

G-2 ROADRUNNERS

March 2018





GWRRA TEXAS DISTRICT CHAPTER G2 GREENVILLE, TX

GWRRA MISSION

Dedicated to our Motto; Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge, GWRRA Members enjoy the freedom of belonging to a not-forprofit, non-religious and nonpolitical organization.

GWRRA VISION

Gold Wing Road Riders
Association [GWRRA],
founded in 1977, is
recognized as the world's
largest single-marquee
motorcycle association in the
world. GWRRA provides
safety, technical, and
educational services to its
Members world-wide.

Words from the Wiggins

The rains have finally stopped for a few days. February (the wettest one on record) is over so hopefully the weather will be more conducive to riding.

In addition to our normal monthly gatherings at Buffet Palace and Napoli's, we held G2's 10th Valentine's Day dinner at Napoli's. Judy and Ione did a wonderful job transforming the plain back room in to a red, heart filled dining room.

The chapter also participated in the North Texas Bowling Challenge hosted by Chapter P at City View Lanes in Fort Worth. George, Joetta, Bobby, David, Barbara and Jim bowled and were able to squeeze out the overall high team average. Bobby had high series and high game, Joetta and Donna Rymarz (Chapter R) tied for high series for the ladies and Barbara had the high game. We had a great time with all the folks that attended.

March 13th is the quarterly Ice Cream Social at Braum's in Greenville. The chapter pays for a free ice cream concoction of your choice if your birthday is in the first quarter of this year. goo.gl/maps/L4Pfxe6mYgF2

The upcoming 2018 Texas District Convention Theme is "Winging Back in History". The convention will be held in Brenham, Texas at the Washington County Fair Grounds, May 17 - 19, 2018. Mark your calendars so you won't miss out on the fun. Information about the convention is available on our website http://www.g2txroadrunner.org or http://GWRRA-TX.ORG

Please email or call if you have an activity or ride you'd like to plan and we'll try to get it set up.

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G2

ROADRUNNERS

FIND US:

WEBSITE:

http://www.g2roadrunner.org

FACEBOOK:

GWRRA-ChapterTX-G2

Chapter G2 Meetings:

On the first Tuesday of the month, G2 meets to discuss Chapter, GWRRA and ride information at The Buffet Palace (3202 I-30, Greenville, TX 75402) This has been the main chapter meeting historically. Dinner at 6:00pm, meeting starts at 7:00.

On the Third Tuesday of the month, folks closer to the metroplex have an opportunity to gather together at Napoli's Restaurant in Wylie. (701 N Hwy 78, Wylie, TX 75098) - (972) 442-4653. This is for passing on information shared at the Greenville meeting and to enjoy the company of others we get to see less frequently. Gathering starts at 6:00 pm.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Feb. 6 - Chapter meeting

Even with nasty weather there were 16 members and 2 visitors in attendance. Bobby William's sister and brother-in-law, Teresa and Terry Waggoner were our guests.

Feb. 10- Valentine Party-

The annual Valentine's party was held at Napoli's in Wylie. Twenty attendees enjoyed the evening. A special thanks to Judy and lone for the beautiful decorations. Pictures are posted in the pictures section of our website.

You will find Judy's article about the party later in this newsletter.

Feb. 14 - Movie & Burgers

Tommy, Judy, QP, and Vickie met at the McKinney 14 to see The 15:17 to Paris. Afterwards it was burgers at The One and Only Burgers.

Feb. 17 - Z2 Valentine Dinner-

Bobby, Joetta, George, QP and Vickie joined the Z2 group at Taste of Italy in Garland for their post Valentine dinner. Dan and Donna Rymarz, as well at their daughter and son-in-law also joined the group.

No one is admitting how many rolls they ate.

Feb. 18 -North Texas Bowling Challenge

See George's article.

Feb. 20 - Chapter Gathering in Wylie

Six members braved more nasty weather to attend the gathering in Wylie.

CHAPTER STAFF

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ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Barbara Wiggins March 25

IN THE KITCHEN

BANANA BREAD

3/4 butter

I ½ cups sugar

3 medium bananas

2 eggs

I tsp. vanilla

2 cups flour

I tsp. baking soda

3/4 tsp. salt

½ cup buttermilk

3/4 cup chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 325. Cream butter and sugar. Blend in bananas, eggs, and vanilla. Add flour, soda, salt and buttermilk. Mix well. Stir in nuts.

Bake in greased and floured loaf pan.

JUST FOR FUN

A motorcycle patrolman was rushed to the hospital with an inflamed appendix. The doctors operated on him and when he came around he was relieved when they told him all had gone to plan and he was going to be fine.

But the patrolman kept feeling something pulling at the hairs on his chest. He was worried that something may be wrong, but he was still too weak from the surgery to do anything. Eventually, he managed to pull his hospital gown down enough to check what was causing the discomfort. When looking down at his chest he saw three wide strips of ultra-adhesive tape stuck firmly to him. Written on it in large black letters was the message:

"Get well soon.. from the nurse you gave the ticket to last week. I'll be around to remove the tape later."

