

# THE X2 FILES

GWRRR South Central Region H

Chapter X2

January 2002 Edition



## STRANGER OR HAS HE SEEN ME BEFORE?

Why do certain people crave the attention of strangers? Why do we care what that kid raking those leaves thinks of us as we motor by? Do we polish these wings to attract

attention, are we dressing to please ourselves, or is there a large part of what we do and the wardrobe that we choose based on the ability to please, or displease others or ourselves? Do you like to have people "look" at you? I don't mean having passersby just glance at you then turn away, I mean LOOK, as in stare. If you answered yes, did you ever wonder why?

I think everyone falls in a continuum somewhere between a reclusive hermit and an outgoing exotic dancer; and on any given day you might feel pulled more in one direction than the other. If you ride a Gold Wing, you probably have a bit of both of these attitudes.

"I don't care what anybody says about danger or risk, I live to ride and I'm getting on my wing every chance I get. I don't care who sees me or what they think." "I am just the coolest thing on two wheels! My Gold Wing is the greatest one on the road, and my total coolness makes me look even cooler!"

I know that this attitude can run the full gamut. Some days I like to polish my Wing till the paint gleams in the sunshine, strap on my helmet, jacket, and gloves and ride a short distance just to let the world know

I know that this attitude can run the full gamut. Some days I like to polish my wing till the paint gleams in the sunshine, strap on my helmet, jacket, and gloves and ride a short distance just to let the world know "LOOK OUT", here comes a cool winger. On other days, I'll just ride and leave some of that attitude at home.

That's when it hit me. Everyone is looking for a jolt. Everybody wants the stimulus of something new. The first ride on a new bike, that new car smell, the first cry of a newborn, many people are looking for those new experiences and to connect with others.

We live in the greatest country in the world. Here we are allowed to make our own unique lives. If that includes riding a Gold Wing motorcycle, then let's make it a point to enjoy the freedom we've been granted and enjoy it to the fullest.

About the "look" question, for me the answer lies somewhere between the jolt and the desire to connect. Go ahead and take that long look, go ahead and stare. Don't be afraid to stare back, or to just ignore the glares. It's a wild, wonderful world we live in.

Steve Mueller  
Chapter Director

- Page 1  
"Stranger or has he seen me before?"
- Page 2  
"Staff & Stuff"
- Page 3  
"Camaraderie Dehydration"
- Page 4  
"Dehydration (cont.)"
- Page 5  
"Chapter X2 Birthday Party Registration"
- Page 6  
"Rich's Ramblings"
- Page 7  
"Rich's Ramblings (Continued) Recipe of the Month"
- Page 8  
"January Calendar"
- Page 9  
"February Calendar"
- Page 10  
"Advertisements"
- Page 11-12  
"Advertisements"



# STAFF & STUFF

## Chapter Directors

Steve & Judy Mueller

Tel: 281 955-7220

Email: SteveMueller@houston.rr.com

## Asst. Chapter Director

Rich Bassi

Tel: 713 465-7188 - Email: rbassi@pdq.net

## Asst. Chapter Directors

Steve & Tory Rhoden

Tel: 281 351-8270 - Email: rhoden@wt.net

## Sr. Chapter Directors

Lloyd & Wanda Olinger

Tel: 281 894-1383 - Email: wlo2leo@flash.net

## Chapter Educators

Charles & Martha Lewis

Tel: 281 855-0038 - Email: clewis3368@aol.com

## Treasurer

Mike Gately

Tel: 713 667-2154

Email: michael\_a\_gately@reliantenergy.com

## Newsletter Editor

Tory Rhoden

Tel: 281 351-8270 - Email: rhoden@wt.net

## Webmaster

Steve Rhoden

Tel: 281 351-8270 - Email: webmaster@txx2.com

## Blood Bank Coordinators

Robert & Missy Lerma

Tel: 281 828-1571 - Email: lerma@aol.com

## Membership Coordinators

Bill & Marty Elliott

Tel: 281 463-8798 - Email: Bill.Elliott@howcogroup.com

## Technical Coordinators

Buck & Camille Huddle

Tel: 281 655-0181 - Email: buckskin@houston.rr.com

## In Remembrance

### Phoebe Smith

September 21, 1943 - December 31, 2001

As I sit here putting together the January newsletter, I have just learned of the passing of one of our own. Phoebe Smith lost her courageous battle with cancer on Dec. 31, 2001.

