

# February 2026

## Central Texas Riders

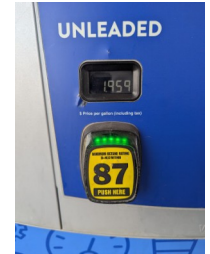
www.centexriders.org



### Chapter Directors' Notes

Hello Central Texas Riders,

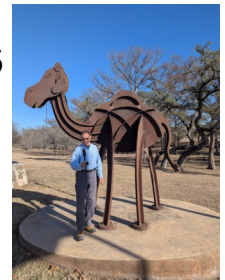
As I write this, the news is filled with images of the blizzard in the northeast. Compare that to our beautiful weather recently. And here's another reason to smile, from a gas pump at Walmart Neighborhood Market in Killeen (\$1.959). God bless Texas!



#### Inside this issue

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With help from Chet and Gary, I've been preparing rides for the Bloom & Vroom Ride-In, 26-28 March. Exploring highlighted backroads in the Fredericksburg/Kerrville area from the Texas Hill Country Butler map. Chet had sent me this month's Rambling article about camels in Texas, so I took him to Camp Verde.



If your GroupSpot app no longer sees our Central Texas Riders Group, join it again with Invite Code 15rHu.  
It is case sensitive.



I had stopped there many times and visited the fascinating old post office and general store, but this is the first time eating at the restaurant. Excellent! Best Onion Rings ever!

### BIRTHDAYS

5 Feb Todd  
9 Feb Lucy  
11 Feb Shari  
3 Mar Kent  
24 Mar Alvalin

### ANNIVERSARIES

None

There are a lot of activities coming up:

- Texas Wildflower Ride-In (Bloom & Vroom) 26-28 March, in Kerrville/Fredericksburg. (see flyer)
- ArkLaTex-O Rally 30 April - 2 May in Hope AR. (see flyer)
- International Women's Day Ride activities - 2 May, Temple
- Missouri District Rally 28 - 30 May in Branson MO.

If you know of other biker/charity/community events that you think are of interest to our Chapter please let me know.

Ride Often/Ride Safe  
Gene & Quinta

Next Chapter Meeting  
March 24

# The Status of the Motorcycle Industry

Input for this article was generated by perplexity.ai

## U.S. Market and industry trends

- The U.S. motorcycle market continued its slump in 2025, with overall registrations down about 5% to roughly 507,000 units, marking a second consecutive year of decline.
- Brand performance diverged sharply: Honda kept the top sales spot despite dropping over 12%, while Kawasaki grew by about 13% and nearly overtook Honda for No. 1.
- Harley-Davidson slid to third place in the U.S. with sales down nearly 13%, reflecting pressure on big-ticket cruisers and baggers, while value and mid-size brands like CF Moto exploded (over 150% growth).
- Electric motorcycles grew slightly (around +6–7%) but still represent a very small share of total U.S. volume.
- Commentators are describing early-2026 retail numbers as “catastrophic,” with one analysis claiming January 2026 U.S. sales dropped from about 31,800 units a year earlier to roughly 14,200, and tens of thousands of unsold new bikes sitting on showroom floors.

Brand	2025 U.S. position	2025 vs 2024 unit change	Notes
Honda	1st	-12.1%	Still No. 1 by fewer than 1,000 units over Kawa-
Kawasaki	2nd (very close)	+12.7%	Strongest growth among majors; nearly took No. 1 for the
Harley--Davidson	3rd	-12.9%	Hit hard by weak big-twin demand and high prices. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
KTM	4th	-25.4%	One of the largest declines. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
Suzuki	5th	-15.6%	Significant drop. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
BMW	6th	-12.4%	Also down double--digits. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
Indian	8th	+1.0%	One of the few to grow. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
Triumph	9th	-6.4%	Moderate decline. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>
CF Moto	10th+	+153.9%	Explosive growth from a low base. <a href="#">motorcyclesdata</a>

## Global 2025: big-picture brand ranking

Global sales are dominated by high-volume Asian brands, with Honda still on a different planet from everyone else. Provisional 2025 global rankings look roughly like this:

Global rank	Brand	Approx. 2025 global unit sales	Comment
1	Honda	~20.2 million	Still the world leader by a large margin.
2	Hero MotoCorp	~5.9 million	Huge volumes in India and emerging markets.
3	Yamaha	~4.8 million	Strong in Asia plus developed markets.
4	Bajaj	~3.7 million (approx.)	Major player in India and exports.
5–10	Suzuki, TVS, Haojue, Italika, etc.	0.25–2.0 million ranges	Regional leaders in Latin America and Asia.

