

GWRRA CHAPTER - M

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION "H"

TEXAS DISTRICT
ARLINGTON, TEXAS



THE MOONLIGHTERS

January 2007



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CD's Corner

As your "new" incoming CDs, we would like to thank all of the great Chapter M'ers who gave us so much encouragement and offers of help in the New Year. Our last term was probably the most fun-filled time of my life (although Cindy says it was because that was the year I married her), and of course she's right!

Things have changed a lot in that ten years, and Chapter M has too, mostly for the good. In addition to the web page, we have a bigger staff and a lot more participants that are willing

to be involved, planning and leading rides and other fun outings. That's the reason Cindy and I are so enthused about being your C.D.'s. The last few years have been so much fun for us and we really enjoy seeing so many people in lime green shirts having so much fun at our meetings, on rides, and at rallies. Of course, following Gary and Bev is going to be a big challenge and we are willing to do our best. With the fun people we have in our group, we should be able to carry on the tradition of Chapter M.

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We were so proud of Chapter M's participation in the GWRRA Toy run in December for the benefit of the Salvation Army, and for their generosity at the auction. If it had not been for Sam, and his expertise at coaxing money from us all, this would not have been nearly as successful as it was.

Have fun and be safe. We are looking forward to 2007.

Warren & Cindy

Find your GWRRA Number in this Newsletter and you can win a free Raffle Ticket if you show a current GWRRA Membership card to the CD at the Chapter M meeting. There are two GWRRA numbers in this newsletter.

HILL COUNTRY TURKEY RUN

I worked all day on Thanksgiving Day making dinner for my family and then I was berated into getting up at the ungodly hour of five A.M. the next morning to go out into the cold on my motorcycle to meet up with some other fools at seven o'clock in Mansfield. After some hot coffee and putting on my electrics and waiting in the driveway for Warren to get ready (and waiting, and waiting), I was all set to go, but boy was I getting hot and sweaty. The cool air felt good once we got started.

At the Fina we joined up with six or so other bikes, and Lonnie led us on Hwy. 67 thru Glenrose and Chalk Hill and on to HICO where we gassed up

Ye Ole Ride Schedule

January 2007

New Years Day Ride	Mon	1 st	LV FINA	10:00 AM
Chapter Meeting	Thurs	4th	Spring Creek	7:00 PM
District Staff Meeting	Sat	6th	ADLIB	9:00 AM
Lunch Ride	Sun	7th	LV FINA	11:00 AM
Staff Meeting	Wed	10th	Spring Creek	7:00 PM
Lunch Ride	Sat	13 th	LV FINA	11:00 AM
Brunch Ride	Sun	21 st	LV FINA	10:00 AM
Lunch Ride	Sat	27 th	LV FINA	11:00 AM

February

Chapter Meeting	Thurs	1st	Spring Creek	7:00 PM
TBD			LV FINA	
Staff Meeting	Wed	7th	Spring Creek	7:00 PM

CPR/First Aide Class

TBD

Road Captain Course

TBD

FINA Station - 1721 FM 157 West of US-287, Mansfield, TX

Chapter Meeting 1st Thursday of each month,

Dinner at 6:00 PM

Meeting at 7:00 PM

Spring Creek Barbeque, 1724 HWY 287 (at Debbie Lane), Mansfield, TX



JANUARY 2007

GWRRA CHAPTER M EVENT CALENDAR



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday																																																																																			
<p>1</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>10:00 AM @ FINA; New Years Day Ride</p> </div> <p style="color: red; font-size: small;">New Year's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>7:00 PM - Chapter Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ; US 287 and Debbie Lane, Mansfield</p> </div>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>District Meeting at Kerrville; starts at 9:00 AM</p> </div>	<p>7</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;"> <p>11:00 AM @ FINA; Lunch Ride</p> </div>																																																																																			
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FEBRUARY 2007

GWRRA CHAPTER M EVENT CALENDAR



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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5	6	7 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> 7:00 PM - Chapter M Staff Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ, HWY 287 and Debbie Lane, Mansfield </div>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Lincoln Birthd:	February Calendar to be planned later. Will try to schedule CPR/First Aide and Road Captains Course If you have suggestions for rides, contact Sam Smith					
19 President's Day	20	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25
26	27	28				

SPECIAL DATES

January 2007

Birthdays

Sylvia Andrews	6th
Beverly Lewis	10th
Lou Ann Walker	10th
Shirley Simpson	19th

Anniversaries

Bill and Martha Barron	21st
Dayle and Sheila Penney	24th
David and Angie Bowen	29th

and joined up with more than a dozen other "M"ers. We were off on another Great Adventure, led by Gary (sometime) (133483) and Beverly (most of the time). It seems Gary was unable to speak (sometimes) so Bev took over the helm (as it should be - you go girl) and led us on some very nice roads to the Austin area where we were scheduled to eat (imagine that) lunch. The last part of that trip is now known as The Mall Ride - ask anyone on the trip how fun it is to ride in the Mall parking lot on Friday after Thanksgiving rush time traffic!!!

