

### Motorcyclists Against Staying Home







# February

Texas District Chapter M2 Spring, Texas Gold Wing Road Riders Association Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge South Central Region H



**Annual M2/N2 Bowling Tournament** 







#### **Quote by Claudia**

"Optimism is going after Moby Dick in a rowboat. And taking the tartar sauce with you!"

Unknown

#### **February Birthdays**

2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Stoneburner

5<sup>th</sup> Bob MacBird

14<sup>th</sup> Dennis Kwiecien

15<sup>th</sup> Claudia Woodard

16<sup>th</sup> Vickie Stoneburner

28<sup>th</sup> Brenda Dillon



#### **February Anniversaries**

13<sup>th</sup> Chris & Brenda Dillon

Bob Lunsford's

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### **Director's Corner**

#### **Bart & Cheryl Harris**



### Anticipating **SPRING**

O.K., I know, it has not been a particularly cold winter – even by Houston standards. Nevertheless, as I look out my home office window at our now brown bottlebrush bushes, I cannot help but wish for an early start to Spring. It seems like I just finished the constant lawn mowing with the leaves falling but I do not care. I will take the weekly grass cutting over the brown yard any day.

And, I hate January in South Texas! It seems like it is either wet, cold or wet & cold! Those of you that made the trip to the Mid-winter Roundup can appreciate what I am talking about. Anyone who happens to read this from up north in the snow states is going to think I am a real wimp. O.K., I am a wimp – still do not like January.



The good news is that spring is really not that far away here in South Texas and I am looking forward to some of the different rides we are planning in the next few months. Of course, we do have our annual Valentines Dinner on the 11th of February for some winter fun as well. Mixed in with our more typical "ride to eat" activities, we have three different out of the ordinary rides planned in the coming months.

First, on the 25th of February, we plan a ride up to Bryan/College Station to visit the Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial with a stop for lunch at Sodolak's Beefmaster Restaurant. As you will recall, our Polar



Bear ride was intended to go up to Sodolak's but the January rain got in the way. The Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial includes the primary memorial dedicated to all veterans and a pathway winding through the park with various memorials and interpretive panels of each American conflict from the Revolution up through the Global War on Terror. This should make for an educational and entertaining day. Plus, you will get a little exercise to burn off your lunch! (www.bvvm.org)

In March, we are planning a ride to the George Ranch Historical Park in Richmond (I guess we are on a history kick). This park is a still working 23,000-acre ranch and includes historic dwellings from the 1830's thru the

1930's. (www.georgeranch.org)

Finally, we are working on arranging a visit to the Hemi-Hideaway in Brookshire for April. This is a "must" ride for all you motor heads out there and should be interesting for everyone. "The venue is filled with 24 of the most desirable Mopars on

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#### **February Journeys**

Feb. 3rd Friday M\*A\*S\*H Chapter Gathering at IHOP, The Woodlands

Come early and visit, meeting at 7:15 p.m.



Feb. 8th

Wednesday

Team Meeting at Red Lobster, The Woodlands

Eat at 6:30 p.m. / Meeting at 7:15 p.m.



Feb. 11th Saturday **Annual M2 Valentine's Day Lunch** 

Salt Grass in The Woodlands, 1:00 p.m.



Feb. 19th Sunday Miniature Golf at Shankz Putt Putt Golf

Meet there at 1:00 p.m.



Feb. 25th

Ride to Sodalaks in College Station

Saturday and after lunch to Brazos Valley Veterans Complex

Meet at Stripes at 9:30 a.m.



	March

Mar. 3rd M\*A\*S\*H Chapter Gathering at IHOP, The Woodlands

**Friday** Come early and visit, meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mar. 4th Ride to Original Super Burger

**Saturday** Meet at Stripes at 9:30 a.m.

Mar. 8th Team Meeting at Red Lobster, The Woodlands

**Wednesday** Eat at 6:30 p.m. / Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mar. 18th Ride to George Ranch, lunch in Richmond

**Saturday** Meet at Stripes at 9:00 a.m.

Mar. 26th Ride to Deacon Baldies Food Truck

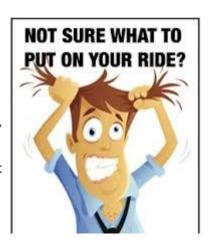
**Sunday** Meet at Chevron at 1:30 p.m.





