



# THE X FILES

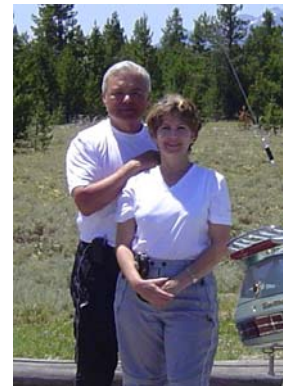
## Corner Office

by David Nuñez

FROM THE CORNER OFFICE	1
EXTEND RIDING SEASON	3
X2 BIRTHDAY PARTY	4
CHAPTER MEETINGS	7
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS	8
BACK SEAT VIEW	9
CALENDARS	11-12

### From the

We started out the New Year with a big bang with our 2010 Annual Polar Bear Ride. We had a total of 29 people attend, - Chapter and non-Chapter folks—on 19 bikes. We again went to Purcell's in Brenham and as is common with all of our chapter routes, we didn't take the direct route there. With as many bikes as we had on this ride and to keep it a safe ride, we split the riders into three groups with me, Steve Mueller and Greg Decker each leading a group.



We had a nice scenic route laid out to Purcell's and all was going well until about halfway through the trip I noticed my engine warning light come on. Although my bike was performing well, the warning light still bothered me. Not knowing exactly what it meant, I thought I would ask someone I thought might know. So I got on the CB and asked Greg Decker. "Greg, my engine light came on. Any idea what it might mean?" There was a slight pause then he responded with "It means your light is working." I know I can always depend on Greg.

One of the riders I would like to specifically mention is Randy Gleason. Randy always makes it a point to participate in our annual Polar Bear ride, and he manages to bring along several friends as well. It's always a pleasure to have him join us and I only wish he was able to ride with us more often. Now that he is retired, maybe he will. Let's hope so.

We also had the Winter Round Up event in Killeen, attended by me, Gail and Greg & Deborah Decker. Unfortunately, this event was cut short due to an electrical fire a tour meeting place.

Rounding out the month, we had a Sunday breakfast ride to Newman's in Bellville. We had eight crazy riders, including me, who braved the 20° temperature that morning. What away to start out the New Year - but at least it gave us all a chance to test out our new winter riding gear!

[www.txx2.org](http://www.txx2.org)

### Upcoming Meetings

1/13 - Chapter Meeting  
1/27 - Planning Meeting



## Texas Chapter X2

### Chapter Directors

David & Gail Nuñez  
(281) 213-3223

[ChapterDirector@txx2.com](mailto:ChapterDirector@txx2.com)

### Chapter Educators

Greg & Deborah Decker  
(281) 477-1115

[ChapterEducator@txx2.com](mailto:ChapterEducator@txx2.com)

### Treasurer

Judy Mueller

[Treasurer@txx2.com](mailto:Treasurer@txx2.com)

### Membership Enhancement

Jim & Fran Rigell

[MembershipEnhance@txx2.com](mailto:MembershipEnhance@txx2.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Steve Rhoden

[Newsletter@txx2.com](mailto:Newsletter@txx2.com)

### Webmaster

Robert Laffitte

[Webmaster@txx2.com](mailto:Webmaster@txx2.com)

### Technical Coordinator

Buck Huddle

[Technical@txx2.com](mailto:Technical@txx2.com)

### Scrapbook Coordinator

Gail Nuñez

[ChapterDirector@txx2.com](mailto:ChapterDirector@txx2.com)

### Patch Coordinator

Laura Laffitte

[Treasurer@txx2.com](mailto:Treasurer@txx2.com)

### X2 Clothing Coordinator

Deborah Decker

[ChapterEducator@txx2.com](mailto:ChapterEducator@txx2.com)

## Texas District Staff

### District Directors

Ken & Barbie Peterson  
(817) 293-4667

[kenandbarbie@wb4me.com](mailto:kenandbarbie@wb4me.com)

### Asst. District Directors

Fred & Mandy Mew  
(972) 425-3077

[TxADD@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:TxADD@gwrra-tx.org)

### District Educator

Michael & Suzanne Elrod  
(832) 746-0643

[txED@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:txED@gwrra-tx.org)