Anyway, after a nice meal at Don Pablos and Fuddruckers we gassed up again and met up with another M'er and headed for Luckenbach. That was really nice because that was the first time that anything had been open when we were in Luckenbach. It was really pretty interesting and we enjoyed the visit.

From there, it was on to Kerrville, and the Inn Of The Hills. After checking in, we split up to go to dinner. Some had the sea-food buffet at the inn, others of us walked to Chili's for Margaritas and dinner. Afterward, some played Chickenfoot and some visited the Cantina. (What happens in Kerrville stays in Kerrville.)

The next morning, we were out front, all lined up to ride to Bandera for breakfast, and Warren's alternator died. Just as Sam said Moov'em Out, Warren noticed his voltmeter said nine volts. Not



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good! So we told the rest of the chapter we'd catch up later, and went back to our room to figure out what we were going to do. After calling around (checking the U-Hauls, etc), Warren talked to the service manager at the local Yamaha shop who told him if we could get an alternator in San Antonio, they could install it for us, keeping in mind that they closed early on Saturdays.

So after calling Joe Harrison's Honda in San Antonio and finding they had one in stock, Warren hopped on my Shadow (the rescue machine) and headed down I-10, and I was left to find a way to entertain myself for a few hours; so I headed for the Mall. (What COULD I do?) Shopping, Shopping, Shopping.

At about Noon, we both got back to the hotel, and headed to the Yamaha shop which was about seven miles away thru Saturday traffic to have the alternator installed. Warren was worried his battery wouldn't make it, but he took the fuses out of the headlights and brake lights, and we made it with no problem (he is so-o-o-o smart!!!). We rode my bike (the rescue machine) to the Cracker Barrel for breakfast (that little passenger pillion on my bike was not made with my butt in mind). 2 hours later we picked up the Wing and got back to the hotel about the same time as the rest of the group. They said they had a great time, but missed us so much. How sweet!

We are so glad that the ones who had never been on that ride got to enjoy it, and we are so glad we broke down in the parking lot before leaving, and not a half hour later during the ride, and in the hills. We were pretty lucky after all.

We ate dinner with the group - more laughing, and story telling, and game playing. I think everyone was having a good time.

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Sunday morning it was up an att'em for the trip back home. After breakfast at Fredericksburg, we settled in for a pretty uneventful ride for the most part; the roads were good and the weather great. By the time we got home, I was kind of glad I got to rest Saturday, but now I'm looking forward to the next ride.

See you then
Cindy Burt

Dispelling The Myths Of Baja

For years, I have wanted to make a trip on the bike to La Paz and Cabo San Lucas but was hesitant because of all the rumors of bad roads, banditos, harassment by the Federales and few gas stations. Even the AAA abetted the rumor

mongers with these warnings. This past month I got my wish. Dave and Regina Oxley offered to lead Fay and I and Joe & Nancy Fitzgerald from Grass Valley on a 10 day trip to the southern tip of Baja. I'm happy to report that the roads are in much better shape than most of the roads in one of our local communities. We were not accosted by any banditos and the Federales were all friendly. Gas stations were plentiful and I discovered that Dave Oxley gets worse gas mileage than I do.

We left on Monday morning after CA1M's Spring Fling and journeyed down to the border and crossing into Baja at Tijuana. Just prior to crossing the border we stopped and changed some dollars for pesos. We had previously taken care of our insurance requirements and filled out the paperwork for our visitors permit. We were

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through Mexican immigration in a flash and headed South on the toll road. At lunch time we stopped at Puerto Nuevo for lobster and steamed clams. The lobsters were so big Fay and I halved one. Half a lobster and a dozen or so steamed clams is a big lunch for anyone.

