

Chapter T  
Texas District  
GWRRA  
www.centexwings.org



## Central Texas Wings

*Chapter of the Year - 2018!*



# July 2022

## Gold Wing Road Riders Association to Shut Down after 45 Years

*The following is a press release issued by American Honda.*



**WINGNUT**

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

**To Lucy, for ingeniously finding a new way to wear a motorcycle helmet. Backwards.**

### Inside this issue

Page 1	Greetings
Page 2	Fun Stuff
Page 3-4	Riding Tip
Page 5	Events
Page 6	Our Sponsors

Next Chapter Meeting  
August 23rd  
Golden Corral

Gold Wing Road Riders Association founders Paul Hildebrand and Shirley Stevens-Garcia announced last week during Wing Ding opening ceremonies that the organization will be closing. American Honda is saddened by the news and thanks the GWRRA for its dedication to one of Honda's most iconic models.

Founded in 1977, the GWRRA grew through the heyday of motorcycle touring to the point that it eventually had approximately 80,000 members in 53 countries, and with over 800 active chapters managed by 4,000 volunteer leaders. Headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, the GWRRA has called itself "the world's largest single-marque social organization for owners of Honda Gold Wing/Valkyrie motorcycles," and it adopted the motto "Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge."

A dedicated, family-like group that published its own magazine (*Wing World*, whose September issue will be the last), the GWRRA worked hard to improve the image of motorcycling and prided itself in being a not-for-profit, nonreligious, non-political organization whose members covered a broad spectrum of backgrounds, but who were unified by a love for owning and riding Honda's legendary touring model, the Gold Wing.

"We would like to thank our members, vendors and advertisers for 45 years of unwavering support," said Abel Gallardo, COO of GWRRA. "We truly could not have made it this far without all of you. To our rider-education program, we cannot begin to place a number on the lives touched by your efforts. To our leadership-training and motorist-awareness programs, thank you for educating our members, officers and public to keep our riders safe and enjoying the ride."

The GWRRA will officially close on July 31. In the interim, it will offer prorated refunds on prepaid memberships.

"For nearly five decades, the GWRRA has set the powersports standard for a grassroots organization based on a single model, and Honda will be forever grateful for the enthusiasm the club's members demonstrated and generated for the Gold Wing," said Bill Savino, American Honda Senior Manager of Customer Engagement. "While the GWRRA's closure is undeniably the end of an era, we want to make sure their members and all Gold Wing enthusiasts know that Honda remains committed to the Gold Wing model and these customers for years to come."



A project idea for Jeff and Shari?



Mike Rowe would be proud of this septic worker's dedication!

Greetings,

By now, some of you have heard about the GWRRA organization is shutting its doors by the end of the year. This announcement came at the start of this year's WING DING 43. THIS IS THE LAST WING DING for GWRRA. NO MORE!

Those of you, like myself, who have remaining time on your current membership, YOU WILL BE REIMBURSED. If you are a member of Rescue Plus, it is my understanding you can continue that relationship outside of GWRRA with the service provider, just not under the GWRRA umbrella.

National states that any rallies left on the calendar, will be supported for the remainder of the year. After 45 yrs, and the loss of more than two-thirds of their membership height of 80K. This is sad news. This is a developing situation and details remain to be put out to the membership.

What does this mean for us, for our monthly gatherings, rides, fellowship? As far as Texas District is concerned, we will continue to march as we have before. We are all still ride enthusiasts, we are still friends, and friends ride together, get together for food. That is the current plan. As more information comes out, I will pass it along.

Respectfully  
Jose Soto



**Chapter Team:**

**Directors:** Jose & Celest Soto

**Treasurers:** Tim & Young Brooks

**Ride Coordinators:**

**Membership Enhancement / Social Coordinators & Chapter of the Year Coordinators:**

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

**BIRTHDAYS**  
25 Aug Jeannie K

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
None

Date: 06-28-22

The following information has been scripted from MSF's website, supporting a rider's mindset and a focus on perceptibility of a rider. Both are key components to maintaining safety, as a rider, thus assuring a greater chance of riding incident free.

## “Rider Mindset: Rider Perception Fact Sheet”

Having good visual perception is to see and understand accurately. It is identifying clues in traffic that could affect speed, lane position or path of travel.