### Asst District Educator

Collen Campbell  
(281) 839-0176

[AsstED@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:AsstED@gwrra-tx.org)

### District Treasurer/NEL

Pamela Meyer  
(281) 578-8371

[treasurer@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:treasurer@gwrra-tx.org)

### District Trainers

Lynn Heene

(512) 288-4152 or (512) 694-3064

[TxTrainer@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:TxTrainer@gwrra-tx.org)

### Member Enhancement Coordinator

Carolyn Barton  
(254) 578-3353

[pansy467@yahoo.com](mailto:pansy467@yahoo.com)

### Asst. Member Enhancement Coord.

Donna Holley  
(940) 231-4026

[asstmec@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:asstmec@gwrra-tx.org)

### Couple of the Year 2009

Don & Linda Holley  
(940) 390-0873

[TxCOY@gwrra.org](mailto:TxCOY@gwrra.org)

### Vendor Coordinators

Don & Linda Holley  
(940) 390-0873

[txvendor@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:txvendor@gwrra-tx.org)

### Webmaster

Mark Heene  
(512) 694-3063

[webmaster@gwrra-tx.org](mailto:webmaster@gwrra-tx.org)

Unless otherwise noted, all X2 rides leave from the Shell station at the corner of Highway 290 and Hwy 6 North. Departure times vary, so please check the X2 calendar at [www.TXX2.org](http://www.TXX2.org) for individual ride details.



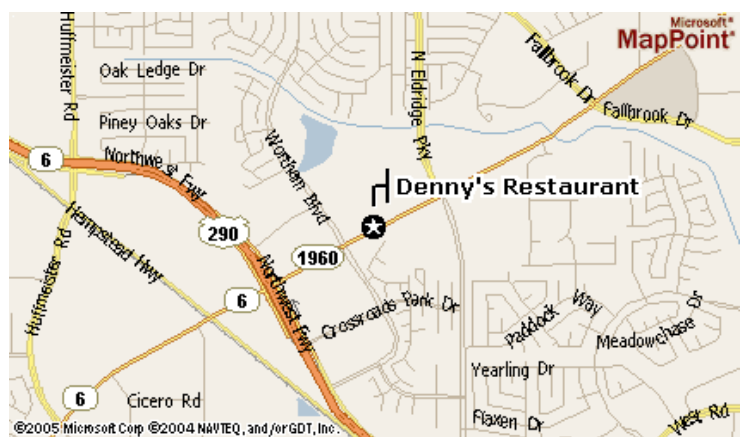
### X2 MEETING DETAILS:

2nd Thursday - 7:30 PM  
Chapter Mtg

4th Thursday - 7:00 PM  
Staff & Planning Mtg  
(Only if scheduled on calendar)

### Location:

Denny's Restaurant  
13031 FM 1960 West  
(281) 897-8050





# R.E.A.D.

## Extend Your Riding Season *(written by Bill Andrews)*

Old man winter lets loose a final blast to knock that last orange leaf to the ground. For some, it's time to roll the two-wheeled companion into a corner of the garage, throw the battery on a trickle charger, and hope for an early spring. For others, there is no end to the riding season, just a change in riding gear.

No, we're not talking about those who live in perpetual sunshine and warmth, but rather, folks who don't let cold weather deprive them of their favorite form of transportation. With a little knowledge and a few cold weather tricks, your riding season can be extended. Here are some strategies for dealing with the worst winter has to offer:

### Ice

Black ice — really just an ominous name for hard-to-see frozen water on the road — can occur any time the temperature has been near the freezing point, or where frost can form. Some touring bikes have an air-temperature thermometer, but adding one to any bike is a cheap fix.

Bridges are susceptible to icing because they are disconnected from the warmth of the earth and cool faster when air temperatures drop. Watch for spots on the road that are shaded from the sun. Well-traveled roads are often better, because passing traffic melts and dries the moisture. If you do feel like you're on an icy patch, don't make any sudden moves, and don't touch the brakes. Pull in the clutch and let the bike coast until you're clear.

### Hypothermia

That cold shiver up your spine isn't just uncomfortable. It could also be a warning. Hypothermia occurs when your core body temperature drops significantly, and it can be deadly. Temperatures don't need to be below freezing to induce hypothermia. Wind chill gets worse as wind speeds increase, and the longer you're out, the worse it gets.