### Highlights:

- Honda grew modestly worldwide in 2025 (around mid-single-digit percentage growth), even while its U.S. volumes slipped. Hero, Yamaha, and Bajaj maintained or grew unit sales by leaning on commuter and small--displacement bikes in India, Southeast Asia, and Latin America.
- Premium-focused brands (Harley, BMW, KTM, Triumph) generally struggled more in North America and Europe due to higher interest rates and soft discretionary spending.

### How the majors are positioned going into 2026

- **Kawasaki:** Best U.S. momentum among the big brands, driven by aggressively priced Ninja and Z models; now a serious challenger for long-term U.S. leadership.
- **Honda:** Still top globally and (barely) in the U.S., but losing some entry-level share to nimbler rivals and facing supply and pricing issues in some segments.
- **Harley-Davidson:** Revenue and unit sales under pressure; relying more on high-margin touring/CVO models and financial services while working to reduce inventory.
- **Yamaha/Suzuki/BMW/KTM:** Mixed results—relatively stable or growing globally thanks to emerging markets, but facing notable volume declines in the U.S. in 2025.
- **Indian & CF Moto:** Small in volume but moving the needle—Indian eked out a gain in a shrinking U.S. market, while CF Moto's triple-digit growth shows how fast a value brand can scale when conditions are right.

Newsletter Article for Central Texas Riders (Chapter T)

January 27, 2026

Written by Chet Roby (AKA Roby's Ramblings)

EWMA Number 1093

Former GWRRA Number 174559

Former Life Grand Master Number 6226



## Camels in Texas

Dear Central Texas Riders:

The following article has little to do with motorcycling, but everything to do with the ingenuity of the U.S. Military, during the exploration in the Southwest portion of the United States, as we know it today.

This article was extracted from U.S. History's archives and was fascinating to me, as a layperson, with a passion for American History in understand the U.S. Army's "Camel Corps" experiment, as written by Vince Hawkins.

As the United States expanded westward in the 19th century, the American Southwest began to take shape, but the desert environment was unfamiliar to the colonists (many of whom hailed from Europe) and inhospitable to their pack animals. In 1836, a U.S. Army lieutenant made a novel suggestion: to import herds of camels, who were accustomed to rough terrain and could go without water for a week or more. The idea was initially dismissed but was revisited when the Mexican-American War ended in 1848 and Mexico ceded 55% of its land to the United States, including desert regions in what's now California, New Mexico, Nevada, and Arizona. Congress approved funding to bring over a herd of camels in 1855, and a Navy vessel that had been outfitted specifically for camel care sailed to the Mediterranean and spent the next five months acquiring 33 of the beasts. The ship unloaded 34 camels in Indianola, Texas — one adult camel had died, but two out of six calves born on the voyage survived. The group was known unofficially as the Camel Corps.

The camels proved the most useful on survey missions, helping to explore the region's harsh climates and scout locations for roads. They even proved to be great swimmers, crossing the Colorado River more successfully than the horses and mules traveling with them. On one mission, camels even led survivors to safety after the traveling party got lost in the Mojave Desert. The experiment, while considered successful by those who worked with the camels, was largely abandoned during the Civil War. Over the years, many animals were turned loose, and it was not unusual to see rogue camels wandering American deserts for a time: One of the most notorious camels of the era, the Red Ghost, roamed the Arizona countryside until 1893.

Hawkins writes, eventually, when curiosity wore off or their new owners simply did not want or need them anymore (speaking of the Camels), many of the camels were turned loose in the wild to fend for themselves. They were seen for many years afterward, wandering the deserts and plains of the Southwest. The last of the original Army camels, Topsy, was reported to have died in April 1934, at Griffith Park, Los Angeles, at the age of eighty, but accounts of camel sightings continued for decades. Although never officially designated, "U.S. Army Camel Corps," this is how the Army's camel experiment has been remembered. Ignored and abandoned, it was an ignominious and unfortunate end for these noble "ships of the desert."

Just think, we now use drones to research the unknown...what will our grandchildren's children think of the drone technology when studying history another 150 years from now, if our Lord has chosen not to return.

Again, the U.S. Army Camel Corps was something I had never heard of and I found the information very interesting from the inception to the transportation, to their actual implementation in everyday Army life.