What Happened at the Valentine's Party?

By Judy Elliott

You know that old saying "the best laid plans of mice and men......"

Well, the chapter Valentine's party on February 10th at Napoli's was a perfect example from my perspective.

It should come as no surprise to any of you that I am a planner, and I like things organized. When I know we're having a party, I sometimes plan months in advance so everything flows smoothly, looks nice and everyone feels welcome.

So, you can imagine the horror that I felt when all the chairs were occupied at the Valentine's party and Bill and Sharron came in - ESPECIALLY when I heard Sharron say "I KNOW I RSVPd that we were coming." At that moment, I could have sunk through the floor I was so embarrassed and panicked. I could not imagine how I could have let this happen. I have since been asked by a chapter member what happened to cause the oversight, so thought I'd share for any other inquiring minds out there.

Yes, Bill and Sharron did in fact RSVP well in advance. I knew they would be there and had a personalized gift for them along with the others who attended.

So, what caused the problem?

Plain and simple: My bad.

"The bad" can attributed to too many irons in the fire or senility - either one would fit. But the bottom line is, I forgot to include Tommie and I in the head count.

So, I was two settings short.

You've heard about people who are two tacos short of a combination plate?

Or how about the lights are on but nobody's home?

Well, if the shoe fits....

I called Sharron and apologized as soon as I figured out what I did, because I was really stumped on how I could let such a thing happen. (I realize it was not the end of the world, but I don't like to mess up like that. I like you guys to know that we think about you, that each of you is special, and your friendship and chapter membership is important to us. Cause it really, really is.)

So, for all those other inquiring minds, I will close by quoting the late and great Paul Harvey:

"And now you know the rest of the story."

Judy



North Texas Bowling Challenge 2018

By George Augustas

HE ANNUAL North Texas Bowling Challenge took place February 18, 2018, at City View Lanes in Fort Worth. Four chapters participated: G2, M, P, and R. Chapter P hosted the event. G2 was represented by Bobby Williams, Joetta Oliver, Jim and Barbara Wiggins, David and Shirley Hale, and George Augustas. Everyone except Shirley participated in the competition, while Shirley provided moral support. Dan and Donna Rymarz played on Chapter R's team.

Each player played three strings of tenpins, alternating on two adjacent lanes. Chapter G2 dominated the event, as usual. Bobby won high score, male, and Barbara won high score, female, single game. Bobby and Joetta won the high series trophies (Joetta tied with Donna Rymarz), and Chapter G2 won the event trophy.

We had one mechanical problem with the equipment when a lane failed to reset.

Chapter G2's scores were:

	1	II	III	Total	Average
Joetta	129	140	148	417	139.0
Barbara	150	139	98	387	129.0
Jim	127	156	144	427	142.3
George	110	95	125	330	110.0
David	157	101	112	370	123.3
Bobby	196	116	181	493	164.3

Chapter G2's average score was 134.

At the conclusion of the challenge, everyone went to Catfish King for dinner before returning home. We all had a good time, and we are looking forward to next year's challenge. ©



HABIT STRENGTH

By definition, habit strength is "a function of the frequency with which an action has been repeated in a stable context and has acquired a high degree of habitual automaticity". In other words, do something the same way enough times and you don't have to think about it to complete the task.

Think of your day-to-day activities as habits; virtually all behaviors are habits. Every time you brush your teeth or tie your shoes, you do it the same way out of habit and (usually) don't have to think about it. That's because you've been doing it for so long it comes naturally to do it the same way. Initially someone had to teach you the right way to do all these things. But what if they taught you incorrectly or you have been doing it wrong for so long that you have developed a bad habit? I know that I for one have been scolded by my dentist in the past for not brushing properly.

Habit strength also relates to your riding skills and their development/maintenance. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change or even to recognize that you do it. Think about how you handle stop and go traffic; do you consciously think about down-shifting or when (or when not) to put your feet down? How about driving into your driveway and garage? "It's just second nature, I do it all the time." you say. That's a strong habit; is it a good or bad habit?

What if I ask you about delayed apex turns or where to look coming into a blind right hander or when you downshift/brake coming into an unfamiliar blind turn? Most people will answer differently, but here's a personal example. It took me over 3000 miles of riding my 1800 before I stopped downshifting coming into twisties. After years of riding my 1500, I naturally shifted to 4th when coming into curves. I know consciously that I don't need to do that as much, with the power/torque of the 1800, but occasionally I still catch myself doing it and have to fight this unnecessary habit. Can you say habit strength?

The following are the 7 worst habits that the MSF would like you to avoid.