While Phoebe was not able to ride with our group due to her illness, her presence at monthly meetings and get-togethers was always a treat. She always had a smile on her face and a positive attitude that was infectious and never failed to brighten the room. I wish I had known her longer. Phoebe will be missed but always remembered as a very special person.

- Steve Rhoden -

## Remember

On all of our rides, we meet prior to departure at the Exxon Station located at the corner of Hwy 290 and Huffmiester.



#26717



#0106

## STEEL STEED INSTRUCTORS

Certified & Authorized Instructors

Jim Stanford C.E.T.

P. O. Box 105

Richmond, Texas 77406-0105

(281) 343-0331

MSF-TDPS/MSU Motorcycle Courses  
A.R.C. FIRST AID & CPR Courses

GWRRA MASTER INSTRUCTOR  
GWRRA SENIOR EDUCATOR

# ***Camaraderie***

**W**ell here I sit again with no interview for this months newsletter. Second month in a row your Membership Coordinator has fallen down. I guess I'll have to face the Steves. The new job has become more than I envisioned. When I am told a company needs help I had better take them at their word. Anyway I shouldn't be offering excuses just results. However, I have a few minutes, its lunch time, so I thought I would look back over the last year and what X2 has meant to me.

I have seen a group of good people become a group of great friends for me. The word camaraderie has taken on new meaning for me. X2 not only shares the joy of riding Gold Wings but we share the joy of giving. This seems to be inherent with GWRRA members around the world. You only have to read Wing World to see the most

giving group of people I have ever heard about, let alone be associated with. Chapter X2 participated in the Christmas for the foster children and I don't think there was a Gold Winger there that didn't want to take at least ten of those kids home. When I got home that night I began to feel what Christmas is really about. We have members who give their time unselfishly to help some of us not so mechanically inclined in motorcycle repair, safety equipment add ons, and advice. And we all know that the advice does not come with a warranty, but we love to give and receive it.

Why do I write this? During the last year I have experienced the true meaning of camaraderie. I want to thank X2 for this experience and look forward to 2002.

- Bill -

# ***Dehydration***

As the temperatures continue near the freezing range in the land of X2, we sometimes may forget that we still need to ensure that we drink plenty of water when riding.

Essentially, dehydration is loss of water and important blood salts like potassium (K+) and sodium (Na+). Vital organs like the kidneys, brain, and heart can't function without a certain minimum of water and salt. In underdeveloped countries, dehydration from diseases like cholera and dysentery kills millions every year (usually infants and children). Still, with severe vomiting or diarrhea and occasionally with excessive sweating, you can become dangerously dehydrated right here in Houston, Texas.

Below are some warning signs for dehydration.

## **Signs of Dehydration**

### **Mild:**

Thirst  
Dry lips  
Slightly dry mouth membranes

Continued on Page 4

## **Moderate**

Very dry mouth membranes

Sunken eyes

Sunken fontanelle (soft spot) on infant's head.

Skin doesn't bounce back quickly when lightly pinched and released.

## **Severe**

All signs of moderate dehydration

Rapid, weak pulse (more than 100 at rest).

Cold hands and feet

Rapid breathing

Blue lips

Confusion, lethargy, unable to execute maneuvers while on the motorcycle.

If you're **severely dehydrated**, you must get to a hospital right away. Intravenous fluids (IVs) will quickly reverse dehydration, and are often life-saving in young children and infants.

In teenagers and adults with **moderate dehydration**, careful home treatment can be safe, but phone contact with a physician is advisable. Children under 10 with moderate dehydration should see a physician first, though hospitalization usually isn't necessary.

**Mild dehydration** is safe to self-treat at all ages, as long as it doesn't worsen.

To treat dehydration, you must first address the cause: Fever, Vomiting, Diarrhea, and Heat Exhaustion are the most common reasons for dehydration. While you're treating the underlying problem, begin small amounts of oral re-hydrating solution (ORS).

Commercial ORS replaces important blood salts and water in balanced amounts designed especially for dehydration in sick people. They are formulated to allow your intestines to absorb maximum amounts of water along with small amounts of salts. Don't confuse ORS with sports drinks designed for concentrated energy and salt replacement in healthy, high-performance athletes. These drinks can actually aggravate vomiting and diarrhea and are so concentrated they can limit intestinal water absorption.

Once signs of dehydration have disappeared, ORS is no longer necessary, but a clear liquid diet might still be useful if vomiting or diarrhea persists.