Have a great day and spend the time preparing your motorcycle for the upcoming riding season. I am putting the finishing touches on my bike, in preparation for the Route 66 trip in September/October of 2026.

Kindest regards,

*Chet*



*In*

*June 1859, while attempting to climb a sloping bare rock in southwest Texas, one of the Army's camels lost its footing and fell, smashing one of the precious water barrels it was carrying. An officer accompanying the expedition quickly cut the lines ensnaring the camel, preventing a bad situation from becoming worse. (Camels in Texas, by Thomas Lovell, courtesy of the Abell-Hanger Foundation and the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame of Midland, Texas, where the painting is on permanent display.)*



## Central Texas Riders (Chapter T)

### *Rides/Events*

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<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>14 Feb 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>24 Feb 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>28 Feb 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>14 Mar 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>24 Mar 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>Texas Wildflower Ride-In</i>	<i>26-28 Mar 2026</i>	<i>Kerrville/Fredericksburg</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>11 Apr 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>25 Apr 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>28 Apr 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>ArkLaTex-O Multi-District Rally</i>	<i>30 Apr - 2 May 26</i>	<i>Hope, AR</i>
<i>International Women's Ride Day</i>	<i>2 May 2026</i>	<i>Horny Toad HD - Temple</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>9 May 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>23 May 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>26 May 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>Missouri District Rally</i>	<i>28-30 May 2026</i>	<i>Branson MO</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>13 Jun 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>23 Jun 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>27 Jun 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>11 Jul 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>25 Jul 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>28 Jul 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>8 Aug 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>



## Central Texas Riders (Chapter T)

### *Rides/Events*

<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>22 Aug 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>25 Aug 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>2026 Eagle Wings Rendezvous</i>	<i>3-6 Sep 2026</i>	<i>Sharonville OH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>12 Sep 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>22 Sep 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>26 Sep 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>10 Oct 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>Texas District Fall Ride-In</i>	<i>15-17 Oct 2026</i>	<i>Marble Falls</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Breakfast</i>	<i>24 Oct 2026</i>	<i>Black Rifle Coffee - HH</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>27 Oct 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Gathering</i>	<i>24 Nov 2026</i>	<i>Golden Corral - Killeen</i>
<i>CenTex Riders Holiday Party</i>	<i>5 Dec 2026</i>	<i>Location TBA</i>

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



## Central Texas Riders (Chapter T)

### Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association References and Links

**EWMA National Website:** <https://www.EWMA-World.org>

EWMA National Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/eagle.wings.motorcycle.association>

Region B Website:

Region B Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/648709793287460>

**Texas District Website:** <https://www.gwrra-tx.org>

Texas District Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/736753967150486>

**CenTex Riders Website:** <https://www.CenTexRiders.org>

#### **GroupSpot Membership Codes as of 10/22/2025**

EWMA Region B: AR KS LA OK TX - **4PPb3**

TX District - **aWQ6k**

T Killeen - **15rHu**

R Lewisville - **qjEfq** (lower case Qs, not Gs)

O Austin - **L7NXW**

G2 Greenville - **PWZBF**

P Granbury - **43TJs**

S.T.A.R. South TX Area Riders. Conroe - **U0kd8**

F Troop, Fort Smith Arkansas - **xJ9UA**

Motorcycle Parts and Accessories - **5aZA5**

**Download the GroupSpot app:** Go to the [App Store](#) (for Apple) or [Google Play Store](#) (for Android) and search for "GroupSpot".

1. **Open and create an account:** Once the app is downloaded, open it and follow the prompts to create a new account.

2. **Join a group:** You can join a group in one of three ways:

- **Invite Link:** Tap the link provided in an email or text message.
- **Invite Code:** Tap the QR code icon on your home screen and enter the code.
- **QR Code:** Scan a QR code provided by an existing member.

#### **Chapter Team:**

**Directors:** Gene & Quinta Harris

**Treasurers:** Tim & Young Brooks

**Ride Coordinators:** Jim and Alvalin Woodul

**Safety/Rider Education:** Chet Roby

**Webmaster/Newsletter:** Gene & Quinta Harris

Support Our Sponsors — They Support Us!