- 1. Avoid entering corners too fast and braking deep into the turn. The (4) recommended basic steps in approaching and turning through a corner are: SLOW (down to a comfortable speed before entering the turn), LOOK (where you want to be going and as far into the turn as possible), PRESS (the inside bar to counter steer in the direction you want to go) and ROLL (on the throttle or at least keep it steady through the turn).
- 2. **Putting your feet down before you come to a complete stop**. Keep your feet on the pegs right up until it's time to stop then, when you are almost completely stopped, set down your left foot so that you can still use the rear brake with your right foot.
- 3. **Not squaring bars to the chassis when you come to a stop**. To avoid a last-minute wobble when you stop, keep looking straight ahead to help keep you bars straight.
- 4. **Having low eyes**. Means you're not looking far enough ahead. You should be constantly scanning far ahead at various intervals and don't fixate on anything for more than a split second.
- 5. **Not using the front brake enough (if at all)**. The front brake will provide most of your stopping power on most bikes and, apparently, a lot of self-schooled riders are afraid of doing an endo if they grab too much of the front. Proper braking technique involves a coordination of the use of both brakes.
- 6. **Using the "two finger" method of braking**. When riding on the street, the correct method is to roll off the throttle and progressively squeeze the front brake with all four fingers.
- 7. **Using poor lane position when riding in a group**. Keep out of other rider's blind spots, keep in a staggered formation while riding in groups, allow room for unexpected maneuvers and maintain maximum visibility.

I re-took the Advanced Rider's Course a few months ago. I've been riding for over 50 years and yet initially had issues with some of the maneuvers. The instructor was all too happy to point out the causes for my problems and by the end of the session I was going through just fine. All I needed was someone to point out the bad habits, how to do it the correct way and practice. "It feels funny", I would say about some of his suggestions. Sure it feels funny, it's not the way I'd become accustomed to doing it.

Bad habits or good, they're just as strong. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change it. Only learning the right way and with a <u>lot of practice</u> will make you a better rider. Which would you rather have working for you, riding habits/skills that can help avoid or get you out of a tight situation, or habits that lead to a bad situation?

Ride Safely; Ride Often! - Randy & Kathy Reese - Texas District Educators

HOW TO ACCESS RIDER LEVEL INFORMATION

The GWRRA Rider Education Database contains information regarding your Levels status, Membership expiration date, the Rider Education classes you have completed, and personal information such as phone numbers, email, and home address. It is the Member's responsibility, with support from the District Educator, to maintain up-to-date information in the database and to keep your Membership and Levels current.

To access your personal information, first go to www.gwrra.org. Once there, hover your mouse over the "Programs" or "Officer" button; a gray colored area will drop down. Carefully move your mouse to "Rider Education" and click on it. The Rider Education page will open. Click on the blue "My R.E. Information" tab on the left side of the page.

You are now on the "sign in" page. If this is your first time here, you probably do not have a clue as to how to log in. That is OK; we have thought of that. Click on the "I need help logging in" text. This will take you to an instruction page that will take you through the sign in process step by step. Hint: you will need your Membership Card to help you find the information that you need for sign in. Once you have read the instructions, click on the "return to login" text.

You are now back on the login page. Enter your "User Name" (Member Number) and "Password" (Numbers in your address and Member expiration date). Now click the "Submit" button. This takes you to a page that lists all Members associated with your Membership Number. Click on "view" on the right border to access the record that you want to look at.

Veola, you are now looking at your personal Rider Education record; impressive, huh? OK, look it over and make sure that your basic information is correct; name, address, phone, email, District, and Chapter. To change any of this information you will need to contact the Home Office or visit the "Member" tab on the GWRRA home page.

Scroll down a little to "Rider History." If you are enrolled in the Levels Program, this is where you will find your level listed. This section also shows your "safe miles" and "high miles." If this information is not correct, fill out an N.10 Form (Levels Update Form) and send it to the District Educator for database update.

Scrolling down just a little further brings you to your "Training Courses" and History. Training required for your Levels is displayed with the type of training and expiration date. The training will be highlighted in yellow if it is close to the expiration date and in red if the training has expired. Contact your District Educator if you are close to expiring so that you can get a class scheduled to renew your certification. Hover your mouse over the word "History" and a box will appear showing the training courses that you have taken. It will only remain as long as you have your mouse in place. If you want to take a closer look at your training, click on the tab that says, "All History." This will open a list of all of the training that has been entered into the database on your behalf.

Are you an instructor? If so, there is a tab called "Instructor Information" that you can click on to check your Instructor status. This will show what you are qualified to instruct and when you next expire. Should you have questions about anything listed in the Training Courses section, please contact your District Educator.

There you have it; a quick and easy way to access your personal record in the Rider Education Database. There is a lot of good information there, so please take the time to periodically access this information to make sure that you are getting credit for all of the training you attend. It is recommended that you check this information at least quarterly.

TEAM GWRRA

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