

August 2011

TEXAS CHAPTER Z2



GWRRA Region H MCKINNEY, TEXAS

Meeting the fourth Thursday at Fuddruckers,
2045 S. Central Expy. McKinney, Texas
Dinner at 6:30 PM Meeting at 7:00 PM



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From the Directors' Chair.....

We hope that some of you have found an opportunity or two to get some riding done in spite of the relentless heat. It has taken true dedication to the task to even get the bike out of the garage – let alone get on it and attempt to ride anywhere.

The weatherman says that it will eventually cool off.....the bad news is that it may be in October.

We are proud to report that our Chapter was once again well represented at Wing Ding this year – and that the bulk of the trophies given out at the bike show have made their way back to Texas. Charles Dunn, Ed Neal & James Smith were all winners, and we are proud to have them representing us so well.

Charles and Helen Dunn's beautiful trike was featured on Maxim Honda's web-site recently. Hopefully, everyone got a chance to read the very nice article that was published about how their trike came to be what it is today. Congratulations on making headlines!

We are thrilled to see the new members coming into our Chapter. It will be a great time when we can all hit the road and enjoy some leisurely rides in some cooler weather. Our Chapter can never grow too big – so recruiting will strengthen our numbers.

We will be holding a First Aid/CPR training class on Saturday, September 24th. Please plan on getting signed up for the class – and getting involved in the GWRRA Levels Program. This class will help with the requirements for Level 2 through 4.

We will be out of the country for most of the month of August, so we look forward to seeing everyone at the September meetings...and hope that the weather will have become more ride-friendly by then. We need to get out and get some miles logged.

If you need anything while we are gone – please give a shout to Charles & Helen, as they will be taking care of things until we return.

Ride Safe!

Rick & Dorinda

Chapter Talk

The GWRRA meeting of Lonestar Z2 on Thursday, July 28, 2011 was called to order at 7:01PM by Chapter Director Dorinda Maier. Rick was out of town on business! The Pledge and Moment of Silence were recited and observed, respectively. Dorinda welcomed our new-comers... Wes and Kat Irby, who moved from California and now live in Plano; and West and Merideth Pearson, from Plano, who used to be Harley riders! Calendar highlights were read and corrected. October 27-29, 2011 is the Oklahoma District "Convention," in McAlister, OK. Ed Neal, acting Education Director, spoke about "Invisible" motorcycles. How do car drivers not see you? They have lots of distractions such as children in the car, on phones, texting, etc. People just don't expect to see motorcycles. Part of our responsibility is to make ourselves visible. Wear bright color clothing. Use a lighter color helmet. Practice emergency maneuvers and stopping quickly. Pay close attention....always think "what if?" Always look for the way out of trouble. Plan ahead....assume they don't see you! Charles Dunn gave a recap of Wing Ding which was held the first week of July in Knoxville, Tennessee. There were 6-7 thousand bikes there! A lot of new products for the 2012 model were found. Six Chapter members attended Wing Ding. Going up wasn't too bad a ride, but coming back was very hot. We entered our bikes/trikes in the show. Our chapter got 2 First Place and one Second Place. Ed Neal spoke to the new comers about our chapter....how good it is and the people that make it so good. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM with the prizes and 50/50 games.

The Haircut

One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut.

After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, 'I cannot accept money from you , I'm doing community service this week.' The florist was pleased and left the shop.

When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you , I'm doing community service this week.' The cop was happy and left the shop.

The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.

Then a Congressman came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I can not accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The Congressman was very happy and left the shop.

The next morning, when the barber went to open up, there were a dozen Congressmen lined up waiting for a free haircut.

And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the politicians who run it.

Form vs. Function

Going through the motions

By: James R. Davis

An interesting observation made by Cash today was about how, over time, form follows function (from an evolutionary point of view.) As a result, ask any biology student and you will learn that you can tell with high confidence just what things an animal (indeed, any organism) can do based on the form taken by their bodies. It was earlier 'determined' that certain function led to more likely survival and form evolved to permit or enhance that functionality.

But form is NOT the same as function. And form follows function - it is function that counts.

We all know that doing a 'head check' is important before making a change of lanes or entering an intersection. We usually do just that. But just how often have you found that the head check was really just going through the motions?

I remember quite well several occasions where I have done my head check then began to make my move only to suddenly wake up to the fact that I saw something during that check that was dangerous. I mean, I saw, but began my move before it registered what it was that I saw. My 'form' was perfect, but I was NOT functioning well. I was either distracted or so sure that it was clear because of a recent 'focused' check in the same direction that I didn't expect to find anything with that head check, and when there was something found, unexpectedly, I had already begun to make my move. Now that's dangerous!

So, we're not perfect. We do our 'best' most of the time. We know what we should do and most of us conscientiously try to do those things that tend to keep us out of trouble. But form is not function.

When we do a head check, for example, it is not merely to turn our heads so that our eyes CAN see danger, but we do them so that we WILL see danger if it's there. That means we must not allow ourselves to be lulled into believing all is right with the world just because it's supposed to be that way.

Expectations of 'rightness' dull our abilities to SEE what is not right - at the very least, it slows down our ability to react to what is not right.

Form is not enough - function counts, form does not. And if you function properly you are more likely to survive!