



**GWRRA**  
 Texas  
 Region H  
 Chapter P  
 Granbury, Texas  
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**September 2007**



**FROM OUR DIRECTOR :**

**Team riding: Spacing without spacing out.**

Some of the things I am covering may seem like old hat to some of you, but it never hurts to revisit safety issues. If any of this is unclear, feel free to call me or email me at any time! Remember, the only bad question is the one that's not asked!

I would like to get away from the concept of group riding and have everybody think of it as Team Riding. We may have a group of 15-25 bikes heading to a restaurant or rally, but once we hit the road, each of you is an integral member of a 5 bike team. The goal of this team is to have fun and get where we're going. However, the number one priority of this team is to reduce the risk of injury or death to each team member by being out on the freeways with autos and other heavyweights. Each team member is important! The front and back door are obviously important, and I will discuss this more in the future.

But what about those in the middle?

Bikes 2, 3, and 4; what's your role in the team? Front and back doors are making way for you, but they can't ride your bikes for you. Now, it cannot be stressed enough that each of us should always RIDE YOUR OWN RIDE and never try to go beyond our capabilities. Having said that, beyond responsibilities to yourself and your co-rider, each team member also has an obligation to reduce risks to the team. Its your role to keep the group organized as a tight team and also protect each other. This could be as simple as warning of road debris or telling the bike in front of you that their top bag isn't latched. But the most important role of these three bikes is to maintain the spacing of the group. If you're riding in staggered formation, you should keep a 2 second interval with the bike in your track. In other words, bike #3 should be in the left track of the lane 2 seconds behind the front door and #4 should be 2 seconds behind #2 in the right track. This puts individual bikes ~1 second apart. A good rule of thumb is that if you can see the face of the rider in front of you in his/her mirror, you are about 1 second apart. If you go to single file, you now allow a 2 second interval with the bike in front of you, so this doubles the amount of distance between each bike in the group (front and back doors; consider that this doubles the overall length of the group).

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Why are these numbers important? Motorcycle Safety Foundation allows ~0.5 seconds for an individual's reaction time. This means you've eaten up half the distance to the bike in front of you and a quarter of the distance to the bike in your track before you realize anything is wrong! Okay, so let's make even more room -- why not give 3-5 seconds between bikes? Now, there's enough room to enable/invite cars to enter the group. If you are the #2 bike, and you allow too much room between you and #1, a car entering the team leaves the #1 bike by itself and you just became the leader of a 4 bike group. If you're in the #3 slot and don't keep proper spacing, now a car has split the team into groups of 2 and 3. Everybody's risk has been increased by a lack of proper spacing. By maintaining the recommended lane position and spacing, each rider is allowed enough time to avoid obstacles or troubles ahead without inviting other autos to join the group and endanger other team members. Beyond lane position and spacing, team members have different obligations/concerns, depending on bike position.

**Bike #2:** If you don't have a radio or you are a new rider, you should be in the #2 position. Being a new rider doesn't just mean you just got on a bike. What if you just bought a new bike, or you just started riding 2-up? Wouldn't you like to have the increased reaction time of having no one in the right track ahead of you? Wouldn't you like to have the front door to follow in case the team gets split up? If you don't have a radio or any aspect of your riding could be considered new, the #2 position is where you should be.

**Bike #3:** Assuming that #2 is a new rider or without a radio, what happens if #1's radio goes out or you get split up by a traffic light or a car? The #3 position should be ready to take over for the front door in case of radio troubles OR be ready to lead the smaller group until the team can be re-united.

**Bike #4:** The same concept applies in case the back door has radio trouble or gets separated. This is actually more likely, as you may get 4 bikes through a light, but not have the back door get through (especially if you're riding single file). If the team is split up, the back door should notify the front door that bike #4 will be the back door until the team is re-united. If the back door has radio problems, it's up to #4 to take over and communicate with the front door and safely change positions with the former back door.

So you see, each team member has important roles in making sure that the team gets where they're going safely. Beyond maintaining the proper spacing and lane position within the team, situational awareness is critical. If each member of the team is aware of their surroundings and knows what to do in different situations, this reduces the risk to the team overall. We will be having group/team riding seminars in the future, but until that time, PLEASE come to me or Sandi with any questions or concerns. Let's all ride safe and have fun!

So until next month, COAST (Concentrate On A Safe Trip)

Semper Fi,

Jay & Sandi



## From our Assistant Chapter Directors

Pleasure Riders,

IT'S HERE! Football season! (Go Cowboys!!) and so the school zones are active once again (SLOW DOWN!) and Fall will be in the air before you know it. And like us, many of you may be looking for a quick get-a-way. Consider a ride to scenic Arkansas.

Motorcycle touring on Arkansas highways has quickly become a popular motorcyclists destination and offer some incredibly scenic views and beautiful scenic byways most within a half days ride. Whether it's the ever popular Talimena Scenic Byway, Mount Magazine & Mount Nebo, Eureka Springs and the Pig Trail, or Lake Ouachita and Hot Springs.