**Kaoelectrolyte** (carbohydrate and electrolyte powder packets) is the product that most closely approximates World Health Organization and American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines on oral rehydrating solutions for children and adults. Because they come in small, easily transportable packets and dissolve in 8 oz. of water in seconds, they are more convenient than pre-mixed brands. They also come in several flavors. These packets can be found in the dietary sections of the grocery store or pharmacies.

But the best method of treatment is prevention. Make sure that you are hydrated enough (64 ounces of water per day is recommended) or have water available when riding not only on in hot days, but cold ones as well.

See ya'll on the next run...

Robert Lerma



# TEXAS CHAPTER X2

## Third Annual Birthday Party

### March 30, 2002

**Reason:** To celebrate our 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday with all our Gold Wing Friends and Family and to eat FOOD with everyone of them

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Place:** Bear Creek Park – Houston, Texas  
I-10 to Highway 6 (N) to Clay Road (R)  
290 to Highway 6 (S) to Clay Road (L)

**Activities:** FOOD  
Raffles  
50/50 Drawing  
Silent Auction  
Poker Run

**Registration Fee:**

**Advanced Registration (prior to Mar. 1, 2002):** \$12.00  
**After Mar. 1, 2002 and on site:** \$15.00

Riders Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
GWRRA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Riders Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
GWRRA #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
GWRRA Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we agree to hold harmless Texas Chapter X2, the GWRRA, or any advertiser or participant, and any property owner for any loss or injury to self or property to which I/we may become involved by reason of participation of this event.

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

## Rich's Ramblings

Happy New Year everyone. I hope your holidays were safe and enjoyable and Santa brought you everything you wanted. I seem to have had more Christmas spirit in '01 in spite of the stress and uncertainty of worrying about what the future may bring into our lives. It began with participating in the multi-chapter foster children's Christmas benefit at the beginning of December. It was very rewarding watching the children open their gifts and seeing their faces light up. There is something that awakens inside while watching a child's face illuminate with anticipation and then in surprise and finally in the excitement of the total involvement of imagination as they absorb the totality of their gift. That was the best present I got for Christmas. We had a lot of fun setting up the decorations.

Then there was the X2 Christmas party. Lots of good, good food. Lots of good conversation, good will and no shortage of good humor. The gift exchange was a lot of fun and laughs. It would have been difficult to leave that great party without having much more of the Christmas Spirit than that with which you arrived. Thanks to Steve and Judy and all the others who worked so hard to make it a success.

Next on the schedule was attending the Christmas presentation of the Houston Horizon Chorus, the group in which Tory Rhoden participates. It was awesome how close the harmony gets in that accapella group. There were also many quartets of national recognition that showed off their stuff. The concert ended leaving the audience hungry for more and going away humming their favorite Christmas carol.

Now we all face the prospect of a new year. What will it bring to each of us? Hopefully, it will bring prosperity, joy, good health and peace of mind. But we know that there will be new challenges for each of us as well. It is my prayer that each of us will rise to whatever challenges come our way with enough strength and courage to stay the course and overcome them. I get part of the strength I need to fight the trials of life from associating with

all the wonderful folks in X2. It's hard for me to believe that at this time last year I didn't know any of the members of X2 or that there even was an X2 chapter. I know of some of the trials through which some of the members of the chapter have gone and through which some are continuing to experience. Sometimes life can deal devastating blows. It can come in the form of health or finances or family or occupation. The Enron situation or the September 11<sup>th</sup> events are examples of such blows. But life goes on and it's times like those and in times of lesser challenges that it is good to have family and friends around. There is no such thing as having too many friends (unless, maybe, you win the lottery). Many of you in the chapter have strengthened me as I've seen how well you have met and dealt with some of your difficult challenges while at the same time giving me words of encouragement toward some of the dragons I have had to face.

This time of year (remember I'm writing this just prior to Christmas) always reminds me of deer and goose hunting. I used to hunt years ago and truly miss it, but I don't have the time it takes to enjoy it anymore. The hunting experience really wasn't about the kill or putting meat in the freezer. It was about being out in nature. While in the blind, watching your breath hang in the crisp cold air seeing the first rays of gold thread their way through the bare branches of the trees made for great memories. I enjoyed watching the various forms of wildlife go about their daily tasks of survival and admiring their beauty and grace. Listening and trying to identify the various sounds all around while waiting for that trophy buck to wander into view was therapy to my normally hurried life-style. I remember one time having this 10 point magnificent buck in my sights. He hadn't picked up my scent and I couldn't help but admire his stature and strength. As I began to squeeze the trigger for a fairly simple straightforward shot, my thoughts raced in nano-seconds about putting down the beauty of this creature. I just couldn't do it. I took my finger off the trigger and just watched through my scope while Bambi's dad strode across

Continued on page 7

## Rich's Ramblings (cont.)

the field. I never regretted letting him go. However, I did get my tag limit that day, but there was just something special to me about that buck. I have lots of neat hunting stories, but very few of them are about kill shots or dressing out the meat. Hunting was the excuse I used as a vehicle to get out into nature and enjoy the sights and sounds and smells of the wilderness and make some wonderful memories. What a rush.