Safe riding is a skill more of the eyes and mind (mental) than the hands and feet (physical), but having good physical skills is important.

Having 20/20 visual acuity is important, but since the eyes cannot perceive everything at once, we have to choose what is important.

Our central vision is merely a three-degree cone, and typical peripheral vision is around 180 degrees.

Besides central vision and peripheral vision, there is useful field of view (UFOV). Research shows that people with good UFOV do not crash as often, and the UFOV deteriorates with age.

Key aspects of our vision:

Visual Acuity (clarity).

Field of Vision (ability to see to the sides while focusing straight ahead).

Depth Perception (ability to judge distances).

Night Vision (ability to see clearly at night).

Color Vision (ability to see colors accurately).

Using the eyes well when riding means to search using a sweeping far-and-near and side-to-side pattern.

Target fixation (focusing on one object or area for more than a second or so) may be harmful.

Perception improves with knowledge and experience, and influenced by our values and priorities.

People tend to see what they expect to see.

Inattentional blindness occurs when a person fails to see what should have been plainly visible, and occurs with factors such as low conspicuity, divided attention, high expectation of seeing something specifically, and low arousal for seeing something in particular.

Factors can be put into four search categories:

Traffic controls and roadway features.

Highway users.

Surface conditions.

Escape paths.

In very general terms, the eyes “fixate” on an object for about 0.03 seconds during a normal search, and

then travel for about 0.05 seconds until they stop and fixate on something else (these are called saccades).

Many crashes could have been avoided if an operator were aware of danger only three-quarters of a second sooner!!!

A good rider responds smoothly well ahead of time; a poor rider has to react quickly to emergencies.

People have a mental set that determines how they perceive, and it consist of the following:

If looking for a certain event, not much else is noticed.

The things people teach themselves to look for first, they will perceive first.

How well people perceive depends on previous experiences and immediate priorities.

Sports vision specialists have recognized that superior visual skills correlate with superior performance.

They identify specialized aspects of vision:

Focus flexibility (near and far focus transitions).

Dynamic visual acuity (which may be different from static acuity).

Visualization (forming an image of something in the mind or mental picture of an outcome).

Some eye exercises to improve performance include:

Move eyes up, down, left, right.

Focus near, then focus far; then repeat.

Cover eyes and focus on black.

While looking straight ahead, pay attention to objects in the periphery.

Stay safe and continue with the SEE (Search – Evaluate – Execute), to aid in your safety as a rider.

Kindest personal regards,

R Chester Roby

GWRRR Number 174559

Life Grand Master 6226



# Mark your Calendars



2022

**23 Jul** - Centex Wings Gathering, Golden Corral - Killeen, TX

**13 Aug** - Centex Wings Ride, Brunch at Dead Fish Grill - Belton, TX

**18 – 20 Aug** - Michigan District Rally - St. Louis, MI

**26 Aug** - Centex Wings Gathering, Golden Corral - Killeen, TX

**10 Sep** - Centex Wings Ride, Brunch at Dead Fish Grill - Belton, TX

**16 – 18 Sep** - Oklahoma District Rally - Ponca City, OK

**27 Sep** - Centex Wings Gathering, Golden Corral - Killeen, TX

**29 Sep – 1 Oct** - Alabama District Rally - Eufala, AL

*7 - 9 Oct - ( T ) Centex Wings Ride - Alamo and River Walk—San Antonio*

**25 Oct** - Centex Wings Gathering, Golden Corral - Killeen, TX

*10– 14 Nov - ( T ) Centex Wings Ride - Big Bend/Ft Davis - Alpine, TX*

**22 Nov** - Centex Wings Gathering, Golden Corral - Killeen, TX

**9 Dec** - Centex Wings Holiday Party

Support Our Sponsors — They Support Us!

**CATFISH • SEAFOOD • CHICKEN • STEAKS**  
**HENDERSON'S**  
**RESTAURANT**  
Family Owned & Operated Since 1948  
**770-786-3775**  
*Where friends, neighbors and good food lovers meet to eat!*



## Computer Solutions

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

4610 Teal Drive

Killeen, TX 76542-3783