



# Central Texas Wings

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

## Happy New Year

### SEVERAL NEW CHANGES

Hello Chapter T and Friends,

Welcome to the New Year of 2018 and lets make this a fun one again with new members and ideas. Lots of things have happening again. I hope everyone had lots of fun at our Christmas Party. We had some new members who really enjoyed it, especially our gift exchange game. Most members walked away with a gift or two. And I think the food was really good! Thank you again to all volunteers who helped out to make the Christmas Party a success! On January 13 we attended the Mid Winter Roundup at the Washington on the Brazos State Park. It was very well attended and we had lots of fun and learned something again. It was announced that the District Education weekend was moved to March 10-11, 2018. Dale and Carleen Garrett were nominated and won Chapter Educator of the Year! We also have new volunteers to fill some of our positions in Chapter T. Jose and Celest Soto stepped up to be the Assistant Chapter Director, Dale and Carleen are the Ride Coordinators and Educators, Gene Harris is the new webmaster and Andy Cavnar is the newsletter editor. I want to thank them for all their help! In the meanwhile LeRoy sold his bike. And then I shipped him off to his new job in Saudi Arabia! He is doing well and says Hi to everyone. The weather has been crazy lately. But lets plan on some good rides. If you have any places you would be interested, please let us know. Also check out the website for all Rally Registrations. We have Registrations for Chapter O and Louisiana District Rally in April, Texas District Rally in May and many more to come.



If you have received your new Gold Wing Magazine, you may noticed one of our members in there. Who? Our son Gary Tracy!

Hope to see everyone soon on a ride or event, only if you participate, you will find out how much fun you will have and all the great people you meet!  
Be safe out there!

Andrea Douglas

CHAPTER DIRECTOR

#### CHAPTER T TEAM

##### Chapter Director

Andrea Douglas

##### Assistant Chapter Directors

Jose & Celest Soto

##### Webmaster

Gene & Quinta Harris

##### Chapter Treasurers

Tim & Young Brooks

##### Chapter Couple of the Year:

Peggy and Danny Thacker

##### Vendor Coordinator:

Andrea Douglas

##### Chapter Ride Coordinator and Educators

Dale & Carleen Garrett

##### Membership Enhancement / Social Coordinators & Chapter of the Year Coordinators

Danny & Peggy Thacker

##### Newsletter Editor

Andy Cavnar

Team Members may be contacted by E-mail using the: Contact Us page of the Chapter website.



## SOME FUN

I'm a little down today; I had an awesome part time job as a quality control inspector that I really enjoyed...I guess I was too good at my job...they let me go because I kept rejecting the "W"'s at the M&M factory.

H onda	H onest
O wners	O fficer
N ever	N obody
D rive	D rank
A nything else	A nything

### You might be a biker if...

- Your dog runs on his hind legs when you say, "Pop a wheelie!"
- You still carry a full tool kit because you remember the old days.
- Your 3 year old has a chain wallet (with phone numbers in it!).
- People say you look strange in a car.
- You carry a master link on your key chain.
- You think a bad day on the road is better than a good day at work.
- You have more invested in black T-shirts than in your house.
- You tell your husband (or wife) you want something sparkly for Christmas and he (or she) knows you mean chrome.
- You go to the bike shop to decorate your new living room.
- A bike rally IS your family reunion.

## REMEMBER WHEN?

Do you have a great picture that you would like to share with us? Please feel free to get in touch with our Newsletter Editor, Andy Cavnar 469-335-6620.  
[andymcenc@yahoo.com](mailto:andymcenc@yahoo.com)



## OUR DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Friends in Crisis was so very grateful for the donations collected at our Annual Christmas party. Even the smallest of donations made a huge difference in peoples' lives. The following is a letter that they sent us.



December 29, 2017

Gold Wing Roadriders Association Chapter T  
3309 Johnson Drive  
Killeen, Texas 76549

Dear Gold Wing Roadriders Association Chapter T,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and clients at Families In Crisis, Inc., I would like to personally thank you for your recent generous monetary gift to our organization.

Your endorsement of our mission, through your support, interest and funding, goes a long way to improve the lives of the families in our community affected by domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

William Hall  
Director of Operations

## GENE HARRIS LEARNS NUM- BERS

In an unprecedented, never-before-seen occurrence, Mr. Gene Harris learns the difference between a 4 and a 7!

It was a fun-filled evening for all when, during a pleasant round of Christmas exchange, otherwise known as a "White Elephant" exchange, everything came to a dead stop!

Leroy Douglas called out the number, "Four". Not a creature was heard, not even a mouse. "Who has number four?" ,,,,,, silence followed by some nervous laughter as everyone checked their number again. Now in all fairness I must interject here that the numbers where written with a dark marker which caused it to bleed through to the other side. Gene didn't know if he was looking at a 4 or a 7. It could have been the letter "h" or a backwards "J".