To me having a Gold Wing is now the excuse I use as a vehicle (pun intended) to enjoy nature in the same way. The bonus is that the riding season is much longer than the hunting season. The quiet solitude element of hunting really can't be compared to riding down some highway at 70 mph. However, there does seem to be a sort of bonding between the rider/co-rider and the riding experience. Whether it's riding at 30 mph down some curvy, scenic, hilly back road through pastures of bluebonnets and paintbrushes that has the countryside smelling like White Shoulders perfume or it's riding through the majesty of the Rocky Mountains, it's tonic to the soul. What a great sport and what a great bunch of

folks with which to enjoy it and make some more of life's great memories. We never know how long we've got or what may lie around the next corner of life. So, I suggest we be determined to make as many great memories as we can while we can, whether helping each other through the rough times, rejoicing with each other in the good times or in riding the highway and byways of this great land. So, always ride safe; don't take life for granted, don't sweat the small stuff, appreciate your friendships and tell your family you love them every day and I'll see you at the January X2 chapter meeting.

- Rich Bassi -

---

### Recipe of the Month

New England Clam Chowder (This is really good when it's cold outside and you don't want to spend a lot of time cooking)

- 4 slices of bacon, chopped
- 3 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
- 1/4 cup chopped carrot
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1/4 cup finely chopped celery
- 1 (12 Oz) can Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 (6.5 oz) cans chopped or minced clams, undrained
- 1 cup 2% milk
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon worcestershire sauce

Cook bacon in saucepan until crisp; drain. Reserve 2 Tablespoons bacon fat. Return reserved bacon fat to saucepan. Add potatoes, carrot, onion and celery. Cook stirring frequently, until potatoes are tender. Combine evaporated milk and flour in small bowl until blended; add to potatoe mixture. Stir in clams with juice, milk, water, bacon and worcestershire sauce. Reduce heat to medium low; cook, stirring frequently, for 15 to 20 minutes until creamy and slightly thick. Season with salt and pepper.

- Judy Mueller -

# JANUARY 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year Polar Bear Run Leave @ 10:00 am from the Exxon	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Monthly Chapter Meeting @ Denny's on FM1960 W. @ 7:30 pm	11 Dinner @ the Oriental Village 13159 Northwest Fwy @ 7:00 pm	12
13 Breakfast @ Kelly's. Leave the Exxon @ 8:00 am	14  Suzanne Hinz Birthday Rich Bassi Birthday	15	16	17	18	19 Ride to the Bush Presidential Library. Leave the Exxon @ 10:00 am
20	21  John Albers Birthday	22	23	24	25  Walt Wykes Birthday	26 Early Dinner @ Los Cucos Mexican 22390 Tomball Parkway @ 4:00 pm
27 Breakfast @ Denny's. FM 1960 &Hwy 290 9:00 am	28	29	30	31  Archie Smith Birthday		

# FEBRUARY 2002

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Lunch ride to Somerville Steakhouse Leave the Exxon @ 10:00 am
3	4	5	6	7  Georgia McNaughton Birthday	8 Dinner @ Jason's Deli located on Hwy 6 just north of FM 529 @ 6:30 pm	9
10 Breakfast Ride to Kings Cafe Leave the Exxon @ 9:00 am Francine Cates Birthday	11	12	13 Monthly Chapter Meeting @ Denny's Located on FM1960 just N. of Hwy 290 @ 7:30 pm	14 Valentine's Day  Bob & Suzanne Hinz Anniversary	15	16 Ride to the Battleship Texas. Leave the Exxon @ 10:00 am
17	18	19	20	21	22 Dinner @ The Hill Restaurant in Waller. Leave the Exxon @ 6:30 pm or see you there @ 7:00 pm	23
24 Breakfast Ride to Neuman's Bakery in Bellville. Leave the Exxon @ 9:00 am	25	26	27	28		