Arkansas offers many favorite roads and destinations to view the spectacular fall foliage.

So with that said, many favorite destinations are filling up on weekends and availability is getting hard to find. Don't let that discourage you! Many towns offer lodging and B&B's are a very nice find! Provided is a list of Arkansas State Park Facilities which many of you may be interested in retaining for future reference. Much more information can be obtained thru the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

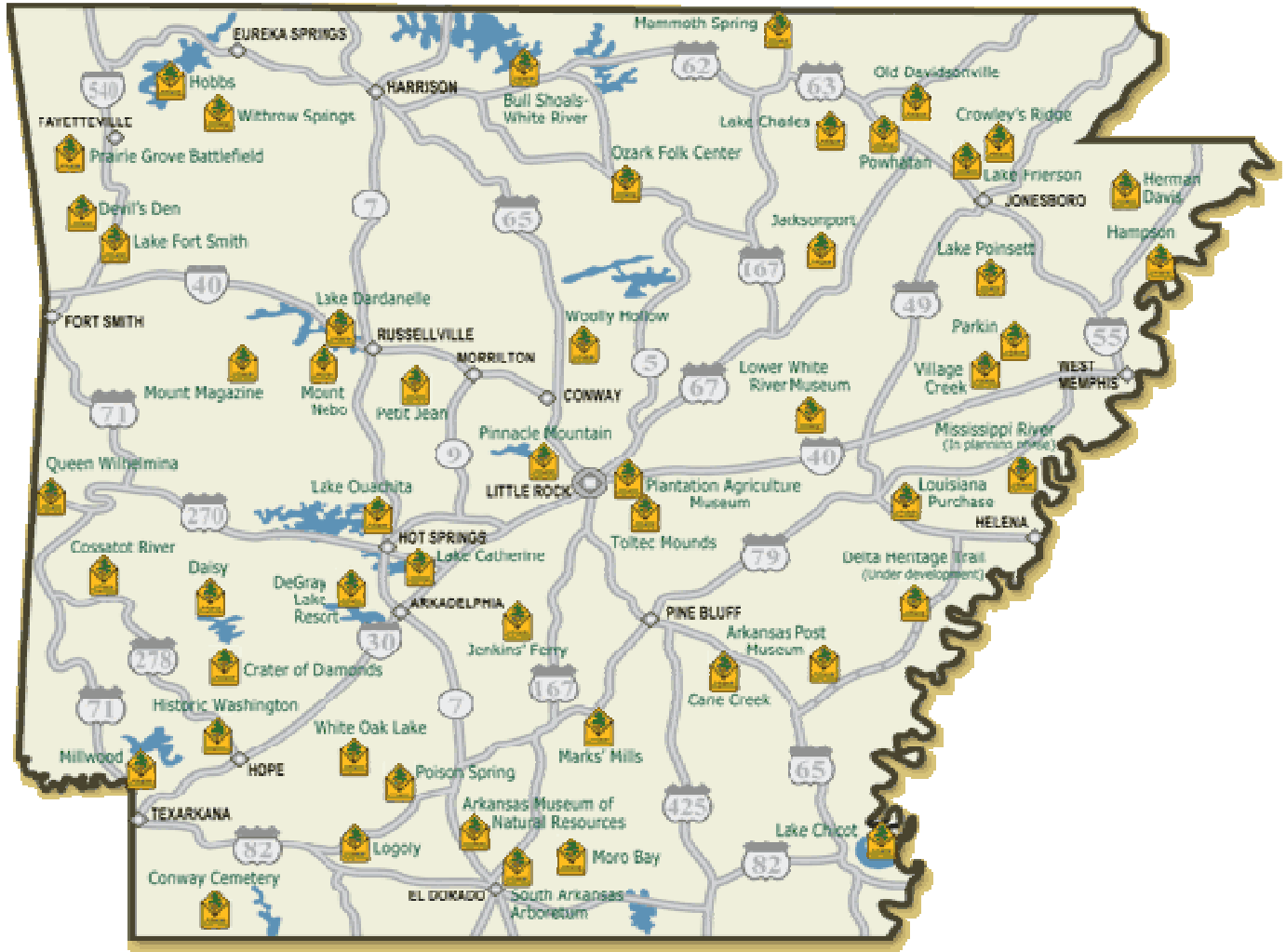
I highly recommend The Arkansas Tour Guide, a **GREAT**, handy resource book with maps and attractions, resorts & historical sites and is **FREE** by calling 1-800-NATURAL.

ACD's

Jeff & Theresa

GWRRA #204095





### Find Your Number Game



In this, if you find your GWRRA number in some type of organized sequence hidden in the newsletter, be sure to come to that month's Gathering. Once the Gathering officially starts, jump up and down yelling that you have found your numbers.

