

OCTOBER 2007



# GWRRRA CHAPTER - M



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION H  
TEXAS DISTRICT  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

WEB PAGE: <http://www.txmoonlighters.com>



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Hey Chapter M -

Fall officially starts on September 22<sup>nd</sup> so good riding weather is upon us and boy do we have some good rides planned.

CB & Elaine Bratcher are leading their very first ride for the chapter on this very day, 9/22/07. They have worked hard to make this a fun ride and by the time this newsletter is published we will all have enjoyed their efforts, but the point here is that people are stepping up to lead rides which add variety and new input to our already wonderful rides!!!

In October we will be supporting one of the charities that we have given to for many years - THE RIDE FOR KIDS. This is a great charity for kids with brain tumors, a good ride, and a very humbling experience. If you never gone, we sure hope you will participate with the chapter this year, and if you have gone in the past, we are sure you already have this marked down on your calendar!!!

Dennis & Carolyn Martini, along with Gary & Bev Lewis have put together the "Moonshine Ride" for mid-October. The overnight adventures that Chapter M plans are not to be missed. These are great opportunities to ride beautiful country roads and also to spend very valuable time with good friends and for all our new members, to get more acquainted with our chapter members and to add to your list of friends as well. Please make every effort to join us in these

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"themed" rides whenever it is possible. You won't be sorry.

The District Education Weekend will be coming up the first weekend in November. This is a great opportunity for everyone to enjoy valuable riding training and education about being participants in the Chapter. This is another "don't miss" to put on your calendar.

If you have any ideas for a good ride destination, or if you would like to lead a ride, please let either of us know, or contact JD/LouAnn Walker or Ken/Karen Olson and we will be glad to work with you on this. We are always looking for good and new ideas. (253458)

We appreciate all of you, and look forward to some great riding now that the hot weather is on the way out, and riding weather is here!!

See you soon

Warren and Cyndi

### News to use:

From the District newsletter @ [www.gwrra-tx.org](http://www.gwrra-tx.org)

John Simonick the Texas District Director has stepped down to take a job outside of Texas. Read his article in the District newsletter.

As a result our very own Ken and Barbie have been named District Directors

We are proud to be associated with Ken and Barbie, and know that they will do Chapter M proud, and also want to let them know that we are there to support them when we are needed!! Read their article on page 9.

Congrats - Ken and Barbie -

Read about on very own COY's also in the District Newsletter

Don't forget to check out Wing World and the article by Dan Roady



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### Thought for the Month:

"Life is short, so forgive quickly.

Believe slowly. Love truly.

Laugh uncontrollably.

Never regret anything that makes you happy.

And have a wonderful journey!!!"



# October 2007



## GWRRA CHAPTER M EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Chapter Meeting Spring Creek 7:00 PM	5	6 Cross Timbers Rally Craig Leads LVFINA TBA
7 Ride for Kids TBA	8	9	10 Staff Meeting Spring Creek 7:00 PM	11	12 Moonshine Run Eureka Springs Ark Beverly Leads TBA	13 Moonshine Run Continues
14 Moonshine Run Continues Impromptu LVFINA 9 AM	15 Moonshine Run Returns Home	16	17	18	19	20 Lunch Run J.D. & Luann Lead Touring Specialties 11:00 AM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Lunch Ride Warren Leads LVFINA 8:00 AM	29	30	31			



# November 2007



## GWRRA CHAPTER M EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Chapter Meeting Springcreek 7:00 PM	2 Leave for Lufkin 8AM Kroger 1-20 @ GSW	3 TX District Education Weekend Lufkin Impromptu Ride TS@10 AM
4 TX District Education Weekend Lufkin	5	6	7 Staff Meeting Springcreek 7PM	8	9	10
11 LGR Ride Lonnie Ellis Leads LVFINA 10AM	12	13	14	15	16	17 Mystery Ride Jim C. Leads TBA
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23 CACA to Louisiana See Web Site	24 CACA
25 CACA Impromptu Ride LVFINA 10AM	26	27	28	29	30	

