

## Texas Chapter Z2, McKinney, Texas

GWRRA Region H



### Letter From your Chapter Director

It is with great pride, and some nervous anticipation, that Dorinda and I begin our tour of duty as your Chapter Directors. We look forward to sharing many wonderful times, and a lot of riding miles, with our Chapter Z2 "family".

Dorinda and I are honored by the trust and confidence that the Chapter has placed in us, and the tremendous support for us as we undertake the important position that you have entrusted to us. We want the Texas District, Region H, and the whole of GWRRA to know that Chapter Z2 is where to go if they want to meet great people, and have FUN! We know that the Chapter membership shares this goal as well, and we hope that we can help put YOUR ideas to work in keeping our Chapter great.

Dorinda and I want to thank the Chapter officers that agreed to stay on with us – and we really look forward to working closely with not only the officers – but all of the members - to help our Chapter grow in size and in status.....and to have some fun along the way.

We just attended the Texas Mid Winter Round-up, and spent a great day with Charles and Helen being brought up to speed on the latest new information from our District and Region H Team's. There are a lot of events already on the calendar – so there will be many opportunities for us to participate in, and a lot of miles to be ridden. A lot of time in our monthly meetings for the next couple of months will be getting some fun things ready for the Region Convention in March – which is the first big event of the year...and is happening right in our front yard.

Hopefully, the weather will soon start to get better, and we will be able to get out the bike – and hit the road.

Rick & Dorinda

#### Inside the Edition

- **Director news**
- **Education tips**
- **Calendar of events**



## **Passengers Are NOT Helpless Should something happen to the rider**

**By: James R. Davis**

The general impression amongst motorcyclists is that a passenger would be totally helpless when it comes to controlling the motorcycle should something happen to the rider. Nonsense!

An accident occurred in Ohio, I believe, some years ago where a deer attempted to jump over a motorcycle from the side and hit the rider, knocking him completely off the bike. The man's wife was a passenger at the time and she managed to take control of the bike and get it off to the side of the road and slowed it down so greatly that it simply fell over (into the grass.)

Well, you argue, since there was no rider in front of her she was able to reach the controls.

In fact, even if the rider was still there having, for example, simply collapsed from a heart attack, the passenger can almost always still gain control of the motorcycle.

Two controls that the passenger usually cannot reach are the gear shift lever and the rear brake, but the three that he/she CAN reach are the clutch lever, the throttle, and the front brake. (And, not incidentally, the engine cutoff switch.) Thus, the passenger can steer the bike as well as control its speed.

Even with a rider backrest, a passenger can stand on his/her pegs and lean over the rider to gain control of the bike. Cash and I have practiced this maneuver and demonstrated it to several motorcycle groups at rallies and other gatherings.

It does not take a rider (or anyone at all on the bike) to balance a motorcycle moving at any reasonable speed. Because of trail there is an automatic attempt by all motorcycles to get vertical and steer in a straight line. In other words, though there will likely be some wild gyrations of the bike as it finds its way to a stable posture, there is TIME available to the passenger to get control of that bike.

First order of business is to slow it down. Second order of business is to steer it to as safe a place as possible before it falls over, because fall over it will.

Before it falls over that engine cutoff switch should be turned off.

The passenger is certainly not helpless. Perhaps it would be a good thing to let him/her know it and even practice (at a dead stop, engine off, on the side stand) assuming control, no?

**Region H Rally Information  
March 24—26, Plano, Texas**

<http://www.region-h.org/11rally/index.html>

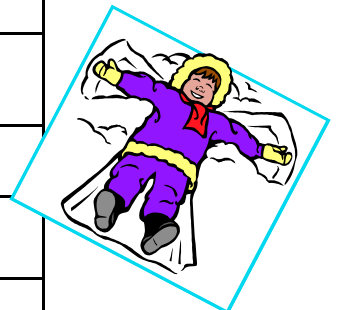



Following is a picture of Cash and myself using my GoldWing in a Co-Rider Safety Demo showing her taking control of my bike even though I was still in the rider's saddle and there is a back-rest between us. Note that she was not standing nearly as tall as she could have should she have needed to because I was not as far out of the way as I was in the demo.




[Need I add that this is another reason why a person who prefers being a passenger and never intends to ride a bike by themselves should be encouraged to attend the MSF?] Please note that if she lays on the rider she tends to keep him on the bike. A good thing if traveling at 70 MPH, no?

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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Planning mtg: Fuddruckers, 7PM	11	12 Dinner at Sicliano's, meet there @ 6 PM	13
14 	15	16	17 Ride to Babe's in Garland, 6:30 PM	18	19  GWRRR Horizon Seminar, Deer Park, Texas	20 N. Tx Chpt bowling, TBA
21	22	23	24 Chapter Mtg @ Fuddruckers, 7 PM	25	26	27
28	 <b>FEBRUARY 2011</b>					

We meet at Fuddruckers for all of our meetings, dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00 pm

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Plnng/chptr mtg: Fuddruck- ers, 7PM	11	12 Ride to Old West, 10:30 a.m.	13
14	15	16	17 Ride to Huck's, 6:30 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Meet and attend the open- ing ceremony	25 REGION H RALLY - PLANO, TEXAS	26	27
28	29	30	31	 <b>MARCH 2011</b>		