



# In The Moonlight

GWRRRA Chapter M - South Central Region H - Arlington/Mansfield Texas

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

## TEAM

**Chapter Directors**  
Steve & Kathy Tackel  
Steve 817-819-1086  
Kathy 817-874-5379  
tackel1954@hotmail.com

**Asst. Chapter Directors**  
Wayne & Kristee Orr  
Wayne 817-271-9006  
Kristee 817-271-0876  
wkorr@yahoo.com

**Asst. Chapter Directors**  
Rich & Beth Hendrickson  
Rich 817-939-7685  
richhendrickson@att.net  
Beth 817-673-3780  
richbeth94@gmail.com

**Chapter Educator**  
Chris Schoenthal  
972-660-6286  
cschoenthal@hotmail.com

**Treasurers**  
Craig and Mary Watkins  
940-648-2028  
watkinsc@gte.net

**Webmaster**  
Charles McConnell  
poochdwg@gmail.com

**Membership Coordinator**  
Cyndi Burt  
817-239-1564  
wcburt@gmail.com

**Ride Coordinators**  
Dennis Martini  
817-247-0355  
dmartini42@gmail.com  
Jeff Seguin  
214-543-3856  
j.seguin@sbcglobal.net

**Sunshine /Moonshine**  
Sylvia/Marvin Andrews  
Sylvia 214-563-8395  
Marvin 214-564-8395  
marsyland@sbcglobal.net

**Apparel Sales**  
Dotty Doyle  
940-594-2968  
ddot191@verizon.net

**Newsletter Editor**  
Jim Culver  
817-881-1956  
revlucmij@gmail.com

**Photographer**  
Terri Culver  
817-929-8500  
k5tlc@txwifi.com

**Event Coordinators**  
Gary & Beverly Lewis  
817-915-6465  
uturngoldwing@sbcglobal.net

**Chapter Historians**  
Gene & Bonnie Lowery  
817-516-7018  
blglowery@tx.rr.com



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April  
2016

## From the CD

Spring has sprung and as usual it has been good and bad for riding days. It has included some absolutely gorgeous weekends and some very cold and or rainy weekends but we are probably soon to be past those unpredictable riding days. But we all know what comes next.....HOT!! Please be aware that the hot weather will soon be upon us and take precautions to be prepared for the hot weather riding. This will include staying hydrated by bringing along plenty of bottled water and cooling vests. If you are fortunate enough to have a cooler rack on your bike or trike so much the better. Remember to dress correctly for the hot days which still should include ATGATT (all the gear all the time). Exposed skin can burn very quickly in direct sun so be sure to cover yourself as much as possible. I know the temptation is there to dress lightly and leave the helmet at home but PLEASE don't do it. While we never plan to go down the reality is that it could happen to any of us at any time so we "dress for the slide not the ride".

We had a great time at the Region H rally in Marshall this past month, there were 16 of us that made the trip and although the rally itself was mostly a disappointment to those that go to the rally's to have accessories installed on their rides (no motorcycle vendors were present) we made our own fun by taking an almost 200 mile ride on Saturday through the east Texas countryside and included a great lunch and a stop at of course Dairy Queen in Winnsboro. Some members did take some classes that they needed to further their levels program.

We have some great rides coming up so be sure to watch for the details on the ride calendar on the website. Remember that because things can change quickly be sure to watch for emails the evening before or the morning of the ride to be sure that there has not been a change to the ride that you want to attend. We sure don't want someone to show up for a ride that has been cancelled.

We are at two weeks and counting before the Chapter M cruise leaves for Key West FL and the Bahamas, we are really excited to go and spend time with our M family.

Until next month;  
Ride COOL and Ride SAFE!!!

Steve and Kathy Tackel  
Chapter M CDs



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## Texas District Rider Education Raffle

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Texas District Rider Education is raffling off a YETI package that will include a 50 quart cooler, 2 insulated tumblers, and 2 insulated colsters.

Funds raised will help offset the cost of Levels pins and patches, Medic First Aid supplies, Rider Course costs, the Level 4 luncheon, and other expenses.

Tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10, or 8 for \$20. Please make checks out to GWRRA Texas District. The drawing will be at the District Rally on May 21, 2016. You do not need to be present to win.



