forget your earplugs. Wind noise causes fatigue, and fatigue lengthens reaction time.
4. Learn to read the wind and predict how large objects redirect wind. Clouds, flags, trees and grasses are a good indication of which way the



## Rider Education

## "Safety is for Life"

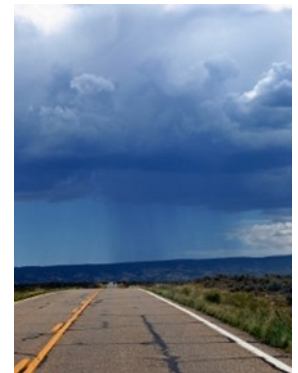
the wind is blowing. Large trucks push a "bow wave" of air, and a gust will push turbulent air around the front and downwind. It may help to imagine what the wind would look like if you could see it. When you are approaching an oncoming truck that's on your upwind side, move as far away as possible, get tucked in to withstand the sudden wind blast, and be prepared to steer quickly to keep the bike under control.



5. Wind will bounce off the upwind side of cliffs. When you are riding upwind through a canyon, or around headlands, expect a sudden blast of wind reflecting off the upwind side of a cliff. That is, when you are rounding a cliff on your right, expect a sudden blast of wind from the right just as you come abreast of the upwind cliff face. You can also expect wind to reflect off of buildings, billboards, and other large structures. Wind tends to curl over the sides of a cut, and blow "backwards." That is, if the prevailing wind is from your right, expect the wind to bounce off the face of the cut on your left, and curl back toward you.



6. If very strong winds are forecast, or there is a tornado alert, choose a route that avoids the windiest area, or abort the ride until conditions improve. Winds can be powerful enough to overcome tire traction. There are areas well known for strong afternoon winds, including the Columbia River Gorge between Oregon and Washington, mountain passes in California, and "Tornado Alley" through northeastern Texas and Oklahoma. The smart rider chooses a time to transit through such areas when winds will be weakest, say in the early morning hours.



When you're riding in windy conditions, it can be a constant fight to keep the motorcycle under control. Suddenly a gust slams into the bike, pushing it toward the shoulder, or across the centerline. It may seem that wind is unpredictable, but there are lots of clues to watch for. And there are tactics to help you ride through strong winds with less frustration.

Ride Safe,  
Dale and Carleen Garrett  
Chapter Educators



## Do You Remember?!



Sometimes Rider Ed Seminars and presentations have a detrimental effect on some folks. . . . Who here, could not make it through the seminar??



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## Rides and Rallies!

On 10 October, Andrea and I went to Georgetown to attend Chapter T2's monthly gathering. We were joined by Gary Tracy and Mitch Hill on this ride. This meeting was held at the IHOP in Georgetown and we made our way there down Hwy 195 to IH 35. It was a great ride, no wind or rain and once there we met up with some familiar faces. We each won something with us winning the money drawing!!! T2 also had a great turnout and we want to thank them for the great hospitality and prizes!!

Next on the agenda was riding down to Castroville to attend Chapter K2's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rally. We were joined by Gary Tracy, Ron Decker, Danny/Peggy Thacker, Jim/Alvalin Woodul and an honored guest (not really a guest) Jose Soto who was visiting from New York. Jose had just arrived the prior day after riding three days from New York on his Gold-wing!! So when he was late getting to the starting point, he did have a good excuse!! We took Hwy 190 over to Lampasas where we allowed Stephen Hlavaty to join our group and then headed to Blanco for our first gas stop. There, we were joined by members of Chapter O for our ride to Castroville. We took FM 473 to enjoy some curves and see if Gary had brushed up on his curve riding skills. He passed!! Well at least he made it through the curves still in CB contact!! We arrived on time and had another great time at their rally. Once again, we were lucky to win so many great prizes (right Danny) and actually thanks to Jim/Alvalin, we were able to get them back home. Well truthfully, Danny/Peggy won the items and probably should and driven their truck there to haul it all home!! Andrea and I were also crowned as King and Queen of Chapter K2 for the next year!! Hey K2, we will wear the crowns proudly until the next K2 rally. Our ride home was great, hot but we all made it home safe, which is a main objective!!

The next stop on the October tour was Chapter O's gathering in Austin. Andrea and I went there alone (where was Gary you ask?) and once again enjoyed hospitality from the Chapter O people. Had some great food, ice cream, and had a cool ride home!!

