

Chapter T
Texas District
GWRRA
www.centexwings.org



Central Texas Wings

Chapter of the Year - 2018!



February 2020



WINGNUT

Chapter T awards this coveted trophy each month. If you are not riding, you are not winning.

There were no Wingnut nominations at our January gathering.

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Next Chapter Meeting

March 24th

Fuddrucker's Restaurant

Greetings Chapter T and Friends,

Thank you for your continued support of Chapter T and its motorcycle community. We would like to thank the staff here at Henderson's Family Restaurant for their hospitality and great food.

Please come ready with your Wingnut award nominees and story. We need a good chuckle, even if it teaches us something in the process. The first ride of the season kicked off with two riders, Danny and Lori. I should have been there but unfortunately I felt ill and didn't want to spread it.

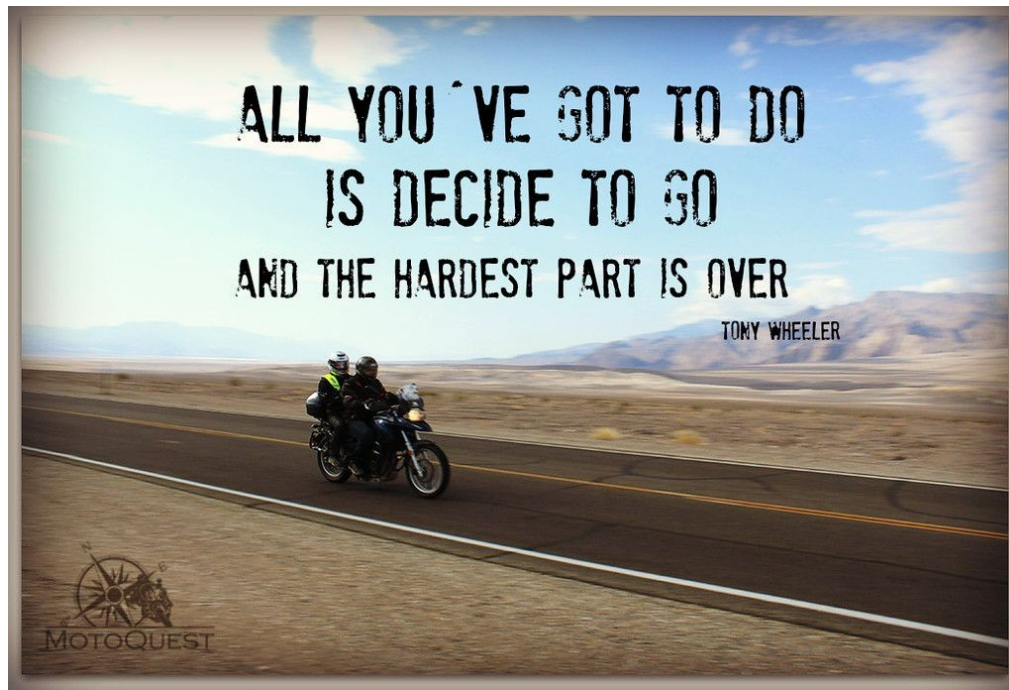
As mentioned at Mid-Winter, GWRRA has implemented the use of Groupworks into our chapter life, thereby enhancing communication. I will be able to push out information to you and you will have an opportunity to respond in kind. You will have the opportunity to opt in this Tuesday, so come on out. See you at Henderson's on Tuesday, February 25th. Meeting will start earlier (6:30 p.m.).

Respectfully,

Jose and Celest Soto
Chapter Directors



Gary at Barrow Brewing Co. Crawfish Boil 2/22/2020



Months after that wild night in the motel...



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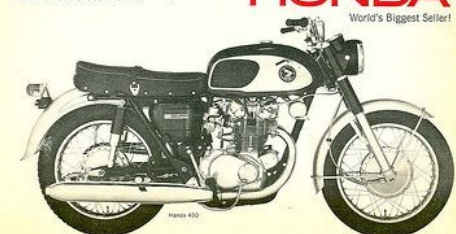


international victories. Nobody else even comes close. Precision engineering pays off. Quality shows.