**Tickets Available at April & May Meetings**

## Ride to Davey Dogwood Park

### The Legend of the Dogwood

At the time of the crucifixion, the dogwood attained the size of the oak and other forest trees. So strong and straight was the wood of it that it was chosen for the timber for the cross. To be thus used for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree and Jesus smiled upon it, sensed this, and in his gentle pity for sorrow said to it, "Because of your regret and pity for my suffering, I make you this promise: Never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a cross. Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted, and its blossom shall be in the form of a cross – two long petals and two short petals, and in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail points, brown with rust and stained with blood. And in the center of the flower there will be an image of a crown of thorns and all who see it will remember that it was upon a dogwood tree I was crucified, and this tree shall not be mutilated or destroyed, but cherished as a reminder of my death upon the cross."

Saturday's rain chances :40%, The ride leader was the only one on a cycle and he had almost decided to take a 4-wheeler when.....2 other cycles showed up. That did it! The leader cannot be outdone. (Some Goldwingers just don't listen to the weather forecast! Or they choose to ignore it!)

Two bikes, one trike, and three 4-wheelers set out at 9:00 a.m. from 5 Below in Mansfield toward Ennis, where we had our first stop.

By 10:00 a.m. The sun was shining, but there were still clouds in the distance. The people in the 4-wheelers were seriously questioning their decision not to ride bikes!

From Ennis we turned east on Hwy 85 and started seeing Bluebonnets along the road. Continuing south on 1129, the redbuds started showing up. There was water standing nearly everywhere – except, fortunately, on the road. We also saw many other varieties of wildflowers.

Our second stop was in Kerens on Hwy. 31. At Trinidad, the Trinity River was full and WAY out of its banks! At Cedar Creek near Malakoff there was wind damage with lots of trees down and, of course, more water everywhere. We were enjoying the curvy roads and did not encounter any water on the roads, but the buzzards were plentiful and we kept an eye on them!

Just outside Palestine we began seeing dogwood trees in bloom. There were several species of trees

that have white blossoms, but we learned to spot the dogwoods quite quickly. They're the smaller trees with sparse white blooms and very little foliage.

We drove through Davey Dogwood Park in Palestine to see the dogwood trees that were in bloom there. Delinda got some very good pictures! (Go to the Moonlighters website and view the dogwood ride pictures.) After riding through the park – that road looked familiar (?) - and making a U-turn (official ride now!) we set out for Sam's Restaurant in Fairfield for lunch. Our luck ran out. The rain caught up with us and the motorcycle riders got drenched. We pulled off the road to let them put on their rain suits, then continued on. (The people in the 4-wheelers were exonerated! Wise decision after all!) By now, lunch was a little later than usual, but Sam's was worth the wait. Yummmmmmm!

After lunch, Carl and Diane headed south toward Teague and the rest of us came straight up I-45 and 287 to Mansfield. We were taking no chances on encountering more rain!

Those on the ride were:

Dennis & Carolyn Martini (ride leader)

Carl & Diane Westcott

Critt Coburn

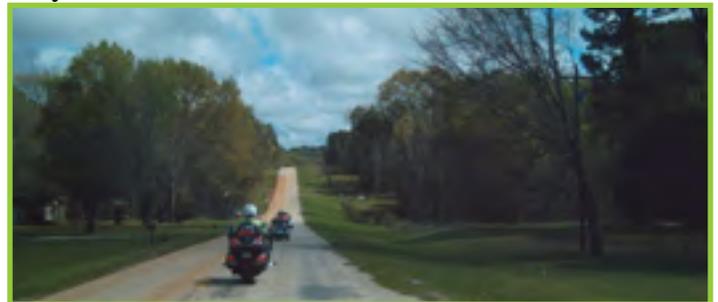
Tom Lerch

Fred & Sherry Myers

Steve & Kathy Tackel

Jeff & Dalinda Seguin

Wayne & Kristee Orr





## Region "H" Rally Marshall, TX.

March 17-20th

Right up to the day that we left on Friday the 18th, the ride was in question due to the weather. Wednesday the 16th was calling for 80% chance of thunderstorms on Friday both here and in Marshall. Thursday morning we awoke to storms coming in which meant that the weather guessers were wrong.....again, and that the forecast for Friday had changed for the better. A quick phone call to Wayne Orr for agreement confirmed that the ride was ON!!!

Kathy & I met up with Tom Lerch, Nelda Lee & Critt Coburn at Cardiology Partners parking lot in Mansfield. Randy Hawes was there in his four-wheeler to wish us good luck on the trip. We were off at 9:00am and headed down 287 south into Ennis. Wayne Orr joined in with the group when we went through Midlothian. We stopped in Ennis for our first break then continued on Hwy 34 over to Kaufman. We then took Hwy 243 into Canton and then turned north onto Hwy 19. We stopped at I-20 and Hwy 19 for fuel and a rest break. It was now about 11:10am and Tom said "what's for lunch". We grabbed a snack and continued north on Hwy 19 until we reached Hwy 80 We turned east and proceeded through several small towns until we got to Mineola. By now all of our stomachs were telling us it was time to stop for lunch, so we saw a DQ and pulled in there for lunch. After lunch we loaded back up and proceeded the rest of the way into Marshall on Hwy 80. It was a pleasant ride and we arrived in Marshall about 2:30pm.