One early sign of potential hypothermia occurs when you start feeling cold and you can't decide if you should pull over or not. The answer is always yes, but your judgment may be clouded. Long before this point occurs, you should have pulled into that nice warm cafe and had some hot chocolate or soup. Uncontrolled shivering and chattering teeth are signs of real danger. You may start to feel dizzy, or even drunk, as your muscles begin to stiffen. Continued exposure may cause the shivering to slow down or even stop, but by then you're in serious trouble.

### The well-dressed rider

How do you mitigate the dangers of cold weather? First of all, cover up.

It all boils down to insulating your body. To do that, you need to layer. Synthetics work better for your inner layer than cotton, which holds moisture against your skin. On top of that, wear fleece, wool, or other layers that provide insulation. The idea is to let your body create a warm pocket of air between you and the environment.



*Greg Decker  
Chapter Educator  
Master Tour Rider  
#4349*

*Continued on Page 5*



**Texas Chapter X-2**  
**11th Annual Birthday Party**  
**March 20, 2010**

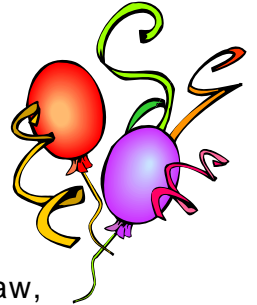
**Why?** To celebrate our 11<sup>th</sup> birthday with all our Gold Wing friends and family!  
And ... to have a great meal and enjoy some camaraderie.

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Place:** Bear Creek Park, Pavilion #6 – Houston, TX  
I-10 to Hwy 6, north on Hwy 6 to Clay Rd, tum right  
Hwy 290 to Hwy 6, south on Hwy 6 to Clay Rd., turn left

**Activities:** Great food, raffles, 50/50 drawings, Silent Auction, Poker Draw,  
Bike Show, AND ... THE BEST BBQ IN TOWN!

**Registration:** \$13.00 per person early registration - \$15.00 per person at the rally!



**Rider's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GWRRRA #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Co-Rider's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GWRRRA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **GWRRRA Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

*I/we agree to hold harmless (at no fault) Texas Chapter X-2, the GWRRRA, any advertiser, any vendor, any participant, or any property owner for any loss or injury to myself or my property to which I/we may become involved by reason of participation at this event.*

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**David & Gail Nuñez, Chapter Directors - TX-X2**  
**15806 Pebble Creek Trail, Cypress, TX 77433**  
**PH: (281) 213-3223**  
**Email: [ChapterDirector@txx2.com](mailto:ChapterDirector@txx2.com) [www.TXX2.org](http://www.TXX2.org)**

## Extend Your Riding Season (cont.)

Finally, you need to stop the environment from stealing your warm air. Your outer layer needs to block the wind. Leather works; denim, for example, doesn't. These days, we also have a broad array of choices in nylon gear made specifically for motorcycling that provides versatile weather protection with vents, removable liners, waterproof membranes, adjustable fit, etc. If you choose outerwear that isn't waterproof, such as a leather jacket, be sure to carry a rain suit that fits over it. Getting wet robs you of your insulation. Whichever outer layer you choose, remember that it should provide crash protection, too. Buy gear made for motorcycling, not the fashion show.

Hands can be particularly vulnerable to the cold. Gauntlet-style gloves will help you seal the gap between gloves and jacket. Gloves with a breathable, waterproof liner will keep rain out while allowing moisture from perspiration to escape.

It may be obvious, but a full-face helmet will keep you warmer than no helmet, or an open-face helmet. Sealing the area around your neck with a bandanna, or better yet a fleece or wind and waterproof neck warmer, can make a dramatic difference. A balaclava under the helmet provides a lot of additional comfort for minimal bulk.

### Going electric

No matter how well you dress, if you're on the road long enough, you'll lose more heat than your body can generate. Long riders resort to electrical assistance.

Heated clothing, which uses your bike's electrical system to power heating elements, makes a huge difference by not just insulating you, but adding heat to the whole equation. Gloves start around \$100. Vests, depending on the style, can go from \$100 to \$200. Socks can range from simple D-cell powered items that sell for around \$25, to \$90 systems that hook into the rest of your electric riding gear.