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Chapter Team:

Directors: Jose & Celest Soto

Treasurers: Tim & Young Brooks

Educators: Dale & Carleen Garrett

Ride Coordinators: Danny & Peggy Thacker

Membership Enhancement / Social Coordinators & Chapter of the Year Coordinators: Lori & Erik Wiggins

Webmaster/Newsletter: Gene & Quinta Harris

BIRTHDAYS

Feb
15 Danny T

Mar
24 Alvalin W

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb
4 Jim & Nora B
5 Bob & Harriet W
10 Harold & Pat F

Mar

Neighborhood Hazard (or: Why the Cops Won't Patrol Brice Street)

From http://www.blackdogdualsport.com/cycle_humor3.htm

I never dreamed slowly cruising through a residential neighborhood could be so incredibly dangerous!

Studies have shown that motorcycling requires more decisions per second, and more sheer data processing than nearly any other common activity or sport. The reactions and accurate decision making abilities needed have been likened to the reactions of fighter pilots! The consequences of bad decisions or poor situational awareness are pretty much the same for both groups too.



Occasionally, as a rider I have caught myself starting to make bad or late decisions while riding. In flight training, my instructors called this being “behind the power curve”. It is a mark of experience that when this begins to happen, the rider recognizes the situation, and more importantly, does something about it. A short break, a meal, or even a gas stop can set things right again as it gives the brain a chance to catch up.

Good, accurate, and timely decisions are essential when riding a motorcycle...at least if you want to remain among the living. In short, the brain needs to keep up with the machine.

I had been banging around the roads of east Texas and as I headed back into Dallas, found myself in very heavy, high-speed traffic on the freeways. Normally, this is not a problem, I commute in these conditions daily, but suddenly I was nearly run down by a cage that decided it needed my lane more than I did. This is not normally a big deal either, as it happens around here often, but usually I can accurately predict which drivers are not paying attention and avoid them before we are even close. This one I missed seeing until it was nearly too late, and as I took evasive action I nearly broadsided another car that I was not even aware was there!

Two bad decisions and insufficient situational awareness...all within seconds. I was behind the power curve. Time to get off the freeway.

I hit the next exit, and as I was in an area I knew pretty well, headed through a few big residential neighborhoods as a new route home. As I turned onto the nearly empty streets I opened the visor on my full-face helmet to help get some air. I figured some slow riding through the quiet surface streets would give me time to relax, think, and regain that “edge” so frequently required when riding.

Little did I suspect...

As I passed an oncoming car, a brown furry missile shot out from under it and tumbled to a stop immediately in front of me. It was a squirrel, and must have been trying to run across the road when it encountered the car. I really was not going very fast, but there was no time to brake or avoid it—it was that close.

I hate to run over animals...and I really hate it on a motorcycle, but a squirrel should pose no danger to me. I barely had time to brace for the impact.

Animal lovers, never fear. Squirrels can take care of themselves!

Inches before impact, the squirrel flipped to his feet. He was standing on his hind legs and facing the oncoming Valkyrie with steadfast resolve in his little beady eyes. His mouth opened, and at the last possible

second, he screamed and leapt! I am pretty sure the scream was squirrel for, "Banzai!" or maybe, "Die you gravy-sucking, heathen scum!" as the leap was spectacular and he flew over the windshield and impacted me squarely in the chest.

Instantly he set upon me. If I did not know better I would have sworn he brought twenty of his little buddies along for the attack. Snarling, hissing, and tearing at my clothes, he was a frenzy of activity. As I was dressed only in a light t-shirt, summer riding gloves, and jeans this was a bit of a cause for concern. This furry little tornado was doing some damage!

Picture a large man on a huge black and chrome cruiser, dressed in jeans, a t-shirt, and leather gloves put-tering maybe 25mph down a quiet residential street...and in the fight of his life with a squirrel. *And losing.*

I grabbed for him with my left hand and managed to snag his tail. With all my strength I flung the evil rodent off the left of the bike, almost running into the right curb as I recoiled from the throw.

That should have done it. The matter should have ended right there. It really should have. The squirrel could have sailed into one of the pristinely kept yards and gone on about his business, and I could have headed home. No one would have been the wiser.

But this was no ordinary squirrel. This was not even an ordinary pissed-off squirrel.

This was an evil attack squirrel of death!