After lunch we headed on South through Ensenada and stopped for the night at The Old Mill Motel in San Quintin. This motel was 4 miles West of Highway 1 on an unpaved and generally un-maintained road. If we had started back there with a bottle of cream we would have arrived with butter. The trip, however, was worth it. The Motel was located on the Eastern shore of the inner San Quintin Bay. It was originally an old grist mill, hence the name Old Mill Motel There are no locks on the doors.

The next morning we had breakfast at the motel restaurant. After bumping our way back to the highway we headed toward El Rosario and Catavina. Just North of Catavina you begin passing a spectacular view of huge rock strewn terrain which is mixed with a plentiful supply of Cirios and Cardon cacti. Continuing south we crossed the 28th Parallel and the dividing line between Baja California and Baja California Sur. The time also changed from Pacific Time to Mountain Time. It was time for lunch so we stopped in Guerrero Negro at the Malarinmo Restaurant. Their scallops in garlic sauce are really good.

Continuing South toward San Ignacio you see the evidence of past volcanic activity. As you approach

San Ignacio, you see acres and acres of Palm trees. We turned off the highway to enter the town and visited the Jesuit Mission that was founded there in 1728. This is truly an oasis and their major crops are dates, figs, oranges and grapes. After our visit, we returned to the highway and headed for Mulege where we spend the night. Our Lodging was located 2.5 miles south of town and was called Hotel Serenidad.

It has a jungle type atmosphere complete with a pool bar and its own airstrip. We can attest to the quality of the Margaritas there. One other unique item about this hotel is that there are no room numbers. All the rooms have names. We discovered the next morning that these names, at least some of them, match the names of the various beaches as you head south. We traveled about 84 miles for breakfast in the clean and quiet little town of Loreto. We ate at a sidewalk cafe where you ordered at the cashier and picked up your food from the cook; it was all very good. We arrived in La Paz in time for lunch which we ate at a Taco Stand on a street corner. Their fish and shrimp tacos were superb.

Our hotel was on the Bay of La Paz and situated within walking distance to everything in town. Since we were going to be doing a lot of eating, we tried to compensate by doing a lot of walking. During our stay there we ate some very exotic foods prepared in many different ways. Garlic sauce was a popular choice for all of us.

Other Area Chapter Meetings

- "B/N" 7:00 PM on 2nd Tuesday, Spring Creek, Garland, Dallas
- "F2" 7:00 PM on 1st Tuesday, Luby's Cafeteria, 251 University Dr., Ft. Worth
- "P" 7:00 PM on 2nd Thursday, Golden Corral, 1300 S. Morgan (HWY 144), Granbury
- "R" 7:30 PM on 4th Tuesday, Fuddruckers (near Bass Pro Shop), Grapevine
- "U2" 9:00 AM on 3rd Saturday, Golden Corral, 1120 William D. Tate, Grapevine
- "W2" 7:30 PM on 3rd Thursday, Fire Mountain, 1400 N. HWY 77, Waxahachie
- "Z2" 7:00 PM on 4th Thursday, Steak Kountry, 153 Westgate Shopping Center, McKinney

Have you ever tried cactus leaves? How about one of those long tentacles of an octopus complete with suction cups?

We took a day trip down to Cabo San Lucas but I found it to be a bit too touristy. However, if you are agreeable to that sort of thing Cabo is the place to go. The morning we were there it was overflowing with rude tourists from a big cruise ship.

After five nights and four and a half days in La Paz walking the streets; eating in many restaurants; trying to stay out of earshot of the mariachi bands; never going to bed without at least one dip of Bing ice cream; and, frolicking on the beach to the North of town, we decided it was time to start back, besides Dave had made reservations for all of us at two more nice Hotels.

Sunday afternoon while we were in search of a restaurant that another tourist had recommended, Joe's Gold Wing stalled on him; I was immediately suspect; it had all the indications of a failed stator. We jumped the bike and when we got back to the hotel he exchanged batteries with Nancy. We would spend the next three days going through this drill of changing batteries. It didn't dampen our spirits any and certainly didn't hold us up. It just gave us an extra 10 minute break at each gas stop.

Our stops on the way home were at Santa Rosalia and San Quintin. Santa Rosalia is an old town that has seen more prosperous times. It had been a copper mining town but when the ore was gone the town fell on hard times. Today, it has some commercial fishing and is a terminal for the ferry boats that travel from Santa Rosalia to Guaymas across the gulf. The church in town is a

prefabricated iron church that was designed by A. G. Eiffel for the 1898 Paris World's Fair. After the fair, it was dismantled and shipped around Cape Horn to Santa Rosalia.