### Computer Solutions

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

4610 Teal Drive

Killeen, TX 76542-3783

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



## Texas District 2026 Spring Wildflower Ride-In



### *Bloom & Vroom*



**Dates:** 26-28 Mar 2026

**Location:** Kerrville TX

**Old River Road RV Resort**

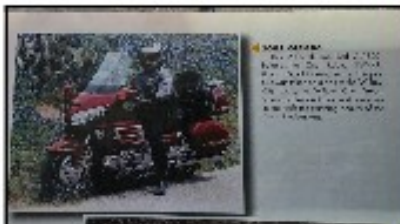
(830) 634- 2993

310 Colvin Ranch Road

Kerrville, TX 78028

[www.olderiverroadresort.com](http://www.olderiverroadresort.com)

RV Sites, Cabins, Cottages



Come for one, two, or all three days! Ride the Three Twisted Sisters.

See the beautiful Willow City Loop and other wildflower roads in full bloom (hopefully)! Visit the world's largest wildflower farm!

No host facility. No registration or fees. Stay wherever you want in the Kerrville/Fredericksburg area. We will have use of the events center at Old River Road RV Resort in Kerrville as needed. See included contact info.

Please RSVP @ [txdd@ewma-tx.org](mailto:txdd@ewma-tx.org) just to let us know you will attend. Call or text Gene at (254) 289-6036 for more info. Ride info to be published February 2026.

#### Other Area Activities

- Family Free Day at the Museum of Western Art in Kerrville, 28 Mar
- Bee Gees Gold - Tribute Concert in Kerrville, 28 Mar
- Texas Fandango— Vintage Motorcycle Rally in Fredericksburg, 27-29 Mar

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

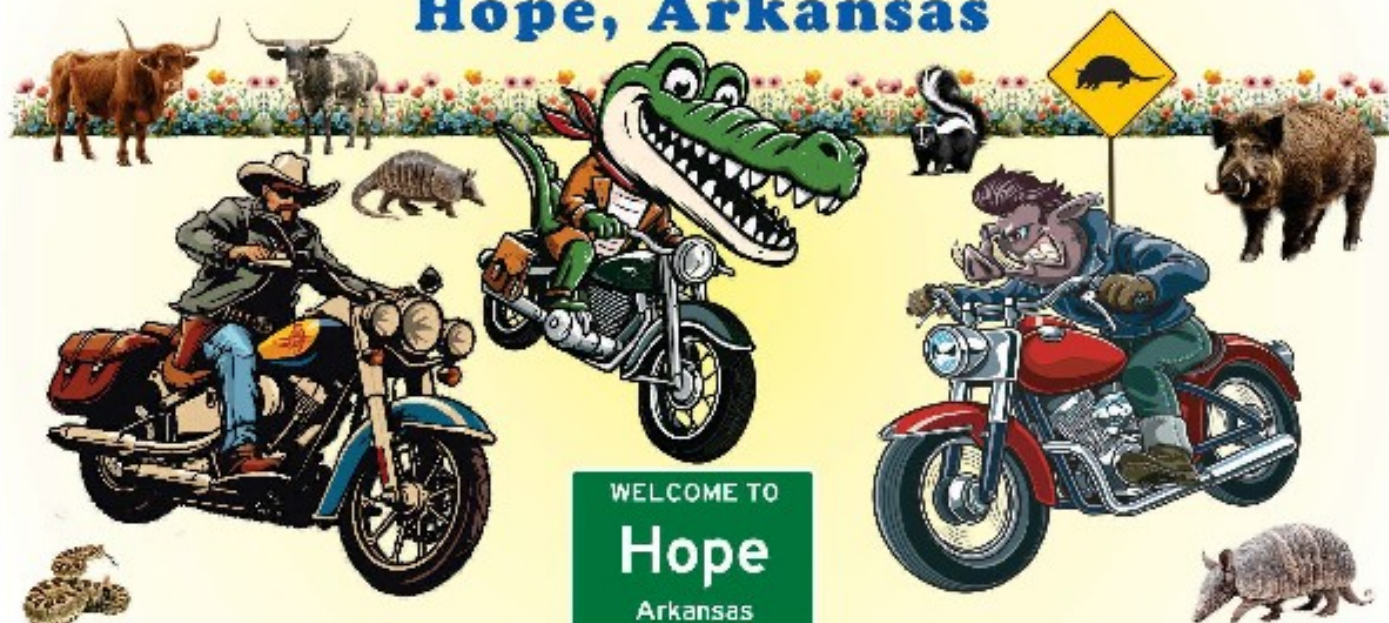


# ArkLaTex-O

## MULTI-DISTRICT RALLY

### April 30 - May 2, 2026

### Hope, Arkansas



**EWMA Members and Friends!**  
**Plan now to join the Diamond State Riders, Louisiana Road Riders and Texas Road Riders**  
**the inaugural ArkLaTex-O multi-District event**  
**in Hope, Arkansas, April 30 - May 2, 2026!**