Make sure your charging system can handle the load. Find out the output of your charging system, add up the draw from all your electrical gear, and make sure you're not draining your battery. Also, leave a margin of error, because your bike's output may be measured at cruising rpms and it may produce considerably less electrical power at idle.



For many riders, a vest alone is enough. If you keep your torso warm, your body will focus on pumping warm blood to your extremities. If your torso gets cold, your body will abandon the extremities to try to keep the vital organs warm, and that's when you can suffer from dangerously numb hands or, possibly, frostbitten toes.

### Chemical options

Another option is a lightweight, disposable heat pack, which offers a different kind of protection. Imagine you're out for a ride on a nice fall day. You're so consumed with the changing leaves that you don't notice how far you've ridden. It's getting dark and cold — fast. A bit of quick heat can make all the difference. An outdoor gear store, or even one of the big-box retailers that sell recreational goods, will have chemical packs of the type hunters use. Be careful, because some can produce up to 150 degrees, so don't put them next to bare skin.

### Keep hydrated

One last thing to think about — that you might not think about: Drink lots of liquids. Dehydration may be foremost in your mind in the hot months, but you still lose moisture in winter. Cold, dry winter air can suck moisture out of you and you may not notice that you're perspiring.

## GOLD WING MAINTENANCE/ACCESSORIES INSTALLED

1. Accessories Installed - examples:
  - a. Tires mounted/balanced
  - b. Wheels chromed
  - c. GPS mounted/wired
  - d. Digital voltmeters installed
  - e. Extra lighting
  - f. Satellite Radio installed
  - g. Switches installed
  - h. Install Taper Bearings/Steering Stem/GL 1800  
(Front end wobble cured)
  
2. Maintenance performed - including but not limited to:
  - i. Engine oil and final drive oil changes
  - j. Brake and clutch fluids flushed and changed
  - k. Clutch fluid changes
  - l. Filter changes
  - m. Radiator coolant changes



*"You buy it - I can install it."*

Call Buck Huddle @  
281-655-0181  
Located in northwest Houston  
(Cypress)

---

---

## **TEXAS CYCLE CHROME**



### ***Wing and Cruiser Accessory Headquarters***

Chrome, Safety, Convenience and Maintenance items

**713-983-8700 or 866-983-8701**

17352 Northwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77040

10:00AM - 6:00PM Monday - Friday / 12:00PM - 5:00PM Saturday / Closed Sunday

**[www.texascyclechrome.com](http://www.texascyclechrome.com)**

Judy and I, as regular participating Chapter X-2 members, have been approached many times about subjects that may need to be addressed at our chapter meetings. Many times I have responded that the chapter meeting is not the appropriate forum for that kind of discussion. A chapter meeting is a means whereby attending GWRRA members have **FUN**. We grow along the way, while informing and trying to establish a basis for our very existence. The chapter meeting is the most important aspect of what we strive the hardest to accomplish; educating our members - teaching them in the areas of safety, skill, knowledge and the fun of GWRRA. If I, as a regular member, recognize and acknowledge these responsibilities to our chapter members, then I understand the importance and the difficulty of attaining our goals as represented in our motto, *"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge."* In paraphrasing an old adage, "You can take chapter members to water, but you can't make them drink", I understand, in a volunteer, hobby environment, the difficulty in even getting our members to the water, much less getting them to take a drink. I have found that the only way to get them involved (so we can provide the "water") is to provide a positive, fun, and worthwhile environment. We call this our chapter meeting.



Properly done, a chapter meeting is the perfect medium to carry out our prime responsibility to our chapter members. It provides them a place to come to have fun, enjoy friends, gain knowledge and revel in the camaraderie. It provides us the opportunity to "sugar coat" the pills of safety so we can teach our family the tools and skills that will enable them to live longer and to better enjoy their chosen hobby - motorcycling.

Consider the word "meeting." It can be a little misleading. "Meeting" sometimes implies business, minutes, politics, reports, no-fun, dryness, rigid structure, speeches and is capable of being boring. Obviously, this is not what a GWRRA chapter meeting should be.

