



**MOTORCYCLISTS AGAINST STAYING HOME**



# OCTOBER 2018

Texas District  
Chapter **M2**  
Spring, Texas

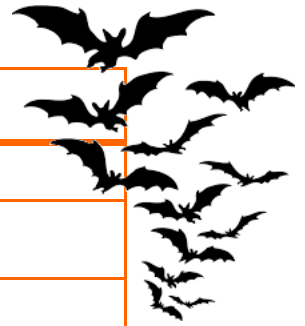


Gold Wing Road Riders Association  
Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge  
South Central Region H



**ShRiMP BOAT MANNY'S**





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### October Birthdays

14 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Fleming
24 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Lightner
27 <sup>th</sup>	Jan Douglas
28 <sup>th</sup>	Cynthia Hays

### Quote by Claudia

"Life's tough, it's even tougher if you're stupid."

*John Wayne*



### October Anniversaries

9 <sup>th</sup>	Timothy & Kathy Bryan
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## Director's Corner

Bart & Cheryl Harris

### Rocktober



How about those Astros? Two consecutive Division Titles! I hope that they can make it two World Series!

When not watching the MLB post season, October is typically one of the better, if not the best, riding months in our area. Temperatures are normally moderate although we do tend to get a fair amount of rain. I think that maybe we got our rain out of the way in September.

We have a nice ride planned up through the Sam Houston and Davy Crockett forests on our way to Alto on the 6<sup>th</sup>. This will be about a 120-mile one-way trip with our destination being Miss Mollie's Diner.

We have another nice ride planned on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup>; this time heading west to the quaint little town of Round Top where we will dine at Royer's Round Top Café.

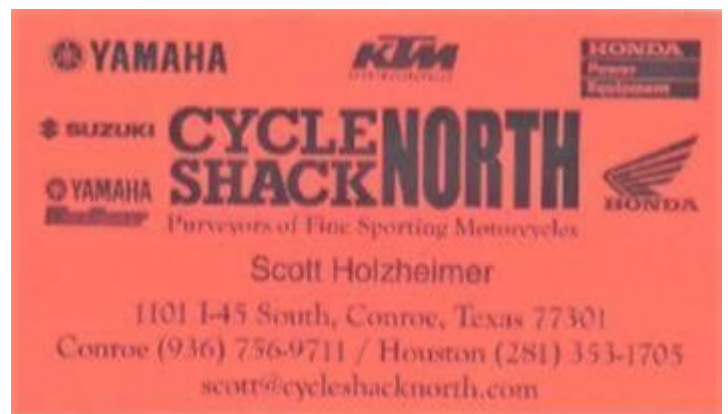
Also, do not forget that the Nun Run is on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> at the Villa De Matel Convent, 6510 Lawndale St., Houston, Texas, 77023. Registration starts at 9:00am and the ride starts at 10:30am.

Until next time,

*Ride Smart, Ride Safe!*

### PLAN AHEAD!:

- ♦ October 13<sup>th</sup> Nun Run
- ♦ December 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter Christmas Party





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

## October Events

**Oct 5th**  
**Friday**  
**6:30pm**  
**Chapter Gathering at I-Hop in the Woodlands**  
Come early and visit; meeting starts at 7:15pm



**Oct. 6th**  
**Saturday**  
**8:00am**  
**Ride to Miss Mollie's Diner in Alto**  
Ride thru the rolling hills & piney woods of East Texas  
Meet at Chevron



**Oct. 9th**  
**Tuesday**  
**7:15pm**  
**M2 Team Meeting Conference Call**  
Contact Bart Harris for call in number.



**Oct. 20th**  
**Saturday**  
**8:00am**  
**Ride to Royers Round Top Café**  
(possibly a visit to the fudge store across the street)  
Meet at Stripes-Sunoco Station



## Forthcoming in November

**Nov. 2nd**  
**Friday**  
**Chapter Gathering at I-Hop in the Woodlands**  
Come early and visit; meeting starts at 7:15pm



**Nov. 3-4**  
**Saturday**  
**Painted Churches Overnight Trip**, Meet at Chevron, 8:00am  
Recommended Hotels are the Best Western or Holiday Inn in Schulenburg