**Visit: [WWW.ARKLATEX.ORG](http://WWW.ARKLATEX.ORG) to Register Now!**

► RIDER - \$20 😊 TWO-Up - \$30 ◀

**See Page 2**  
**for Hotels and**  
**Camp Site Options**

**Thursday, Friday & Saturday**  
**Hope Fair Park Coliseum**  
**800 S Mockingbird Lane**  
**Hope, AR 71801**

**REGISTER**  
**and Mark Your**  
**Calendar TODAY!**



**Eagle Wings Rendezvous**  
**Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association**  
**4th Annual Rally**  
**Sept 3rd – Sept 5th 2026**  
**Sharonville, OH**



**PRICE ONLY GOOD STARTING 10/16/2025 AND THEN MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 2/16/2026**

**3 Nights of FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!**  
**Thursday GRAND OPENING PARTY FUN,**  
**Light Dinner and entertainment**

**Friday Night Bike and Light Show Vote for your favorite and enjoy some ice cream!**

**Saturday Night is Closing**  
**Ceremonies, and Dinner**

**\*For up to Date Schedule & more info,**  
**go to [www. EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous](http://www.EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous)**

<b>Special Registration for 2026</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Must be postmarked by 2/16/2026</b>			
EWMA Members	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Non- Members	\$55	_____	\$ _____
Light Dinner on Thursday Night	\$35	_____	\$ _____
Dinner on Saturday Night	\$45	_____	\$ _____
First Aid/CPR—Friday	\$25	_____	\$ _____
<b>Pre-Registration Tickets</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Total</b>
Grand Prize & Mystery Cash—Books of 5	\$10 X	_____	\$ _____
Grand 50/25/15/10— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____
2026 Bike Giveaway— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____
<b>GRAND TOTAL IN US DOLLARS ENCLOSED: \$ _____</b>			

**All pre-registrations must be postmarked**

**BY**

**2/16/2026**

**Make Checks payable to EWMA**

Mail completed forms to:

**EWMA**  
 Cheryl Fowler  
 6635 W Happy Valley Rd,  
 Suite A104-443  
 Glendale, AZ 85310  
 clfowler74@yahoo.com

**\$15.00 fee on all cancellations**  
**No refunds after Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

EXP \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**See and purchase our Rally shirt on our website in our store.**  
**Pick them up at rally. Some may be available on-site.**  
 For more information go to  
[www.ewma.world.org/rendezvous](http://www.ewma.world.org/rendezvous)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ EWMA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ EWMA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg/District/Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned, agree to comply with the ideals governing this event and to hold harmless the EWMA, co-sponsoring organizations and property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved, and I/we agree to assume responsibility for any property which I/we knowingly damage.

**EWMA reserves the right to refuse registration and/or entrance to anyone at any time.**

Rider Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Rider Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



**Our Vision:**

A simple, fun, riding, social association of like-minded motorcycle enthusiasts

**Our Motto:**

Friends for Fun, Safety & Riding

**Our Mission:**

To provide to our Membership a fun and social environment that focuses on the love of motorcycling

To bring the world together around that passion while helping them to be safer and mindful when riding a motorcycle.

To be a family-oriented, non-religious, non-political association, respectful of each other's beliefs.

Enjoying the ride together with like-minded motorcyclists.

**Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association  
Membership Application**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PV: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

USA \_\_\_\_\_ Canada \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Member Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select One:**

Individual Membership: 3 years \$70.00, 2 years \$50.00, 1 year \$30.00

Family Membership (2 or more people in household): 3 years \$85.00, 2 years \$60.00, 1 year \$35.00

I currently own the following motorcycle brands: (please select all that apply)

Honda Harley-Davidson Indian BMW Yamaha Ducati Triumph Other

New Member - Who referred you to us? Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you hear about us? (Example: magazine, website dealer, etc.)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable in U.S. funds to Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association and mail to 6635 W. Happy Valley RD., Suite A104-443, Glendale, AZ 85310

Revision Date 1/1/2025