# CHAPTER M RIDE SCHEDULE

## OCTOBER



Cross Timbers Rally	Saturday Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	Posado's	8AM
Ride for Kids	Sunday Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Fuddruckers @ Grapevine	9AM
Overnighter Eureka Springs	Thurs Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> - Monday Oct 15	Posado's	7AM
Impromptu Ride	Sunday Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	9AM
Lunch Ride J.D Walker leads	Saturday Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	11AM
Lunch Ride Warren Leads	Sunday Oct 28 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	8AM

## NOVEMBER

Tx. District Ed Weekend	Friday Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Thru Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Kroger I-20 @ GSW	8AM
Impromptu Ride	Saturday Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Touring Specialties	10AM
LCR Ride Lonnie Ellis leads	Sunday Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	10AM
Mystery Ride Jim leads	Saturday Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	(TBA)
Cajun/Alligator/Crawdadd Run	Friday Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	(TBA)	(TBA)
Impromptu Ride	Sunday Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	LVFINA	10AM

**FINA Station - 1721 FM 157 West of US-287, Mansfield, TX**  
**Chapter Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> 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**



### Other Area Chapter Meetings

"B/N" 7:00 PM on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, Spring Creek, Garland, Dallas  
 "F2" 7:00 PM on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, Luby's Cafeteria, 251 University Dr., Ft. Worth  
 "P" 7:00 PM on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, Spring Creek 317 Hwy 377 @ Overton, Granbury  
 "R" 7:30 PM on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, Fuddruckers (near Bass Pro Shop), Grapevine  
 "U2" 9:00 AM on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, Golden Corral, 1120 William D. Tate, Grapevine  
 "W2" 7:30 PM on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, Fire Mountain, 1400 N. HWY 77, Waxahachie  
 "Z2" 7:00 PM on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, Steak Kountry, 153 Westgate Shopping Center,  
 McKinney

# SPECIAL DAYS



## Happy Birthday M'ers

James Carpenter	1st
Ginny Topley	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sherry Myers	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Carolyn Martini	6 <sup>th</sup>
Kevin Lynch	9 <sup>th</sup>
Vance Oaks	13 <sup>th</sup>
Cozette Lawrence	13 <sup>th</sup>
Mike Fuller	25 <sup>th</sup>
Larry Rodgers	28 <sup>th</sup>
Janet Wess	31 <sup>st</sup>



## Happy Anniversary M'ers

Harolyn & Lonnie Ellis	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sherry & Fred Myers	5 <sup>th</sup>
Carol & Ray Watts	7 <sup>th</sup>
Joann & Rowdy Hickox	10 <sup>th</sup>
Fern & Vance Oakes	13 <sup>th</sup>

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## SUNSHINE REPORT

Hello M'ers!

I cannot believe that it is FALL season already. You know what fall means... GREAT RIDING with beautiful scenery. This is my favorite time of the year. I have only been with the Moonlighters for 4 years, but I already have many wonderful memories of glorious fall rides. I have discovered a love for riding the Goldwing with Big Daddy and must admit that if we skip a week... I miss it!!! Riding is even more fun when it is done with our M family. Whether the ride is a brief hop over to a local restaurant or a long 3-day weekend... its all GOOD.

Chapter M has some spectacular rides coming up this fall. We have the Moonshine Ride to Eureka Springs in October and the Annual Thanksgiving Ride in November. This year instead of Kerrville, it will be to "my neck of the woods"... Mississippi and Louisiana. What great fun it will be!

If you are wondering what makes the Chapter M rides so much fun... then wonder no more. Here is the magic ingredient.... YOU!!! Yes, that's right. Each one of you adds a special flavor and spice to our group, creating a blend of fun and fellowship. (Oops sounds like I have been watching too much Food TV). If you are not there, then something special is missing. We need you on our rides.