Upon entering the Convention Center we got our first surprise of the day. There were virtually zero motorcycle related vendors present and literally no vendors outside. Normally there are at least two rows of vendors selling and installing everything that can be imagined but not this year. We asked what was going

on with no vendors and we were told that because last week was Daytona bike week and this week there was a Florida rally that none of the normal vendors made the trip to the GWRRA Region Rally. We surveyed the rest of the rally then left to go check into the hotel. Louis Potts, Dotty Doyle, Craig and Mary Watkins, Gary and Beverly Lewis arrived in Marshall on Thursday and we were pleasantly surprised when we saw Dan and Marsha Bailey from Houston. What a great welcoming committee!!! Mers took over the breakfast area at the hotel and we all had a great visit on Friday night. All agreed that we would have a good ride on Saturday to make up for not much to do at the rally.

Tom Lerch, Critt Coburn and Chris Schoenthal (who had arrived on Saturday morning) had plans to take classes that they needed for their levels program. Chris filled out the required paperwork for the Chapter's Riders' Educator position with the District Staff and then headed back home after this all was completed. The next big surprise came on Saturday morning when we found out that Beverly Lewis had been taken by ambulance to the hospital early Saturday because her heart had started racing. Beverly remained in the hospital in Marshall for the remainder of the weekend and was released from the hospital on Sunday. They were both missed the rest of the weekend. Gary had made arrangements for their son to bring the trailer and their car to the rally and take back their bikes, so that Gary could bring Beverly back home on Sunday. Get well soon Beverly!!!!

After the classes were over about 11:00 am at the rally, we met everyone at the convention center and I lead the group on our East Texas Tour heading north on Hwy 59 towards Jefferson. We turned west on Hwy 49 for a short time then turned left onto FM 729. This turned out to be one of the prettiest and twisty roads we have had the pleasure of riding. Everyone agreed that it was GREAT! Next we turned north on Hwy 259 and rode into Daingerfield where we stopped at "Outlaws BBQ". This restaurant was rated very highly and it did not disappoint. It was indeed some of the best BBQ we had ever had. The group lined up in the restaurant to have a picture taken and then loaded up and headed west onto Hwy 11. This road took us through several other towns and when we arrived in Winnsboro, we stopped at DQ for ice cream. What a shocker! After the ice cream break we found FM 2869 which turned out to be another outstanding scenic road. Our next turn was east onto Hwy 154 heading back into Marshall. It was around a 200 mile ride that

lasted for more than 4 hours, but was well worth the time spent. Closing ceremonies were going on at the rally when we arrived back in Marshall and some of the Mers went to that; while others went back to the hotel. David and Ginny Topley had arrived in their car and attended closing ceremonies then met us in the lobby at the Hampton Inn for visiting that evening. They were on their way to Arkansas, but stopped in on their way to see the Chapter M family.

Sunday morning arrived and all good things must end, so we made plans to leave Marshall about 10:00am. We said our goodbyes to the Baileys and headed out right on time. Our route home started on Hwy 154 to Quitman and then Hwy 182 into Alba. Here we took Hwy 69 north into Emory. It was lunch time so we stopped at..... You guessed it, DQ and had a nice lunch. It was a cold & windy day and no one had any dessert. After lunch we said our goodbyes to Craig, Mary, Dotty and Louis, since they continued on north on Hwy 69 and the rest of us turned west onto Hwy 276. This highway took us across Lake Tawakoni (beautiful) and into Quinlan. Here we took Hwy 34 south and proceeded into Terrell. We had decided as a group to pick-up I-20 in Terrell, since it was faster back to the Mansfield area. We made one last stop at the BUC-EE's in Terrell to refuel and shop. It was windy and it was somewhat cold most of the day, but we arrived back home about 3:30pm after having traveled 569 miles for the weekend.

Those who attended were:

Steve and Kathy Tackel

Critt Coburn

Tom Lerch

Nelda Lee

Wayne Orr

Craig and Mary Watkins

Gary and Beverly Lewis

Dan and Marsha Bailey

Dotty Doyle & Louis Potts

Those who came on Saturday:

Chris Schoenthal

David and Ginny Topley

We had a BALL!!!! We all decided that we don't need the rally to be any good, since we could make our own fun with our Chapter M family.