Our immediate goal is to try and entice our members to come to a monthly activity with their adopted "family". And believe me, we are a very structured family. We do this by making our chapter meetings fun! We make it a relaxed, non-political, nonreligious, friendly place where there are No Strangers... Good food, interesting people and educational programs. This is not as difficult as it sounds, but it is very basic to accomplishing another of our missions: educate! If we can motivate our members to attend a chapter meeting, our job is half done. We must then ensure that the meeting is so good, so interesting, so entertaining, so rewarding and so much fun that they will return each and every month. They will also "talk it up" with their friends, thereby helping GWRRA receive the positive publicity that goes a long way in attracting new members into our "family".



**'Everyone here? Good. Meeting topic: Setting world record for shortest meeting. All in favor say aye. Ayes have it. Meeting over.'**

Good fun chapter meetings cannot be overemphasized...they are the backbone of a successful chapter. If you have not attended your chapter meeting recently, you have not done yourself or your family of Gold Wings a good turn. Come see that each time you miss a chapter meeting, you are missing a chance to be a part of your family and also the chance of having a real fun time. Come laugh, relax, and enjoy. You might even receive a warm handshake or a big hug.

Tired of making the same old New Year's resolutions ... I'm going to take better care of myself ... Eat right ... Exercise ... Blah, blah, blah. Here are some new resolutions you might consider.

- Just for today, I will not sit in my living room all day in my nightdress. Instead, I will move my computer into the bedroom.
- I will no longer waste my time reliving the past, instead I will spend it worrying about the future.
- I will not bore my boss by with the same excuse for taking leaves. I will think of some more excuses.
- I will do less laundry and use more deodorant.
- I will avoid taking a bath whenever possible and conserve more water.
- I will give up chocolate totally. 100%. Completely. Honestly....
- I will try to figure out why I *\*really\** need nine e-mail addresses.
- I will stop sending e-mails to my wife (husband).
- I will stop sending e-mail, ICQ, Instant Messages and be on the phone at the same time with the same person.
- I will spend less than one hour a day on the Internet. This, of course, will be hard to estimate since I'm not a clock watcher.
- I will read the manual... just as soon as I can find it.
- I will think of a password other than "password."
- I will not tell the same story at every get together.
- I won't worry so much.
- I will cut my hair.
- I will grow my hair.
- I will stop considering other people's feelings when they so obviously don't consider mine - if that unwashed fellow sits next to me again, I'll tell him he stinks!
- I will be more imaginative.
- Spend more time watching TV / movies.
- Chat more over phone / Internet.
- Read less.
- I want to gain weight. Put on at least 30 pounds.
- Stop exercising. Waste of time.
- Procrastinate more.
- Start being superstitious.
- Stop bringing lunch from home: I should eat out more.
- Take up a new habit: Maybe smoking!



By now most of you have probably read the article in Wing World about the guy who wished his co-rider would ride with him more often. He gives a few pointers on how to keep your co-rider happy—all of which I'm sure you've heard before.

So I wanted to offer another take from this co-rider's view —from the back seat.

I can't think of any co-rider in our group who is taller than their partner, even with the advantage of the raised back seat. So, the view from the back seat is primarily ... the back of your head. (Actually worse—the back of a big, shiny helmet, much wider than your head.)

Unless we spend the whole riding leaning to one side or the other, that's pretty much our view. Of course we can look all around and enjoy the scenery, but we can't anticipate the bumps, turns, road hazards, etc. like you think we can. We just have to grin and bear what may lie ahead.

Now I'm sure most of you are just loving the thought of having that kind of control over us (admit it guys), but I'm trying to help you understand why you get smacked on the head if you take a turn at what feels to us like an excessive speed. We didn't see it coming. We're sitting back there taking in the countryside (or other—see below), and then WHAM! Holy smokes! Are we crashing???? No—he's just playing in the turns. Whew! But that scares us enough to lean out and watch over your shoulder for a while until you reach a straighter road. After we feel comfortable again, we start taking in the view (or other—see below), and just when we start to enjoy it .... WHAM! Here we go again. (You get the picture—and again—I'm sure you're loving it.)