**Nov. 6th**  
**Tuesday**  
**M2 Team Meeting Conference Call**  
Contact Bart Harris for call in number.

**Nov. 11th**  
**Saturday**  
**Ride to the Fish Pond in New Waverly**  
Meet at Chevron, 12:00pm

**Nov. 24th**  
**Saturday**  
**Anything but Turkey Ride to Blue Moon BBQ**  
(between Normangee & Hearn), meet at Stripes-Sunoco Station, 9:30am





## SEPTEMBER activities

Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, a total of 24 people from M2 and N2 took a bus trip to the Golden Nugget in Lake Charles. The trip made for a long day, but everyone had a great time. I don't think anyone hit a big jackpot, but no one lost their house either. I want to thank Linda Gresak for making the arrangements for the bus. Also want to thank Brenda Dillon for the great prizes she gave away while on the ride over to Lake Charles.



September 15<sup>th</sup> we had lunch at the Relay Station in Plantersville. Bart and Cheryl led the ride from Stripes with Carol and Howard following in the car. Waiting for us at the restaurant were Linda & Scott, Ray & Lucy and Bill & CB Burges. The service was slow, but the food was very good.



September 23<sup>rd</sup> Charlie & Brenda, Lloyd, Sergio, Carol & Howard rode to Shrimp Boat Manny's in Livingston. After a week of rain, Sunday was partly cloudy. We had a new couple, Scott & Stephanie Vaillie from Huntsville met us at Manny's. We had a great time getting to know each other and we hope to see them at other events.





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



### OFFICERS

Chapter Directors (CD)	Bart Harris	cd@themashchapter.com	281 814 2051
	Cheryl Harris		281 814 2049
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### TEXAS DISTRICT STAFF

For a list and contact information on the Texas District Staff go to:  
<http://www.gwrro-tx.org/staff/staff.php>



# ***SUMMER TRIPS***

Due to various surgeries between the two of us, Cheryl and I really have not been able to take a real summer vacation since M2's last trip to Durango in 2014. Fortunately, this year we have been able to take two trips in the last four months so I thought I would share a little bit about where we went and what we did with the thought that some of the vast readership of the M2 Newsletter might find this interesting and may consider visiting these destinations some time in the future.

## **Lake Ouachita State Park**

Our most recent trip was to Lake Ouachita State Park which is located 20 miles or so Northwest of Hot Springs, Arkansas. As many will remember, M2 had a camping vacation a number of years back where we stayed at Lake Catherine State Park which is Southeast of Hot Springs. When we booked this trip, Lake Catherine was full so we opted for Lake Ouachita in the hopes it was just as nice.

I must say we were not disappointed. In fact, I think I like Lake Ouachita a little better. It is very nice, beautiful accommodations and relatively quiet. Of course, it probably helps to be staying during the week in September when all the kids are back at school.

This trip was more of a "kick-back" back vacation where we planned to do more relaxing than our first summer trip to Colorado.



We did do some riding of course although we had to kind of plan around/dodge some rain during the week. We also had a bit of cool front come through which was a nice break from the summer Texas heat but made riding a little chilly for Cheryl.

This is one big advantage Ouachita has over Catherine in my opinion. You can get to Hwy. 7 and the really nice riding that it offers quickly bypassing the congestion of Hot Springs. I found some really nice, lightly traveled roads off of Hwy. 7 North

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Cheryl and Happy "Kicking Back" at the Campground  
(o.k., Cheryl is kicking back, Happy—not so much)



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

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of Lake Ouachita to make a loop and get in a good 3 hour round trip.

The state park has really nice asphalt RV camping spots most of which are pretty level with graveled picnic areas. They also have some really nice looking cottages and cabins available. At least they look nice from the outside! Plenty of tent camping is also available in the park.



Very Nice Looking Cottages Available



Or More Modest Cabins

The park is also the site of Three Sisters Springs which apparently was a big attraction in the late 1800's / early 1900's for their reported healing powers. Unlike the springs at Hot Springs, these are actually cold water springs. The springs themselves are not overly impressive but it is sort of interesting.

