

January 2012

TEXAS CHAPTER Z2



GWRRA Region H MCKINNEY, TEXAS

Meeting the fourth Thursday at the IHOP,
Central Expressway. Allen, Texas
Dinner at 6:30 PM Meeting at 7:00 PM



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Greeting and Happy New Year!

Another year has come and gone.....and winter has yet to rear its ugly head. Hopefully, this mild winter weather is giving everyone an occasional opportunity to get out and log some miles. I know that we have been too busy to get any riding done - but we certainly would like too.

This year is kicking off with the Mid Winter Round-up, at which Charles and Helen Dunn represented our Chapter, as we could not make it fit into our work schedule. We are anxious to hear what our District has in store for us this year. I am confident that Charles and Helen will give us a full accounting of the Round-up at the regular monthly meeting.

Our annual Valentine's Day dinner at Siciliano's in Garland is right around the corner. Please put February 11th on your calendar, and plan to join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and great food. We will meet there at 6:00 PM. (Directions to follow later)

The bowling get-togethers have been loads of fun!! If you haven't joined us, you might want to try. A lot of fun is had by all of us!

We have some dinner rides scheduled, and a dinner at Babe's in Frisco is also on the calendar - so don't miss any of these opportunities to join the group for the dinner rides.

Hopefully, everyone had an enjoyable holiday season, and the prospects for a great 2012 are all positive.

Get out and ride.....Be Safe!

Rick & Dorinda

Chapter Talk

The GWRRA Chapter of Lonestar Z2 meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2011, was called to order by Chapter Director, Rich Maier at 7:10PM. This is a combined planning and chapter meeting because of the Christmas Holiday at our usual chapter meeting day. The Pledge and a Moment of Silence were recited and observed, respectively. Rick welcomed our guests...Otis Henry (brought by Glenn S.), Judy and Tommie Elliot, and R.B. Wilson from G2. Calendar highlights were read and corrected. Rick announced that the Region H Convention would be held in Marshall, TX on March 29-31, 2012. We filled in the March calendar...coordinating with Chapter G2 for the Parking Lot exercise on Saturday, March 24, 2012. For the safety portion on the meeting, Rick talked about finding frozen patches of ice on the roadways...be sure to watch out for this! These conditions can be found on side streets, in shaded areas, and in the early morning. He also reminded everyone that one needs to wear clothing that permits drivers to see motorcyclist. In other words, make yourself visible in every way! It was also announced that there has been a recall of 1800s for 2001 and up for Master Cylinder on back brake. Helen quizzed the chosen member of each team with a number of questions. Richard Boslow from Team A answered more questions than Rick Maier from Team B! Dorinda spoke about the family the Chapter "adopted"...there are 4 children, and we need money donations to buy gifts for them. Prizes and 50/50 awarded. Meeting adjourned at 8:08PM. Happy Holidays to everyone!!!

Today's Wise Investment:

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in Delta Airlines one year ago, you will have \$49.00 today!

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in AIG one year ago, you will have \$33.00 today.

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in Lehman Brothers one year ago, you will have \$0.00 today.

But, if you had purchased \$1,000 worth of beer one year ago, drank all the beer, then turned in the aluminum cans for recycling refund, you will have received a \$214.00.

Based on the above, the best current investment plan is to drink heavily & recycle. It is called the 401-Keg.

A recent study found that the average American walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found that Americans drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means that, on average, Americans get about 41 miles to the gallon!

Makes you damned proud to be an American!!!

Winter Warmups

by Jackie Vaughan

We're lucky that we have a virtual year-round riding season. However, when the mercury hides in the bottom of the little red bulb, we have to make some changes in our riding style.

One of the big enemies of riders is hypothermia. Riding at highway speeds in cool or cold weather can deplete a rider's body heat and leave him numb and fuzzy-headed before he realizes what has happened.

Even when the temperature is in the 60's, the wind chill factor at speeds over 40 miles per hour is in the low 30's. Riders often misjudge how cold the ride will be because they are freshly out of a warm house and standing still in the warm sunshine. At temperatures below 70°, they should dress in multiple layers, adding and subtracting as necessary. Not only do multiple layers provide versatility, they also create insulated pockets of warm air. While it is common for riders to put on sweatshirts and jackets, the lower body is often ignored.

Thermal underwear and chaps keep feet and knees flexible and ready to function. Thermal socks and ski-sock liners help keep toes cozy. Many ski shops offer an excellent variety in various weights. The old gray variety with the red toes will do the job also. A well-designed winter riding suit made especially for motorcycling is a bulky but very welcome addition to any rider's wardrobe.

Lightweight riding gloves do little to protect from the cold, and supple hands are critical to quick responses to unexpected hazards. Ski gloves or winter riding gloves with gauntlet flares help keep hands toasty. Some riders add ski glove liners, or use three-finger mittens for added warmth. They should be aware, however, that any added bulk may make operating the controls more awkward.

A face shield is essential, and it should be firmly snapped in place. Those wearing three-quarter helmets may want to consider a ski mask or muffler to keep the chin and throat warm. There are excellent masks which cover the throat, mouth, and nose with a material similar to a lightweight wetsuit, yet allow the rider to breathe and speak comfortably. Some dealerships may have them, but they are more commonly found at sporting goods stores, which offer a line of ski wear.

A luxurious, although expensive, way to keep warm is with an electric suit, gloves, socks, and even heated grips. They draw little current, but offer a lot of overall warmth.

Co-riders should be afforded the same clothing or more, since they often don't get the same protection from the fairing that the rider does.

There's a whole different world of riding in the winter, and we can enjoy it to its fullest if we dress properly

Why, Why, Why!

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?

Why do banks charge a fee due to insufficient funds when they already know you're broke?

Why is it that when someone tells you that there are one billion stars in the universe, you believe them but, if they tell you there is wet paint, you have to touch it to check?

Why do they use sterilized needles for lethal injections?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

Why did Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Whose cruel idea was it to put an "s" in the word "lisp"?

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Why is it that, no matter what color bubble bath you use, the bubbles are always white?

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?

Why do people run over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?

Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the first end you try?

How do those dead bugs get into enclosed light fixtures?

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart, then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, "It's all right"? Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, "That really hurt, why don't you watch where you're going?"

Why is it that whenever you attempt to catch something that's falling off the table you always manage to knock something else over?

Why, in winter, do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

How come you never hear father-in-law jokes?

Do you ever wonder why you gave me your e-mail address in the first place?

And my FAVORITE...

The statistics on sanity say that one out of every four persons is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're OK, then it's you