But let's say we're on a relatively straight road and the ride is calm. The view from the back seat is still primarily the back of your head. When riding on new roads, it's nice to look around and see what's out there. But when going to places we've been a couple dozen times, don't get upset if we decide to snooze, read, text, listen to our own music, etc. Think about it as watching the 2007 Super Bowl game over and over and over. Sure, there are exciting moments you want to see again, but otherwise ... been there, done that.

Bottom line, if you want us to enjoy riding with you, let us enjoy it our way. Don't ask us to calm down if we're scared because believe me, we truly wish it were that easy. (Playing with your GPS while driving doesn't help the situation.) Don't ask us to point out the road kill for you, because we can't even see it until we pass it, unless it's one of those times we're leaning out and looking over your shoulder. And don't tell it isn't that cold out. We're getting a LOT more wind than you are.

We want to enjoy the ride—we really do. We enjoy being with you and all our friends, and getting out of the house. But it's just not the same for us as it is for you. After all, how often do you get excited about going shopping with us ... hmmm?

# HONDAOFHOUSTON.COM



 **HONDA**  
PERFORMANCE FIRST™

  
**HONDA**  
POWERHOUSES

**GREAT PRICES ON TIRES  
AND TIRE INSTALLATION**  
Service on Saturday  
(Tune-ups & Tires)

**ATTN: GWRRA MEMBERS**  
**10% Discount\* on All  
Parts & Accessories**

\*with membership card / excludes sale items

Hours:  
Monday-Friday 9AM - 7 PM  
Saturday 9AM - 6 PM  
Service Opens: 8 AM M-F / 9AM Sat

**Honda of Houston**  
**281-506-1388**  
12655 West Road @ Hwy 290  
Houston, TX 77041



[hondaOfHouston.com](http://hondaOfHouston.com)



# January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 27	28	29	30	31	January 01 9:30 A Polar Bear Ride	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09 8:00 A Mid Winter Round Up
10	11	12 7:30 P Monthly Chapter Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 9:00 A Ride to Southern Flyer Diner	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 7:00 P GPS Class	29 7:00 P Rockwell Tavern & Grill	30
31 9:00 A Mystery Ride	February 01	02	03	04	05 7:00 P Dinner and Dancing!	06 8:01 A Horizon TX-C

## BIRTHDAYS

1/07 - Pam Massey  
1/10 - Lynn Perrin  
1/21 - Gerard Doyle



## ANNIVERSARIES

No January anniversaries!





# February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 31	February 01	02	03	04	05	06
9:00 A Mystery Ride					7:00 P Dinner and Dancing!	8:01 A Horizon TX-C
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
8:01 A Horizon TX-C				7:30 P Monthly Chapter Meeting		
6:30 P Super Bowl Party!!						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
					7:00 P Game Night at the Deckers!	9:00 A Ride to Somerville Steakhouse
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	March 01	02	03	04	05	06
9:00 A Ride to Blessing Hotel						

## BIRTHDAYS

2/09—Glenna Lindner & Joe Wilson  
 2/13—Kurt Massey  
 2/28—DJ White



## ANNIVERSARIES

Zilch, nada, nothing!



# Houston Trikes and Trailers

Everett Hunt  
*Dealer*

**(281) 488-3686**

or Call Toll Free (877) 488-3686



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

16305 Hwy. 3

[sales@houstontrikesandtrailers.com](mailto:sales@houstontrikesandtrailers.com)

Webster, TX 77598

California Sidecar \* Escapade Trailers \* Champion Parts

## Bob Lunsford's Northwest Honda



Hours: 9 AM - 7 PM Tuesday - Wednesday & Friday  
9 AM - 9 PM Thursday 9AM - 5 PM Saturday

SERVICE

(281) 447-0316

SALES

(281) 447-3476

PARTS

(281) 447-6339

 **HONDA**  
*Come ride with us.*

10102 North Freeway (I-45) West Rd. Exit

# *We Sell Fun!*



**A Full Line Of**



**Honda Gold Wings  
and Accessories!**

**New Owners!**

**New Attitude!**



**Travel In Style With**



**Bushtec Trailers**

**2901 Spencer Hwy.**

**[www.pasadenahonda.com](http://www.pasadenahonda.com)**

# **713-941-5920**