# Rider Ramblings Do you have it? by tim bryan

If you do have it, you are the coolest one on the block; right? If you don't have it you most assuredly need it, want it, and should have it; is this also right? Perhaps it is true for someone but maybe not, everyone. I am talking about accessories on my bike. I will admit, I really like them. In many ways, I do feel I need them. I especially need them when I believe they increase the safety of my ride. In the next few paragraphs I will give you my take on a few common or popular accessories. This article contains a little tongue in cheek comments, and I own that. There is however a safety message in here. Wait for it..... J



Lighting; I would consider this mostly a safety accessory. Of course I have my parade lights and now learn I mostly can't use them on the road. But it is pretty typical thinking that adding additional lights to our ride would make us more visible on the road. Adding additional forward bright lights such as fog lights or driving lights helps to see the road better at night along with better motorist visibility for your presence on the road. Then there is additional lighting on the back and some that function as additional brake lights. I probably don't need to suggest why these increase visibility especially while braking. I would be remiss if I did not bring up the modulators. I for one believe these are one of the best lighting accessories of all when used correctly.

Chrome; do you consider this an add-on that increases or decreases safety? I am referring to all the chrome skins that are added to Goldwings. Or in some cases there are exchanging parts that are otherwise painted or black with a chrome one. I do like my chrome and would not say anything against this. I do not believe it enhances the ride much but it sure enhances my love for my bike. Since this is purely about preference and... well money then I will sort of let this one off. I have some chrome left over for a Goldwing. Who wants it?

Mountings; these are pretty varied item, right? Mostly, these little jewels mount to the handlebars within reach, but also to other sidebars, armrests, or engine guards. The list is quite extensive with GPS's, drink cup holders, cellphone



holders, helmet racks or locks, entertainment devices and so many others perhaps not even discovered yet. Some of these are really awesome. We could probably make the case the drink cup holder adds to safety since it can keep us hydrated during our ride. A GPS can certainly keep us on track while we travel. Plus we got to have some where to put the phone while we are out since they got way too big to just stuff in our pocket. I am lucky enough to have a built in GPS on my bike now but my previous bike had a mount for it. My cell phone has most of the time lived in a mount on the handlebar also. And of course yes, I have the drink holders for both rider and passenger. None of these are

actually required for an enjoyable safe ride. Unless of course if you get lost or don't have a drink available for your passenger when they need it. It could get dangerous suddenly.

Operational items; can most certainly be a nice amenity. My Goldwing had the centramatic wheel balancers added the last year I owned it. I considered these one of the best things I added that didn't contribute to my comfort level; Or did

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### Discover the Hospitality Region <u>"Boogie Woogie" Down To Marshall</u> <u>Region H Rally</u>

April 27, 28, 29, 2017

Marshall Texas Civic Center Complex 2501 East End Blvd. S.

#### Mini-Grand Prize \$250 - 2 Grand Prizes \$500 each

#### Full Registration Includes: Rally Pins for first 500 registered COY Selection Bingo Guided and Self Guided Rides Dress Competition Breakfast Rides Trike Course Light Show/Bike Show Talent Show Seminars/Workshops Level 4 Breakfast Vendors CPR/First Aid Early Bird Exercise Class Art Class

HOST Hampton Inn \$75.00 next to Golden Correl - 903-927-0079

La Quinta Inn and Suites \$75.00 (Pet Friendly) - 903-934-3080

Best Western \$65.00 - 903-935-0707

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they? I can remember having a perfectly good tire when leaving for a ride up near Tyler. About half way through the ride I felt this tiny little vibration at a given speed that just did not seem right. We stopped in a parking lot and put the bike up on the center stand to check things out. I found a bubble on the sidewall of my rear tire. This could have been really devastating this early in my riding, and with a passenger that I really cared about <Cheesy grin>. I do consider tires to be a pretty important aspect of riding and if improving the ability to stay in balance is a possibility then I am all for it. There are so many other items; different side stands, ride off stands, enhanced seats, steering improvements, and this list goes on. All provide something that makes you add this improvement. You probably know why you add these items and what benefit they bring.

And now we come to the conclusion. Accessories can offer everything from ride enjoyment, satisfaction, comfort, and enhancing visibility or performance in some way. I promised there was a safety message in this. I also suggested that I have a built in GPS and entertainment on my current bike. Well, herein lies the safety message. I have found these items so full of features that I quite often find myself fumbling around to get what I want or need at the moment. This



can be a huge distraction from my ride. Adding a cellphone mount to the handlebars; we can't text or talk while we ride can we. I consider this a safety when treated correctly. Sometimes we do get a text or phone call that is deemed important. By putting the cell phone up where I can see it is not my opportunity to reply or answer. It is my opportunity to easily see if I need to stop somewhere and address the communications. So my safety message is for me as much as anyone. We as riders need to give ourselves the best opportunity to focus on our ride. If we need to learn to use a feature that should be done while stopped. When we add accessories I think we should consider if we are adding it to improve safety, comfort, or satisfaction in the way the bike looks. And most importantly, how will this change my level of safe riding.