Somehow he caught my gloved finger with one of his little hands, and with the force of the throw swung around and with a resounding thump and an amazing impact he landed square on my back and resumed his rather anti-social and extremely distracting activities. He also managed to take my left glove with him!

The situation was not improved. Not improved at all. His attacks were continuing, and now I could not reach him.

I was startled to say the least. The combination of the force of the throw, only having one hand (the throttle hand) on the handlebars, and my jerking back unfortunately put a healthy twist through my right hand and into the throttle. A healthy twist on the throttle of a Valkyrie can only have one result. Torque. This is what the Valkyrie is made for, and she is *very*, very good at it.

The engine roared as the front wheel left the pavement. The squirrel screamed in anger. The Valkyrie screamed in ecstasy. I screamed in...well...I just plain screamed.

Now picture a large man on a huge black and chrome cruiser, dressed in jeans, a slightly squirrel torn t-shirt, and only one leather glove roaring at maybe 70mph and rapidly accelerating down a quiet residential street...on one wheel and with a demonic squirrel on his back. The man and the squirrel are both screaming bloody murder.

With the sudden acceleration I was forced to put my other hand back on the handlebars and try to get control of the bike. This was leaving the mutant squirrel to his own devices, but I really did not want to crash into somebody's tree, house, or parked car. Also, I had not yet figured out how to release the throttle...my brain was just simply overloaded. I did manage to mash the back brake, but it had little affect against the massive power of the big cruiser.

About this time the squirrel decided that I was not paying sufficient attention to this very serious battle (maybe he is a Scottish attack squirrel of death), and he came around my neck and got IN my full-face helmet with me. As the faceplate closed partway and he began hissing in my face I am quite sure my screaming changed tone and intensity. It seemed to have little affect on the squirrel however.

The rpm's on *The Dragon* maxed out (I was not concerned about shifting at the moment) and her front end started to drop.

Now picture the large man on the huge black and chrome cruiser, dressed in jeans, a very ragged torn t-shirt, and wearing one leather glove, roaring at probably 80mph, still on one wheel, with a large puffy squirrel's tail sticking out his mostly closed full-face helmet. By now the screams are probably getting a little hoarse.

Finally I got the upper hand...I managed to grab his tail again, pulled him out of my helmet, and slung him to the left as hard as I could. This time it worked...sort-of. Spectacularly sort-of, so to speak.

Picture the scene. You are a cop. You and your partner have pulled off on a quiet residential street and parked with your windows down to do some paperwork.

Suddenly a large man on a huge black and chrome cruiser, dressed in jeans, a torn t-shirt flapping in the breeze, and wearing one leather glove, moving at probably 80mph on one wheel, and screaming bloody murder roars by and with all his strength throws a live squirrel grenade directly into your police car.

I heard screams. They weren't mine...

I managed to get the big motorcycle under directional control and dropped the front wheel to the ground. I then used maximum braking and skidded to a stop in a cloud of tire smoke at the stop sign at a busy cross street.

I would have returned to fess up (and to get my glove back). I really would have. Really. But for two things. First, the cops did not seem interested or the slightest bit concerned about me at the moment. One of them was on his back in the front yard of the house they had been parked in front of and was rapidly crabbing backwards away from the patrol car. The other was standing in the street and was training a riot shotgun on the police cruiser.

So the cops were not interested in me. They often insist to "let the professionals handle it" anyway. That was one thing. The other? Well, I swear I could see the squirrel, standing in the back window of the patrol car among shredded and flying pieces of foam and upholstery, and shaking his little fist at me. I think he was shooting me the finger...

That is one dangerous squirrel. *And now he has a patrol car...*

I took a deep breath, turned on my turn-signal, made an easy right turn, and sedately left the neighborhood.

As for my easy and slow drive home? Screw it. Faced with a choice of 80mph cars and inattentive drivers, or the evil, demonic, attack squirrel of death...I'll take my chances with the freeway. Every time.

And I'll buy myself a new pair of gloves.