The last event attended was another ride down south to San Antonio for the Chapter H Rally. It was a cloudy overcast morning with threats of rain all around but had another great turnout at the start point. We were joined there by Gary Tracy, Ron Decker, Jim/Alvalin Woodul and by long time T2 member Dave Klepal on his Indian (motorcycle)!!! We took the same route as the previous weekend except made a stop in Round Mountain to pick up the Winfield's from Chapter O. When we were there, Dave got a call and had to head home, but we were so thrilled to see him and have him ride with our group again!! We made another stop in Blanco and then headed out to ride FM 473 again. Gary once again showed his riding skills and kept up in the curves. We were joined at the rally site by Danny/Peggy, who decided to bring their truck this time (yes, to make sure they had enough room for all the prizes they were sure to win). We got our registrations and did the rally thing, played games and see what we could win on their silent auction. Lunch was great and soon it was time to head back home. We stopped on the way back home for gas and a snack (Ice Cream, is that really a snack?) and made it home on a windy afternoon ride. Really hated knowing that was the last rally for the year but really needing a rest after such a long month!!

Hope to see you all on a ride or event soon!!

LeRoy and Andrea



## From National:

We have a new national Rider Ed team. Meet Tim and Anna Grimes, hailing from Lexington Park, Maryland. Previously, Tim and Anna served as chapter, district, and region educators previously and have a combined 30 plus years as medical technicians and paramedics. Find out more about Tim and Ann by visiting your Wing World magazine, beginning on page 20.



## From Region:

November 3-5 is the Region H ride-in starting in Van Buren, AR on Friday the 3rd, riding up to the HUB on the 4th and riding home on the 5th. This ride-in may become an annual reunion for Region H. Info is on the [Region](http://www.region-h.org) webpage at [www.region-h.org](http://www.region-h.org).



## From District:

(Excerpt from TX District October Newsletter)

District Rally for 2018: We will be in Brenham, Texas at the Washington County fairgrounds on May 17-19, 2018. Our opening ceremony will be at Washington on the Brazos State Park on Thursday May 17th and we will offer a great BBQ dinner for Only \$10. Don't come looking for the same old thing. We are switching things up. There will be no Rider Training Courses or First Aid/CPR training at the rally. These will be offered at the District Education Weekend on February 2-4, 2018 in Killeen.

You may see more information by going to the [TX District Newsletter](http://www.gwrra-tx.org/photos/2017-10%20NLFinal.pdf) for October at: <http://www.gwrra-tx.org/photos/2017-10%20NLFinal.pdf>





## 2017—2018 Save the Date



### November 2017

**3-4 November** – Region H Fall Ride-in – Van Buren, AR

**11 November** – Veteran's Day Parade – Killeen, Tx

**28 November** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### December 2017

**8 December** – Chapter Christmas Party – Harker Heights

### January 2018

**13 January** – Mid-Winter Roundup – Washington on the Brazos State Park

**23 January** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### February 2018

**2-4 February** – District Education Weekend – TAMUCT – Killeen, Tx

**27 February** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### March 2018

**22-24 March** – Florida District Rally – Orlando, FL

**27 March** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### April 2018

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

**24 April** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### May 2018

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

**22 May** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### June 2018

**26 June** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### July 2018

**24 July** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

### August 2018

**28 August** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

**28 August – 1 September** – Wing Ding 40 – Knoxville, Tn

### September 2018

**25 September** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen

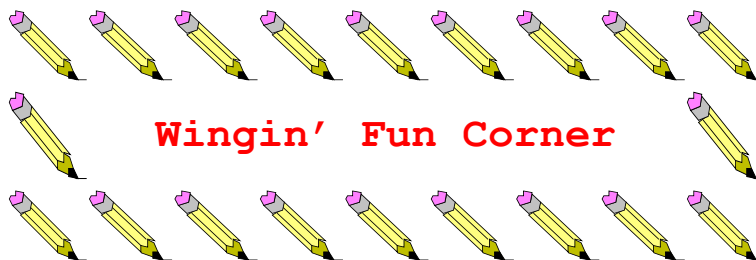
### October 2018

**6 October** – T-Fest – TBD

**13 October** – Chapter K2 Rally – Castroville Tx

**23 October** - Chapter Gathering – Killeen





### Wingnut Funny Business

September 2017 (Answers)

Q: What lies on the bottom of the ocean and shakes?

A: A nervous wreck!

A Wingnutter walks into DQ and orders a Blizzard, and sees Van Gogh studying a picture. He calls over and asks, "Hey