Have fun, enjoy the ride, but ride safe.

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earth, Icons from an era of Rock'n'Roll. Over 600 vintage porcelain and neon signs, all from days gone by, that date back as far as the early 1900's. Also featured in the venue, are many various pieces of memorabilia, antique tractors and motorcycles, all restored to their original factory glory." (www.hemihideout.com)

So, there you go, plenty of cool stuff to do this Spring! All we need is for it to stop raining.... Until next time, ride smart, ride safe!

#### PLAN AHEAD!:

- •April 27-29, 2017 Region H Rally, Marshall, TX
- •April 30, 2017 Houston Ride for Kids
- •May 18-20, 2017 Texas District Rally, Wichita Falls, TX
- •August 29 September 2, 2017 Wing Ding, Grapevine, TX



2017

## M\*A\*S\*H ter's

### **Invitational**



What can be more all-American than an afternoon of bowling? Actually, according to Wikipedia, bowling can be traced back to ancient Egypt and the Roman Empire (and of course, if it is on the internet, it must be ....). Nevertheless, heading to the old bowling alley and hurling the ball down the lane trying knock 10 pins down while chomping on "bad for you" snacks seems like an all-American thing to do. And who are we, if not Americans?

So, once again, Chapter M2 hosted Chapter N2 for our annual winter M\*A\*S\*Hter Invitational Bowling Tournament on January 22nd at AMF Diamond Lanes. We had eleven bowlers from M2, 8 bowlers from N2 and 12 spectators attend the event for a total of 31 participants. What a great turnout! In fact, we were a little surprised and had to get a 5th bowling lane to accommodate everyone. Luckily, AMF was not too busy and that was not a problem.

We battled it out for two hours bowling three games each. Kudos go to our winners:



Highest Average, Male – Tim Bryan, M2 (159.7)

Highest Average, Female – Kim Lamb, M2 (117.7)

High Game, Male – Dannie McFadden, M2 (172)

High Game, Female – Robin Thacker, N2 (129)

Most Strikes, Male – Tim Bryan, M2 (9)

Most Strikes, Female – Tie – Kim Lamb & Debbie Grieger w/M2 (5)

Best Chapter Average Score - M2 (128.3)

Special recognition was also given to our most challenged bowlers but I think I will skip naming them here .

We also need to give special thanks to our lovely scorekeeper – Linda Gresak assisted by Scott. Linda made a herculean effort scrambling to create the score sheet after she could not get an internet connection to access her pre-made spreadsheet and in her hunt for a working power outlet.

After 2-hours of non-stop action, it was of course time to eat. Fifteen of us headed over to Cilantros for dinner to finish off the afternoon. Everyone seemed to have a good time as we were already making plans for next year.