Our stop in San Quintin was South of town and several miles to the west; however, it was on a paved road this time. The view from our room was spectacular as we watched the crashing surf of the Pacific Ocean along the sandy beaches.

On our final travel day, we elected to cross the border at Tecate to avoid the never ending lines at Tijuana. After crossing the border we headed for a few more miles of two lane motorcycle roads and a ride through Julian before stopping at Dudley's Bakery for some bread and a late lunch. From there, it was off to Apple Valley and Barstow. Sadly, it was the end of one of the most memorable trips I have ever made. It truly doesn't get any better than this.

Ron Tolson

NORTH TEXAS HISTORY

The Waggoner Mansion

The Waggoner Mansion, located at the end of Main Street in the city of Decatur, was built by Mr. Dan Waggoner for a growing family. Sometimes called "El Castile", this is a large home, situated on a hill east of town, sitting on thirteen and one-half acres. The house consists of two stories, sixteen rooms, with a full basement and eight fireplaces.

"Thistle Hill" by Roze Porter, describes the mansion in Decatur thusly: "It was constructed of old fossiliferous limestone and

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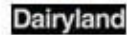


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decorated with handcrafted wrought iron on the roof and balconies. Half-moon-shaped stained glass added an array of color to the tops of the windows and to the large massive hand-carved entrance door. At the peak of the house, an ornate cupola gave great height to the stately home.

The inviting first floor entrance hall revealed a winding stairway sweeping up to the second floor. Hand-carved Texas Star motif decorated the walnut and oak stairway and woodwork throughout the house. Massive doors with solid brass hardware, stood sixteen feet tall

minifying the tall ceilings. Three of the huge doors enhanced with stained glass projected dancing rays of colored light in the interior.

Adding an air of elegance to the front parlor hung a beautiful ornate chandelier. Wrought iron and handmade isinglass fixtures from Denver complemented the Victorian library, large dining room and two halls. Also on the first floor were five bed-rooms, three marble baths, a keeping room, butler's pantry, and a huge kitchen with copper sink and accessories.

The second floor contained a large game room, three bedrooms and two marble baths."

The house is enclosed by a wrought iron fence with an archway bearing the name "El Castile." It is not open to the public.

EDITOR'S COMMENTARY

This is the last newsletter that I will be editing. Effective January 2007 Sherry Myers will be taking over as the Newsletter Editor; please email your articles to Sherry at wingrider59@sbcglobal.net

Bonnie volunteered me for the newsletter

in 2001 after Ken Peterson had too much on his plate and had to give up the editing. I had never edited a newsletter so it took a couple of monthly editions to work the mechanics out; and, what has been (093013) delivered ever since is the result of trial and error and a desire to make the newsletter professional looking and something the chapter would be proud of.

The biggest challenge I had was having enough articles each month to fill the pages of the newsletter; and, I'm thankful for the articles I received from the chapter members. In the past 5 years, I have had to find filler material for only small segments of the newsletter to balance the pages out; chapter members have responded with interesting, relevant, and informative articles. I encourage everyone to continue your support to Sherry for the newsletter with your articles in the future.

We have some limits in the types of articles we can use, they have to be non-religious, non-political and the articles should be related to what the chapter members are interested in such as rides, places to visit, rider education, maintenance items, spotlight on chapter members, and articles that are general interest to our membership; and, when space permits, For Sale/Trade items.

Like all publications, there is a deadline for completing and printing the newsletter each month. Your articles should be provided to the Newsletter Editor by the 15th of each month; that leaves two weeks to put together the newsletter, get it printed, and mailed, for those that receive it by mail, so everyone has the newsletter with the calendars before the first weekend of the month. Currently, there are nearly 40 newsletters being mailed each month, this includes the membership along with the "required" monthly distribution such as GWRRA and some of the district and regional officers; in addition, extra copies are available for visitors and new members along with copies being left at Touring Specialty for potential new members.

We have over 60 families represented in our active membership. Counting riders and co-riders, makes our membership count at about 110 members; not bad since 5 years ago we were lucky to get 25 people to the chapter meetings. Today, we average about 67 people at the chapter

meetings and our highest has been 76 people. Obviously, some of the meeting attendees are visitors but generally that is less than three or four people.