Additional ingredients for successful rides include... preplanning, good restaurants, safety awareness, acceptance and tolerance of others as well as experienced leaders and tail gunners.

No ride is complete without each one of you... so FALL is here... gear up for some marvelous riding and plans to be active this riding season.

Don't be mean to your bike and make it sit in the garage lonely come ride with us.

See you at the next ride Moonlighter. As always, let Lonnie and I know how we can better serve our chapter.

Loving you always, Sunshine

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Did you find your GWRRA number in the Newsletter? If so you can win a free raffle ticket. Show your current GWRRA membership card to the Chapter Directors to claim your prize. There are two GWRRA numbers in the newsletter.



Have you seen the latest pictures on the Web Site check out the Strawn Ride photos!

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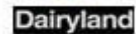


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### **TEXAS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER (August - September 2007 Volume 2, Issue 6)**

In life one thing is inevitable - change. Sometimes we are expecting it, other times it sneaks up on us. Texas District has certainly experienced this fact over the past couple of years. The trick is to adjust and continue to move forward. John has made this easy for us. He has gathered an excellent staff we're all goal oriented and work together well. Many of these goals have been met already because of the tireless work of the staff. Our purpose now will focus on fine-tuning these improvements and developing new ones. Leadership Training - The area has grown enormously through the Horizons Programs, not to mention all of the training modules within LTD. With all this information at our fingertips our chapters continue to grow and we are learning what GWRRA is all about. Add to this the "Fun Factor" and we are on a roll. Rider Education, foremost to our Safety, has increased coverage by the inclusion of newly qualified instructors. Making the Chapter Educators job of providing riding courses to their Chapter Participants easier. If you can't get enough folks together for a class, they have established the Education Weekend. This is for all members and includes riding courses and seminars for both riders and co-riders as well as LTD (Leadership Training Division) Knowledge Enhancement modules. Participation in the Couple of the Year Program has virtually doubled this past year. The enthusiasm and energy is unparalleled. Our Chapters just didn't pick someone to fill a position, but went out and selected the right couples to represent their Chapters. What a fantastic job you all have done. It is going to be one heck of a job to select one couple from this bunch to represent the Texas District in January. If you don't do anything else this year, don't miss the chance to support your Chapter COY during the selection process at the Mid Winter Round-Up. We are enthusiastically looking forward to Corpus Christi this next May. We know it is a long run down there but feel that the change of pace and excitement of boarding the USS Lexington on our Goldwings will be well worth the effort. We hope to make the 2009 Rally as exciting and different as Corpus Christi. Stay tuned..... (158396-01)

Finally, John, You're our GPS so don't get too far away. Thank you for all the good times and what you have brought to Texas District. We won't miss the bad jokes (especially the short ones), but we will miss the "flash" you brought to our lives.

**Ken & Barbie Peterson**  
**Texas District Directors**  
**Senior Master Tour Riders**  
**2352 & 2353**

## Get'N Ready

Here we are again getting ready for another fun adventure with Chapter M. Soon we will be off to Eureka Springs enjoying the great roads that Arkansas has to offer along with the wonderful camaraderie of traveling with a group of folks that we really enjoy being with. I wanted to take this time to go over some of the things for us more experienced riders as well as some who may not have been on a long trip with a group that make traveling as a group safer so that we can all enjoy a fun relaxing ride. Most of the information below should be familiar but it never hurts to cover it one more time.