CUAgain,
Daniel Meyer





Mark your Calendars



February 2020

25 Feb – Chapter T Gathering – Henderson's, Killeen, TX

March 2020

1 Mar – Start Date—Motorcycle Grand Tour of Texas (motorcyclegrandtouroftexas.com)

1 Mar – Chapter P Bowling Challenge, Grandbury, TX

14 Mar – Second Saturday Ride – Arusha Coffee & Tee House - Belton, TX

24 Mar – Chapter T Gathering – Fuddruckers, Killeen, TX

26-28 Mar - Louisiana District Rally - Houma, LA

April 2020

4 Apr - Chapter O Bluebonnet Rally - Fredericksburg, TX

18 Apr – Second Saturday Ride – Llano Crawfish Festival - Llano, TX

18 Apr – Chapter H (San Antonio) “Wings on the Lake” Rally - Bandera, TX

28 Apr – Chapter T Gathering – Henderson's, Killeen, TX

30 Apr - 2 May - Texas District Rally - Kerrville, TX

May 2020

1-3 May - Hill Country Run - Luckenbach, TX

2 May - Fredericksburg Vintage Motorcycle Show - Fredericksburg, TX

3-6 May - Texas District Rally Follow-On Ride—Big Bend / Alpine, TX

9 May – Second Saturday Ride – Regency Suspension Bridge - San Saba, TX

16 May - Mudbug Rally - DeRidder, LA

26 May – Chapter T Gathering – Fuddruckers, Killeen, TX



Mark your Calendars

Continued



June 2020

13 Jun – Second Saturday Ride – Loco Coyote Grill - Glen Rose, TX

23 Jun – Chapter T Gathering – Henderson's, Killeen, TX

30 Jun - 4 Jul - Wing Ding 42 - Springfield, MO

July 2020

11 Jul – Second Saturday Ride – Louie's Mueller BBQ - Taylor, TX

28 Jul – Chapter T Gathering – Fuddruckers, Killeen, TX

August 2020

8 Aug – Second Saturday Ride – DutchTowne Deli & Café, Cameron, TX

25 Aug – Chapter T Gathering – Henderson's, Killeen, TX

September 2020

12 Sep - Second Saturday Ride - Cyclone Corral BBQ, 1616 Farmers Rd, Burlington TX

22 Sep - Chapter T Gathering - Fuddruckers, Killeen, TX

24-26 Sep - Oklahoma District Rally "Three Wing Circus", Muskogee, OK

October 2020

17 Oct - Second Saturday Ride (rescheduled) - 18th Annual Harvest Classic Rally 2020, Lukenbach

27 Oct - Chapter T Gathering - Henderson's Restaurant, Killeen, TX

November 2020

14 Nov - Second Saturday Ride - Underwood's Cafeteria, 402 W Commerce St, Brownwood TX

24 Nov - Chapter T Gathering - Fuddruckers, Killeen, TX

Chapter T — Centex Wings
2020 Second Saturday Rides



8 Feb - Green's Sausage House, Zabcikville ✓ (2 Participants)

14 Mar - Arusha's Coffee & Tea, Belton, TX

18 Apr - Llano Crawfish Festival, Llano, TX

9 May - Regency Suspension Bridge, Mills County, TX

13 Jun - Loco Coyote Grill, Glen Rose, TX

11 Jul - Louie Miller's BBQ, Taylor, TX

8 Aug - DutchTowne Deli & Cafe, Cameron, TX

12 Sep - Cyclone Corral BBQ, Burlington, TX

17 Oct - Harvest Classic Rally, Luckenbach, TX

14 Nov - Underwood's Cafeteria, Brownwood, TX

Dec - Open for ride suggestions

February 2020

Chapter T, Holidays in United States							Feb 2020 (Central Time - Chicago)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat							
26	27	28 7pm - Chapter T	29	30	31	1							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Chapter T Ride -							
9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15							
16	17 Presidents' Day	18 7pm - Chapter O	19	20	21	22							
23	24	25 Henderson's 312859 7pm - Chapter T	26	27	28	29							

March 2020

Chapter T, Holidays in United States

Mar 2020 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Super Tuesday	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Saving	9	10	11	12	13	14 Chapter T Ride -
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 7pm - Chapter O	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Fuddruckers 7pm - Chapter T	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 Chapter "O"

April 2020

Chapter T, Holidays in United States

Apr 2020 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
						Chapter "O"
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Easter Sunday	Easter Monday		Tax Day			Chapter T Ride -
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		7pm - Chapter O				
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
		Henderson's 7pm - Chapter T		Texas District Rally - Kerrville, TX		

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