Of course, warm water springs as well as dining and shopping are readily available with a short jaunt over to Hot Springs.

I would give Lake Ouachita State Park 4 1/2 stars with the only ding I had was low water pressure. A very nice get away only about 8 hours from the Houston area.

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Lake Ouachita is a Big Lake!



Three Sisters Springs

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## **Colorado Springs**

Cheryl and I took a trip up to Colorado Springs in June. This is a bit of old news to some of you but for our millions of online newsletter readers, I thought I would share a bit about this trip as well. Colorado is a frequent vacation destination for many of us but it had been about 15 years since Cheryl & I had been to the Colorado Springs area so we decided to pay it another visit. We stayed at the Garden of the Gods RV resort located on the Northwest Side of Colorado Springs. It is a nice park convenient to many of the attractions albeit quite a bit more crowded than Lake Ouachita. There was also major road construction going on right at the entrance to the park which made access a bit of a challenge. You know the old saying about Colorado: There are two seasons, white and orange.



One of the highlights of our trip was the Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center near Divide. Many of us have enjoyed visiting the St. Francis Wolf Sanctuary in Montgomery. This sanctuary in Colorado is much larger with large enclosures for the wolfs to run free. Most, if not all, of the animals are pure bred wolfs as opposed to wolf-dogs. We took the standard tour which was about an hour long and quite interesting. You can also take other tours which allow you to interact a little more with some of the animals.

Another cool wildlife oriented destination in the area is the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. This facility is located on the side of Cheyenne Mountain and has a nice variety of species from all over the world including bears, lions, elephants, giraffes, Wallabies and much more.

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Cheryl Feeds a Giraffe While a Tiger Hopes for a Feeding

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We had a really good time feeding the giraffes. It is a bit of walking and climbing being on the side of a mountain, so it was a nice workout in addition to being educational.

Of course, when one thinks of Colorado Springs you think of Pikes Peak. The COG train that runs up to the top of the peak is out of service indefinitely while they work on how to totally revamp it. The only way to get to the top is via the now paved road either in your own vehicle or by bus. Of course, Bart choose to ride. It does get somewhat unique I will say once you get above the tree line with 40 mph winds blowing and is therefore maybe not for the faint of heart. I had a good time but as most of you have heard, Cheryl did not enjoy it as much. Let's just say this was probably our last trip to the top of Pikes Peak.

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

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Royal Gorge is another popular destination. It is a little over an hour ride Southeast of Colorado Springs. Everything in this facility except the bridge itself burnt up in a forest fire back in 2013 and has been re-built. It is really nice. You can take an aerial tram over the gorge or, for those that are more adventurous, you can zip line across the gorge. We choose the aerial tram option and walked back across the bridge. The very odd thing to me about this bridge as that it never really did go anywhere. They just decided to build a bridge across the gorge.



A Long Way Down



Bart on the Bridge

Garden of the Gods is a geological wonder and a National Historic site located on the North side of Colorado Springs. This is a free public park which is accessible by vehicle and has walking trails throughout the park. Due to our packed schedule, we only made it to the park late in the afternoon on our last day so we just rode around and stopped to take a few pictures and, of course, I had to climb on a rock or two. I think you could make a day of it in this park particularly if you are into hiking.

We also went to the old mining town of Cripple Creek on the West side of Pikes Peak. It is a nice ride getting there and the town is pretty cool to look at it. Unfortunately, I am afraid it has been almost completely over run by the gambling now so it has lost much of the charm I remember from previous visits. You can still go down in a mine but other than that, unless you like gambling, not much to do anymore in Cripple Creek.

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The "Balanced Rock" at Garden of the Gods

So, that is your short but sweet travel report for 2018. If you have not visited either of these two destinations, might be worth a look.





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

**Come have some fun with your friends and neighbors,  
Join us on a ride or at our Monthly Chapter Gathering**



*Traveling around Texas?  
Pay a visit to some of our  
friends.*

*Go to the Texas District Website for  
links to other GWRRA local  
chapters:*

[http://www.gwr-ra-tx.org/chapters/  
chapters.php](http://www.gwr-ra-tx.org/chapters/chapters.php)