As Gene started to raise his hand, Leroy said again, "Oh come on, someone has to have it". That did it,,,,, Gene was too embarrassed now and had decided that he was just going to sit this one out in hopes of a nicer gift next year. No, he will not even tell his wife!

Andy Cavnar

## WE WILL KEEP COUPLE OF THE YEAR

Dale Garrett

**WE ARE CONTINUING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COUPLE OF THE YEAR PROGRAM.** No, it's not going away. Our Assistant Directors in charge of the program, Ron and Bev Clark, have worked hard to rework the program to continue without the Regions in the mix. The revised Couple of the Year Handbook has been approved and it will be available very soon. There are very few changes in the program through the District level. It is still a requirement that District COY's are selected using the procedures outlined in the COY Handbook to be eligible for the International Selection Process.

*To the right here is a letter from the President of GWRRA, Anita & JR Alkire. It will help explain what is going on at that level, please take time to read the letter. It will assist you in seeing the future dreams of our association..*

Carleen and I will become the Chapter Ride Coordinators. Because we will not be able to ride our trike on some of the planned rides, it may be prudent for someone that can provide this ability for all rides to step up and fill this officer's position for the chapter. If you are interested let Andrea and myself know. We will make sure you have the proper training, support and assistance to do this job successfully. In the meantime Carleen and I will work to serve you, the Chapter T Members, by providing the rides and information that will give you the ability to reach your goals for the chapter. That being said, if you have any comment, good or bad, that will help meet that goal, please let me know. Most of you by now know that we have very thick skin and will take anything you say personally. Our only goal is to serve the Chapter Members.

See Ya' Ridin'  
Dale and Carleen Garrett  
254-289-0682

## WE WILL KEEP COUPLE OF THE YEAR (CONT.)

**It's a Wonderful and Exciting New Year!** Welcome to our new adventure. We have been busy working to bring our Officers a great new tool in a familiar wrapper. Insight will change its tone for 2018. The articles will be helpful tips, new information, and useful things that you will be able to use in your role as Officers. For some of you, welcome to your new position and thank you for stepping forward. We appreciate you! Others are back, and we are so very pleased that you've decided to stay and serve the Members for another year. Thank you for your dedication.

**My first tip to you in 2018 – The NEW Chapter Gathering/Get Together** The name is the first key. It's our time to get together and share time together, information, safety tips, and where we are going next. That is really what goes onto an agenda. Let's remember an agenda is to keep your thoughts straight and make certain you cover what you wanted covered.

**When and where do I plan/create the agenda?** This should happen at your business meeting that takes place within a week before the gathering. It's time for business, finances, and so forth, but it's also time for the TEAM to share what they want to contribute to the agenda. Mix it up each month; don't do the same thing over and over. Keep them guessing! That will keep them coming back for more.

Chapter Directors, you take the lead; you're like an MC. Watch the awards shows – the MC welcomes everyone and introduces the other "speakers." Your speakers are your Membership Enhancement Coordinator, to welcome those new folks sitting with your greeters. Maybe the greeters introduce those new folks. Your Ride Coordinator should talk about rides for the upcoming month and get ideas where folks want to go.

Remember that with this new emphasis, it may take a bit to get everyone participating. Because of that, it is imperative that the leadership is participating. The expression, "where the Chapter Director goes the Chapter goes," proves itself true every time.

**What about a safety talk?** We all have safety tips we can share. We just need a good question tossed out to start giving our opinions and have a great discussion. We're going to challenge the Masters to step forward to lead those discussions. Our Master Tour Riders and Co-Riders have demonstrated their commitment to safety and are just the right folks to lead this discussion. You can assign them for the year or month by month, whatever works best for you.

**Now, it's Show Time!** Fun is the name of the game. Making everyone feel welcome and accepted is critical for longevity. Informal is our new normal. I was always accused of having organized chaos for my gatherings, but we sure had fun, and everyone was included. It's your meeting, be creative, have fun, and the others will, too.

**My 2nd tip for you – The New Ride Coordinator.** Embrace the Ride Coordinator position. This IS NOT a modified Chapter Educator!!! I have heard the feedback, "well we'll just continue the same as we have been, she'll never know." I promise you, I will hear about it. I have hearing like a Mom.

The philosophy of GWRRA has to adapt to the new rider, new Gold Wing, so we are still the organization of choice to these new Gold Wing Riders/Owners. Those of us that are so excited to ride this new machine are excited for just that, the ride. JR and I are headed for the Press Ride for Honda on January 16-17. I did have to laugh, that on the information they sent they said to wear comfortable clothes for the long ride. Day 1 is 230 miles...what, that's before lunch, correct???

If you have not gone onto Honda's website and looked at their new videos, it's a must. Look at their focus; a rider who has a little bit of time and rides the new Gold Wing to visit friends or family so they get a bit of adventure with their transportation. That is the new Member to GWRRA. We must provide them what they have time for, a brief ride, a longer ride, a multi-day ride. We'll share safety tips along the way.