At one time, we were mailing over 50 newsletters but one-third of our members have elected to receive the newsletter via the chapter website. For those who get the newsletter from the website, thank you because it saves on the printing and mailing costs for the newsletters. If you are currently receiving the newsletter by mail and are interested in downloading it from the website, please contact Sherry so she can update the mailing list accordingly. It is the intent that every member has a newsletter every month whether by mail or down loaded from the website.

This is your newsletter. The Newsletter Editor only puts it together for you. Without your inputs, the newsletter would only be a couple of pages with a calendar. All you have to do is look at the newsletters from some of the other chapters to realize that Chapter M's newsletter is in the top 5%; and that is because of you, the membership, have provided articles and material for the newsletter; keep up the good work.

A BIG THANK YOU to our advertisers; and thank you Chapter M for your help in the past and give Sherry the same support you gave me.

Gene Lowery

The Usta was Newsletter Editor

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND STAFF

There are new Chapter Directors and other Officer and Staff Positions that have changed as of the first of January. See page 1 for the current Officers and Staff positions. We need additional Assistant Chapter Directors, a Chapter Educator and several other positions. The following describes the duties of these positions. If you are interested in supporting the chapter as an officer or a Staff member, please contact Warren and Cindy Burt.

CHAPTER DIRECTOR (CD)

Serves as Staff Member to the District Director.

- A. Assumes organizational and advisory control of the chapter.

- B. Arranges for a place to hold chapter meetings and Staff Meetings.
- C. Appoints Members to serve as Staff.
- D. Correlates activities and programs through the Staff.
- E. Acts as an information link between Members and the district.
- F. Sees that a newsletter is sent to all interested participants, other CDs in the district, the DD, Regional Director (RD) and the GWRRA International Headquarters in Phoenix at least every 30 days.
- G. Makes an annual report to the DD on activities, and an annual report on finances.

ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTOR (ACD)

- A. Assists the CD in his effort to bring about a well-coordinated, fun, active, Chapter.
- B. Works with Staff Members.
- C. Assumes CD's duties in his absence.
- D. Becomes prepared to assume the Chapter Director position.

CHAPTER EDUCATOR

- A. Promotes GWRRA's Rider Education Program to all chapter participants.
- B. Relays information to all chapter participants from District Educator.

Chapter Educator (Continued)

- C. Submits monthly reports as required.

SECRETARY—TREASURER

(Cannot be related to CD or Assistant CD)

- A. Makes notes on items requiring follow up for the CD in meetings and Staff Meetings.
- B. Keeps a record of finances and make available to all interested parties at all chapter meetings.
- C. Writes checks for expenses at the direction of the CD
- D. Assists CD in establishing prudent, reasonable, and fair fiscal policies.
- E. Submits Annual Financial Report to District Director by December 31st upon review of Chapter Director.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/WEB MASTER

- A. Compiles and edits the chapter newsletter and distributes, at least monthly, on a timely basis to all interested parties

- B. Receives articles from the CD, Staff Members and participants.
- C. Works with the Correspondence Secretary for information on mailing list, chapter activity calendar, help with mailing, etc.
- D. Maintains the Chapter Web Page.

RIDE COORDINATOR

- A. Instructs informs and assists the Road Captains, Group Leaders and other participants in group riding.
- B. Plans and directs group rides to (and sometimes from) the destination point.
- C. Selects the Road Captains, Group Leaders, etc., for a given ride. Finalizes the route to be taken, the rest stops and other things for a safe and enjoyable ride.
- D. Submits an article to the Newsletter Editor to keep everyone current on group riding activities.

CHAPTER HISTORIAN

- A. Produces a running documentation of Chapter Events and Happenings by use of a photo album or scrapbook.
- B. Encourages chapter Members to share photos, written articles, etc.

Chapter Directors have a two-year tenure that means that they generally serve no more than two years but there are some exceptions. It is up to the CD to choose a staff to work with them (him/her) so the staff will have some changes each time the CD changes. The District Director must approve the CD.

One of the important differences in the way that GWRRA operates versus other organizations is that we do not elect our officers, they are appointed by those at the next higher level. The Chapter Director is appointed by the District Director (DD), the DD is appointed by the Regional Director, and so on.

You are encourage to volunteer for a staff position and make that known to the CDs so they will know who might be interested in working with them. The more involved you become the more you will enjoy the chapter.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR CHAPTER M
IT'S GOING TO BE A BLAST FOR 2007**

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This Newsletter Especially For.....