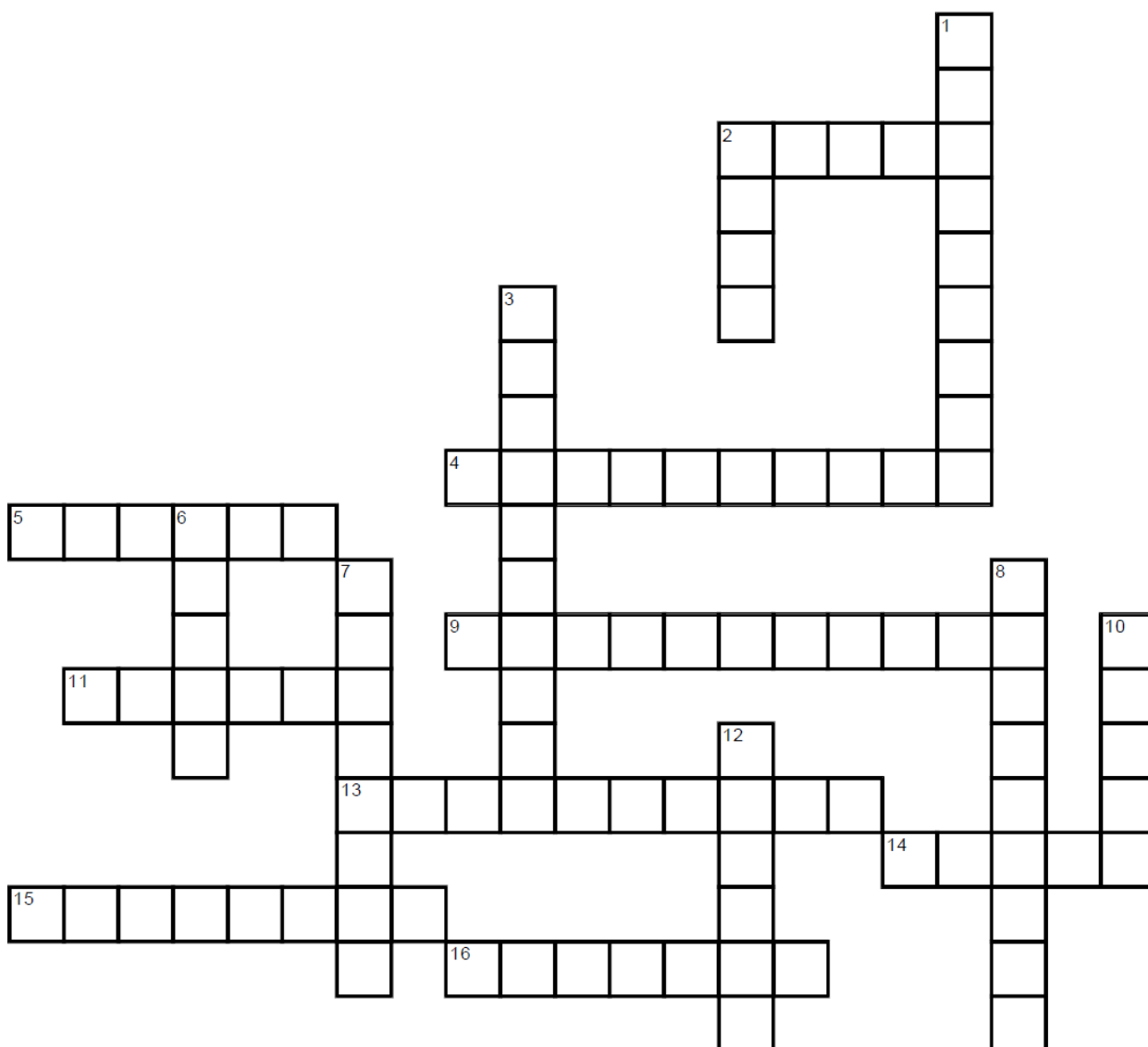


Van Gogh! Want a coke?"

Van Gogh replies, "No thanks, I've got one 'ere!"



## October 2017 Puzzle

**Across**

- 2** Situation normal, all fouled up  
**4** Region H last hurrah!  
**5** Veteran's Day fun  
**9** Site for K2's rally  
**11** Rocky's wife (from Gary)  
**13** Site for H's rally  
**14** December Chapter Fun  
**15** Topic in Rider Ed Section  
**16** Town in Texas for 2018 District Rally

**Down**

- 1** District Fun on a February 2018 weekend  
**2** One who rode the furthest to K2's rally  
**3** National Rider Educators  
**6** What to do about a ride when severe weather is possible  
**7** Melodic Northerner (American)  
**8** Turbulent air creator for a motorcycle (on the highway)  
**10** One who is improving curve riding skills  
**12** Type of motorcycle Klepal rides



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# Birthdays and Anniversaries



GWRRA

November: None Reported

December: None Reported

January: Richard M. (93); Kay M. (93)



## Birthdays

November: Sherri R (12), Susan R (15), Bob W (18), Dale G (21)

December: Bill C. (9), Stephen H. (26),

January: Nora B. (13);



## Anniversaries

November: None Reported

December: None Reported

January: Danny & Peggy T. (1)





## 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](http://centexwings.org).

**Our Next  
Gathering is  
Nov 28, 2017**



[www.gwrra-tx.org](http://www.gwrra-tx.org)



[www.region-h.org](http://www.region-h.org)



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# November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					<b>Veterans Day</b> Veteran's Day Parade	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
		<b>7pm - Chapter T</b> Gathering				



# December 2017

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



# January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Mid-Winter Roundup
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 7pm - Chapter T Gathering	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2 Texas District Education Weekend @ Texas Texas A&M University - Central Texas Killeen, Texas	3