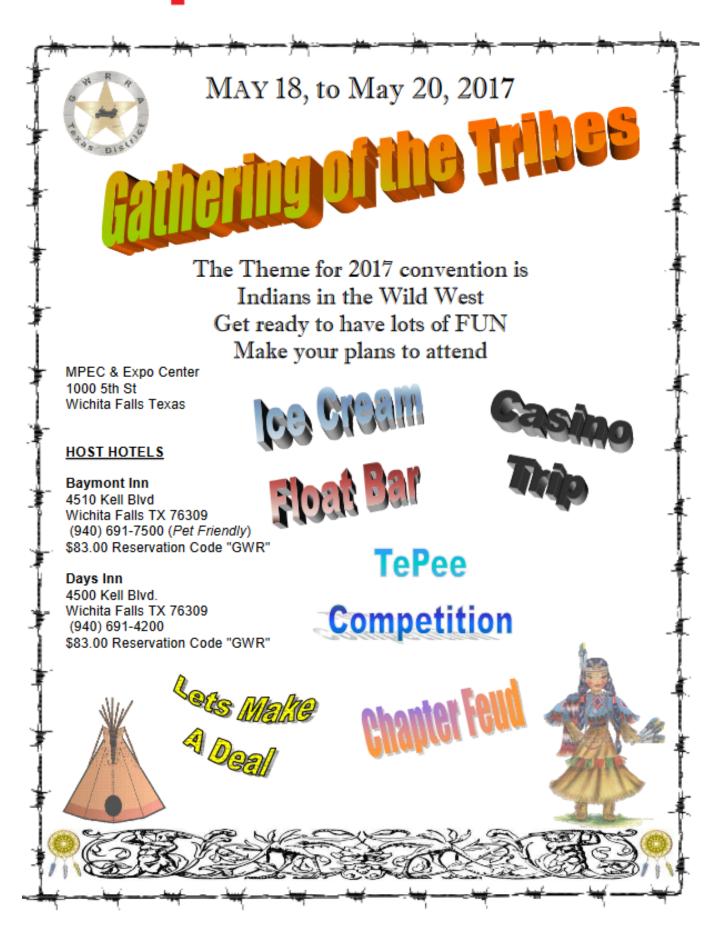














The Woodard's hosted a M2 Game Night on January 28th at their lovely home in The Woodlands. With 20 in attendance, it was your typical M2 game night—plenty of food, some good natured competition, and lots of fun!

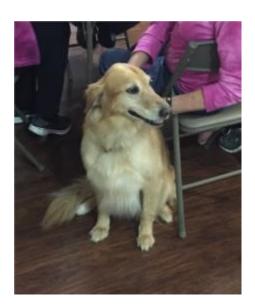




Tim Turns **60!** 



Andy, Kim, Linda, Claudia & Emma play "Triominos" (what ever that is)



Lacy had a good time





Britt, Dannie, David, Tim & Warren played some bizarre card game that seemed to never end.





Allan, Jan, Joanna, Cheryl, Donna, Marty & Bart stuck with the old standby—Chickenfoot

#### The M\*A\*S\*H Chapter Team

<u>OFFICERS</u>	712.2		
Chapter Directors (CD)	Bart Harris Cheryl Harris	cd@themashchapter.com	281 814 2051 281 814 2049
Chapter Educators (CE)	Tim & Kathy Bryan	educator@themashchapter.com	903 721 0941
Chapter Treasurer (CT)	Andy Woodard	treasurer@themashchapter.com	281 802 2915
Chapter Membership	Linda Gresak	membership@themashchapter.com	281 813 9991
Enhancement (CME)	Scott Gresak	swgresak@yahoo.com	281 386 7800
Activities Coordinator	Kim & David Lamb	events@themashchapter.com	832 298 7281
Chapter Coordinators	Debbie Grieger Britt Grieger	gwtriker@ymail.com	713 775 8972 713 775 8973
Newsletter Coordinator	Kathy Bryan	newsletter@themashchapter.com	903 284 1418
Correspondence Secretary	Claudia Woodard	twonutsonawing@att.net	281 288 9119
Webmaster	Tim Bryan	webmaster@themashchapter.com	903 721 0941
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Couple of the Teal - 2017	Claudia Woodard	twondisonawing@att.net	281 288 9119
<b>Communications Coordinator</b>	Cheryl Harris	communications@themashchapter.com 281 814 2049	







MOTORCYCLISTS AGAINST STAYING HOME

#### **GWRRA**

**Gold Wing Road Riders Association** 



#### National Team

**Director of GWRRA**Ray & Sandi Garris

Rider Education Director Bob & Althea Berry

**Leadership Training Director** Fred & Clara Boldt

Member Enhancement Director Larry & Penny Anthony

Global Affairs Director
Dan Sanderovich

Wing World, Editor in Chief Anita Stienstra

International Deputy Director (Regions D, H &K)
Jack Wagner





#### Region H Team

Region Directors / Newsletter Jim & Reba Berry

Asst. Region Directors / Pins and Patches
Steve & Billie Fleming

Region Educator & MFA Coordinators Ricky & Karen Frazier

Region Treasurer & Chapter of the Year Coordinator Ed & Ann Nahl

Region Membership Enhancement & COY Coordinator

Tim & Becky Dinnel

Region Trainer Jack Wagner

**Region Motorist Awareness**Mike & Becky Stevenson

Region Couple of the Year Randy & Kathy Reese

**Region Webmaster** Sam Belinoski

**Region Vendor Coordinator** Ruby Seale



#### Texas District Team

**District Directors**Mike & Robin Thacker

**Assistant District Directors** Tom & Dawn Sprague

Membership Enhancement & COY Coordinators
Lyle & Sheri Altes

**District Educators**Randy & Kathy Reese

**District Trainer**Cliff & Gillian Allen

**District Treasurer**Diane Shults

**Chapter of Year Coordinator** Sheri Altos

**District COY 2016-2017**Scott & Linda Gresak

Newsletter Editor Tom Sprague

**District Webmaster** Tom Sprague

**Entertainment Coordinator** Kenny Shults

**Vendor Coordinator** Kenny Shults

Activities Coordinator
Open Position



### tome have some tun with your irlends and neighbors, Join us on a ride or at our Monthly Chapter Gathering