Prior to any ride the Lead hosts' a "rider's meeting" during which we:

- \* Determine the number of groups and Lead and Drag for each group (no more than 8 bikes to a group)
- \* Review where we are going and what route we will be taking
- \* Describe how we handle lane changing
- \* Specify which channel on the CB we will be using and that we ALL WILL USE hand-signals as well
- \* Demonstrate and explain each hand-signal we use
- \* Assign (to new people only) 'SLOT' positions that they are to ride in until the drag bike is satisfied with their abilities to handle their bikes
- \* Invite all the riders to do a 'walk around' of their bikes to insure all is in order and then to take a quick look at the bikes on either side of them for the same reason

The Lead controls the group from the front by setting and maintaining safe, consistent speeds, by providing direction relative to the travel route or by managing the ride when the inevitable changes occur or obstacles appear. The Lead is the primary decision maker during the ride. The Lead is the first bike and therefore will relay via the CB and hand signal any hazards in the road, slow drivers, or other obstacles that may impede the progress of the group. If there is more than one group, as I'm sure this will be, the Lead for following groups should announce directions and hazards by first identifying the group by number (i.e. "Group 2 we will be turning right at the stop). This will reduce the confusion especially during lane changes.

The Drag in a group oversees all group riders making sure a safe following distance (spacing) is kept within the group and that the speed is comfortable and appropriate for keeping the group together. Spacing for staggered should be one second from the bike to your immediate right or left and two seconds from the bike in front of you. In single file there should be two seconds spacing from the bike in front of you. The Drag also assists the Lead in any lane changes. If a bike breaks down or runs into trouble during a ride, the Drag is the one who will stop and assist the individual. The Drag should also notify the Lead in instances when another vehicle is pressing from the back wanting to pass. In cases where they start a pass before the Lead provides direction, especially on a two lane road, the Drag should direct the group to move to the right to allow as much room as possible for the passing vehicle.

Some final things to keep in mind when participating in a group ride:

- \* Proper riding gear is recommended including helmet, over the ankle boots, long pants, long sleeve shirt or jacket, and gloves.
- \* No alcoholic beverages allowed on a Chapter M group ride.
- \* Only the Lead should initiate a lane change. The Lead will determine the type of lane change and request the Drag secure the lane and provide direction to the group (group one, look left move left).
- \* Each group should be separated on the expressway or highway by no less than 15 seconds allowing sufficient room for other vehicles to safely pass a group. Distances between teams traveling on two-lane roads may need to be greater. We do not want to impede traffic flow.

- \* When proceeding from a stop bikes should go two at a time or side by side then resume normal spacing when clear of the intersection.
- \* No one should leave the group without the drag bike knowing about it.
- \* When you ride in a group it is unquestionably your first priority to take care of yourself - to ride within your limits and the limits of your bike, regardless of what the rest of the group does. That's often been described as 'Riding your own ride'.
- \* All members of the group are encouraged to give input but the final decision after weighing the input is the Lead's.

Let's all have another safe memorable M trip that we can all kid each other about and give Charles some great pictures for us all to enjoy. Who knows Clay Henry may even show up.

Jim Carpenter  
Rider Educator

### Trivia for the Month

Can you guess which of the following are true and which are false?

(Answers are below) (NO PEEKING! TAKE TEST FIRST)

1. Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.
2. Alfred Hitchcock didn't have a belly button.
3. A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years.
4. People do not get sick from cold weather; it's from being indoors a lot more.
5. When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart!
6. Only 7 per cent of the population is lefties.
7. Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute.
8. Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until they are 2-6 years old.
9. The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines.
10. The toothbrush was invented in 1498.
11. The average housefly lives for one month.
12. 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.
13. A coat hanger is 44 inches long when straightened.
14. The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute.
15. Your feet are bigger in the afternoon than any other time of day.
16. Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep.
17. The REAL reason ostriches stick their head in the sand is to search for water.
18. The only two animals that can see behind themselves, without turning their heads, are the rabbit and the parrot.
19. John Travolta turned down the starring roles in "An Officer and a Gentleman" and Tootsie."
20. Michael Jackson owns the rights to the South Carolina State Anthem.
21. Humphrey Bogart was related to Princess Diana. They were 7th cousins.
22. If coloring weren't added to Coca-Cola, it would be green.

They are all TRUE ... Now go back and think about #16!!!

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**This Newsletter Especially For:**

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