Steve and Kathy Tackel





## Chicken Spagetti

From the kitchen of Bev Lewis

- 1 med onion chopped
- 1 cup celery chopped
- Saute in butter
- Mix into
- 1 can cream of chicken with herbs soup
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 1 can rotel (original)
- 1 can diced tomatoes (Italian style)
- 1 small can sliced black olives
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 8oz package shredded cheese
- Salt, pepper, oregano, be creative
- Diced chicken
- (I used 2 cans of chicken from Sam's)
- I mix this all together in a big bowl then add one regular size box cooked spaghetti. (I use fettuccine or linguine noodles)

Bake @ 350 until bubbling then add cheese over top  
bake another 5 min to melt

## FOR SALE

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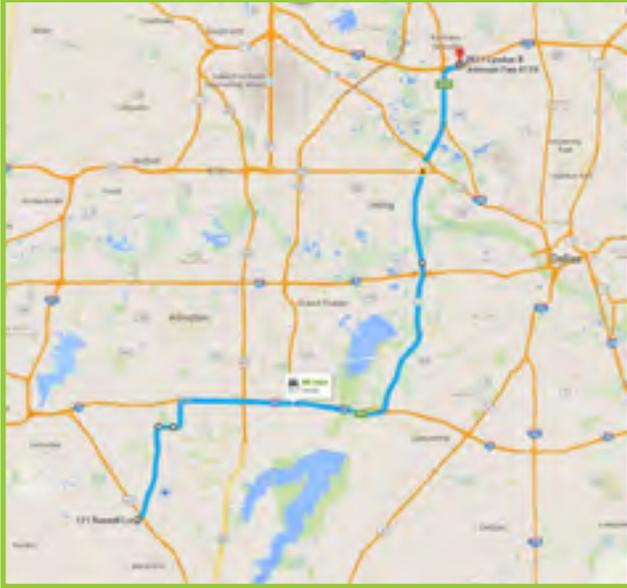


## Ride to Moto Liberty

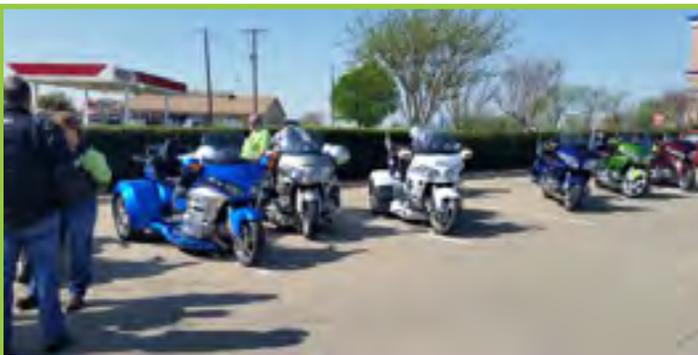
This was a quick ride to Moto Liberty as they had their customer appreciation day.

We met at 5-Below at 11:00 am. Five (5) trikes, six (6) Goldwings, and one (1) Valkyrie went to the 'radio' route (always something going wrong on these roads during the week:

157 to Green Oaks, Green Oaks to Matlock, Matlock to I-20, 408, 12, 35, and 635 (Exit 26).



They actually had some pretty cool stuff. As always, we left some money there. While the group went onto a belated lunch, Blanca and I decided on a 'German' day - get some coffee (Southlake) and get some German food (Arlington). All in all - not a bad day.



## Habit Strength

By definition, habit strength is “a function of the frequency with which an action has been repeated in a stable context and has acquired a high degree of habitual automaticity”. In other words, do something the same way enough times and you don't have to think about it to complete the task.

Think of your day-to-day activities as habits; virtually all behaviors are habits. Every time you brush your teeth or tie your shoes, you do it the same way out of habit and (usually) don't have to think about it. That's because you've been doing it for so long it comes naturally to do it the same way. Initially someone had to teach you the right way to do all these things. But what if they taught you incorrectly or you have been doing it wrong for so long that you have developed a bad habit? I know that I for one have been scolded by my dentist in the past for not brushing properly.

Habit strength also relates to your riding skills and their development/maintenance. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change or even to recognize that you do it. Think about how you handle stop and go traffic; do you consciously think about down-shifting or when (or when not) to put your feet down? How about driving into your driveway and garage? "It's just second nature, I do it all the time." you say. That's a strong habit; is it a good or bad habit?