Identify where your number is hidden and win \$\$\$\$\$. If the numbers are not found, or the owners of the numbers are NOT at the meeting, then an additional \$5 will be added totaling \$10, and so on until it is won. At that time, we start over again at \$5.

**We are back to \$5 now.**

**Congratulations to Lanny & Joann Lacy - \$15 WINNERS -  
They Did Find Their Numbers Last Month.**



**This Months Birthdays and Anniversary's**

**Birthdays**

Yolanda Ortiz - 1st, **Greg Felts - 2,**  
**Dan Peralda - 5,** Don Walker - 7,  
 Mike Stark - 8, **Carla Kaufman - 9,**  
**Mary Reedy - 10,** Monica Capps - 11,  
 Maria Stark - 13, **Dick Reedy - 15,**  
**Charlene Burlingame - 16,** Ray Ortiz - 17  
 Angie Molinari - 19, **Joe Ardy - 27,**  
**Lori Walker - 27,** Mike Williaford - 27,  
 Delia - 28, **Nancy Dye -29.**



**Anniversary's**

**Larry & Mary Henderson - 15th**

**September Calendar of Events and Planned Rides**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 ← Mountains, Music and Motore	27	28	29	30	31 10:30am Thund	1 9am Thunder o
2 9am Thunder o	3	4	5	6	7	8 8am Chapter "F
9	10	11	12	13 7pm Chapter G	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 7:30pm Sonic M	21	22
23 Newsletter arti	24	25	26	27 Eureka Springs Trip	28 Eureka Springs	29 Eureka Spring
30 ← Eureka Springs Trip Eureka Spring	1	2	3	4	5	6

**NOTE: Scheduled Rides May be Postponed if Bad Weather is Forecast.  
 Contact Jay if you have any doubt.**



## JUST FOR LAUGHS

**A man was riding his motorcycle along a California beach when suddenly the sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, the Lord said, “Because you have TRIED to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish.**

**The biker pulled over, thought for a few seconds, and said, “Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can ride over anytime I want.”**

**The Lord said, “Your request is materialistic, think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking; the supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific and the concrete and steel it would take! It will nearly exhaust several natural resources.**

**I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things.**

**Take a little more time and think of something that could possibly help mankind.”**

**The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, “Lord, I wish that I, and all men could understand women.**

**I want to know how she feels inside,  
and what she’s thinking when she gives me the silent treatment,  
why she cries,  
what she means when she says “nothings wrong”,  
and how I can make a woman truly happy.”**

**THE LORD REPLIED: “YOU WANT TWO LANES OR FOUR FOR THAT BRIDGE?”**



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 And God made the stars to give light to the darkness-Genesis

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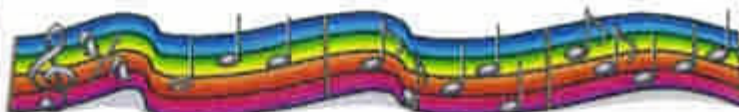
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### U-TURN AWARDS

**Ted and Kevin STILL have the U-Turns.  
Could YOU be next??**

#### **Web Sites:**

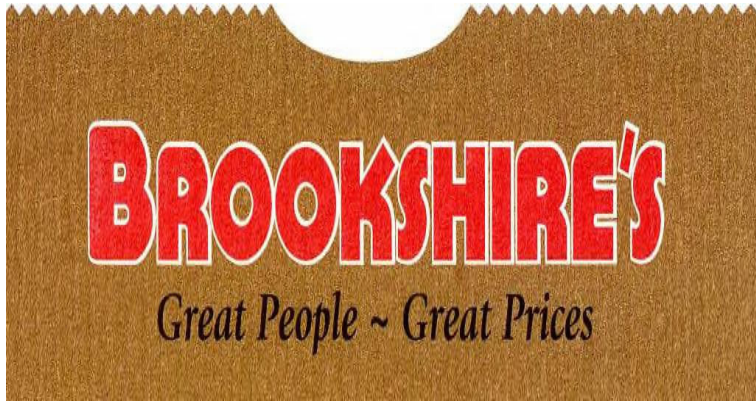
[www.granburygoldwings.com](http://www.granburygoldwings.com)

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/GWRRAofGranbury/>

**GWRR Texas District -**  
[www.gwrra-tx.org](http://www.gwrra-tx.org)

**GWRR Region H -**  
[www.region-h.org](http://www.region-h.org)

**GWRR National HQ -**  
[www.GWRR.org](http://www.GWRR.org)



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<b>Chapter Directors</b>	<b>Jay &amp; Sandi Pietsch</b>	<b><a href="mailto:fwsundance@peoplepc.com">fwsundance@peoplepc.com</a></b>
<b>Asst. Chapter Directors</b>	<b>Jeff &amp; Theresa Mew</b>	<b><a href="mailto:Jmew03@sbcglobal.net">Jmew03@sbcglobal.net</a></b>
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