You see, this new position is part of our future and is critically important.

What am I asking of this Officer? Plan fun adventures. Whether it be a day ride or longer, it's an adventure. We'll encourage all riders to understand and then adopt GWRRA's safe riding position, because we have saved lives and want to continue to do that. So, if you question their choice in riding gear, and we usually do that in our heads or to a small group, then change that habit. It's important that you all share with them why you chose the gear you wear. Not putting their choice down, just sharing a different point of view.

So when I hear that I'm "killing Rider Education" I call foul! I want you all, each Officer, each Member, to take on this important message and share from your point of view. We have come together for the bike, we stay for the friendships as my good friend Bob Johnson says, but we can only keep those friendships if they are still around. Jim Waddell, an amazing rider and dear friend, would announce at each rider meeting that his safety was my responsibility. He actually said, "my safety is your responsibility." That message has stayed with me for the last 18 years and I say to you today, your safety is my responsibility and I challenge all Officers to adopt this message and share. Until next month, ride safe and ride often.

Anita & JR Alkire  
623-445-2380  
[President@gwrra.org](mailto:President@gwrra.org)

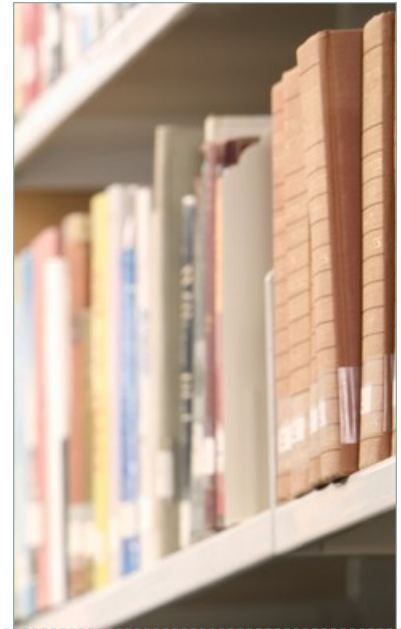


## NEXT GATHERING WILL BE FEBRUARY 27 AND A SHORT NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Please remember to let everyone know when our next gathering will be and that we will be at Fudruckers for the next foreseeable future.

Thank you for allowing me to be your Newsletter Editor and please know that it will improve as I learn more about this publishing software. I will be the first to admit that I have NO idea what I'm doing and I look forward to your constructive criticism. I would like to take a minute to say how grateful I am to every one of you who have made me a part of Chapter T from day one! I have never met such a welcoming, smart and fun group of people. I look forward to many years ahead of getting to know each of you.

Andy Cavnar



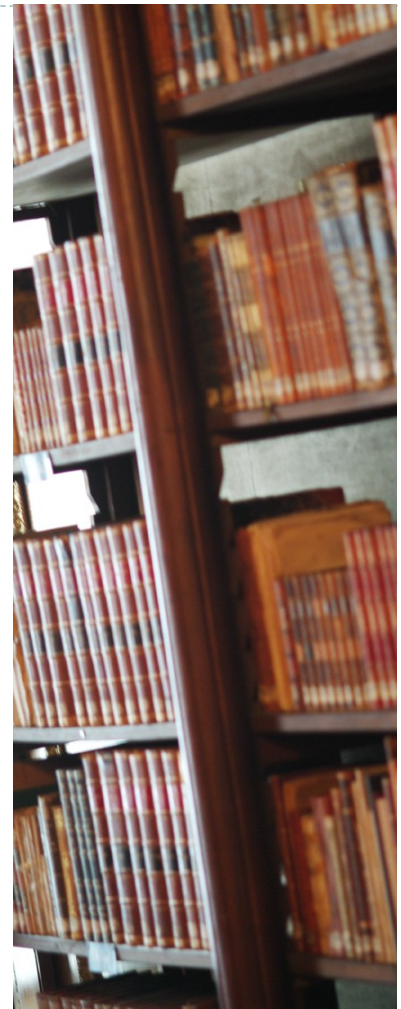
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*It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance.*  
*Thomas Sowell*

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## SAVE THE DATE

	April 2018
23 January - Chapter Gathering – Killeen	5-7 April– Bluebonnet Rally Chapter O
February 2018	12-14 April – Louisiana District Rally – Lafayette, LA
27 February - Chapter Gathering – Killeen	20-22 April– GWRRA Picnic & Campout, Garner St Park
March 2018	24 April - Chapter Gathering – Killeen
March 10-11– District education weekend	May 2018
22-24 March – Florida District Rally – Orlando, FL	17-19 May – Texas District Rally – Brenham, Tx.
27 March - Chapter Gathering – Killeen	22 May - Chapter Gathering – Killeen





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