What if I ask you about delayed apex turns or where to look coming into a blind right hander or when you downshift/brake coming into an unfamiliar blind turn? Most people will answer differently, but here's a personal example. It took me over 3000 miles of riding my 1500 before I stopped downshifting coming into twisties. After years of riding my 1200, I naturally shifted to 4th when coming into curves. I know consciously that I don't need to do that as much, with the power/torque of the 1500, but occasionally I still catch myself doing it and have to fight this unnecessary habit. Can you say habit strength?

The following are the 7 worst habits that the MSF would like you to avoid.

1. Avoid entering corners too fast and braking deep into the turn. The (4) recommended basic steps in approaching and turning through a corner are: SLOW (down to a comfortable speed before entering the turn), LOOK (where you want to be going and as far into the turn as possible), PRESS (the inside bar to countersteer in the direction you want to go) and

ROLL (on the throttle or at least keep it steady through the turn).

2. Putting your feet down before you come to a complete stop. Keep your feet on the pegs right up until it's time to stop - then, when you are almost completely stopped, set down your left foot so that you can still use the rear brake with your right foot.

3. Not squaring bars to the chassis when you come to a stop. To avoid a last minute wobble when you stop, keep looking straight ahead to help keep you bars straight.

4. Having low eyes . Means you're not looking far enough ahead. You should be constantly scanning far ahead at various intervals and don't fixate on anything for more than a split second.

5. Not using the front brake enough (if at all). The front brake will provide most of your stopping power on most bikes and, apparently, a lot of self-schooled riders are afraid of doing an endo if they grab too much of the front. Proper braking technique involves a coordination of the use of both brakes.

6. Using the "two finger" method of braking. When riding on the street, the correct method is to roll off the throttle and progressively squeeze the front brake with all four fingers.

7. Using poor lane position when riding in a group. Keep out of other rider's blind spots, keep in a staggered formation while riding in groups, allow room for unexpected maneuvers and maintain maximum visibility.

I took the MSF Advanced Rider's Course a few months ago. I've been riding for 45 years and yet initially had issues with some of the maneuvers. The MSF instructor was all too happy to point out the causes for my problems and by the end of the session I was going through just fine. All I needed was someone to point out the bad habits, how to do it the correct way and practice. "It feels funny", I would say about some of his suggestions. Sure it feels funny, it's not the way I'd become accustomed to doing it.

Bad habits or good, they're just as strong. The stronger the habit, the more difficult it is to change it. Only learning the right way and with a lot of practice will make you a better rider. Which would you rather have working for you, riding habits/skills that can help avoid or get you out of a tight situation, or habits that lead to a bad situation?

Chris Schoenthal  
Training Coordinator

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April 03  
 April 13  
 April 13  
 April 17  
 April 19  
 April 26  
 April 26

## April Rides

**Saturday, April 2** - Impromptu Ride, Leave Cardiology Partners @ 10:00 AM

**Sunday, April 10** - Bluebonnet ride - Tom Lerch leads. KSU @10:00 from 5 Below

## May Rides

**Saturday - May 7**, Chris Schoenthal leads. Details TBA

**Saturday - May 14**, Ride to Horton's Classic Car Museum. Leave from QT on Blue Mound Rd. Time TBA

**Sunday - May 22**, Impromptu Ride - Leave from Cardiology Partners at 10am

## Ride Leaders Needed!

Spring has officially arrived. We are looking for ride leaders to take Chapter Members down the beautiful back roads to see the wild flowers. If you have a favorite ride, we would like for you to share it with the members. Please contact me at [j.seguin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j.seguin@sbcglobal.net) or Dennis at [dmartini42@gmail.com](mailto:dmartini42@gmail.com)

You the Members of Chapter M make our Chapter so great and successful.

Thank You  
 Jeff & Dennis Ride Coordinators



Paul & Patty Beegle  
 Mike & Patti Nevius  
 Bob & Connie Whan  
 Wayne & Kristee Orr  
 Marvin & Suzette Stewart

April 04  
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 April 09  
 April 14  
 April 21



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## Where Chapter "M" Meets

Chapter Meeting 1st Thursday of each month  
 @ Spring Creek Barbeque, 1724 HWY 287 (at  
 Debbie Lane), Mansfield, TX. Dinner at 6:00  
 PM Meeting at 7:00 PM, Come join us!

## Other Area Chapter Meetings

"P" 7:00 PM on 2nd Thursday, Spring Creek 317 Hwy  
 377 @ Overton, Granbury

"R" 7:30 PM on 4th Tuesday, Spring Creek BBQ, 315  
 Hwy 114 W, Grapevine

"W2" 7:00 PM on 3rd Thursday, Ryan's, 1400 N.  
 HWY 77, Waxahachie



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