

Zoo Group Gazette

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 05

TEXAS CHAPTER Z

MAY, 2009

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Join Us at our next meetings:

06/01—Planning Meeting
06/10—Chapter Meeting



LOUISIANA DISTRICT RALLY TRIKE COURSE – April 17, 2009

Submitted By Fay Eger

Our instructors were Rodd Polk, Chapter LA-J Educator and Brian Berthelot, LA Asst. District Educator. Patrice Fogarty, Everett Hunt and I were eager to brush-up on our trike knowledge and riding expertise so we joined the group to learn as much as we could.

In the classroom portion, there was a lot of discussion about all the various types of trikes that are available today and some of the pro's and con's of each one. As Rodd indicated, it is up to the individual to decide which one they prefer to ride; and it was suggested that before you buy, make sure you have thoroughly researched each trike and talked to several owners in order to make an informed decision.

As to riding, it is ultimately up to the rider to ride within their limits and riding skills. Age (We don't really want to go there!), ability, experience, knowledge, skills and physical limitations all play an important part in how safely we ride. After reviewing the steering, braking and stability of a trike, we were ready to break for lunch (very important as we would need all the energy we could muster).

The group met at the practice range to enhance our skills and techniques. Boy, did Rodd and Brian put us through some fun and challenging practices. I liked the swerving practice the best! What fun! We

See Rally Continued on Page 5

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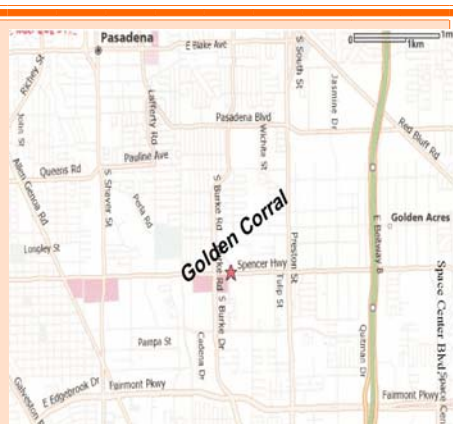
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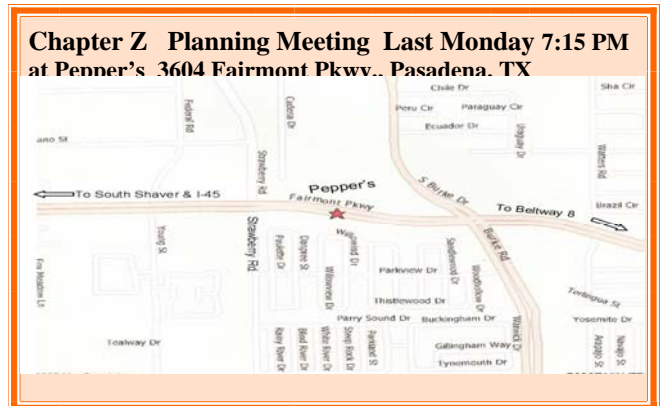
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Chapter Z Monthly Meeting

2nd Wednesday—7:30 PM
(Come early and eat with us)



Chapter Z Planning Meeting Last Monday 7:15 PM at Penner's 3604 Fairmont Pkwy.. Pasadena. TX

Unless otherwise stated, All rides depart from the southwest corner of the parking lot on Beltway 8 and Red Bluff behind the Exxon Station.

Director's Corner

Director's Corner

The Louisiana District Rally

(or Rose is a poop face)

Hello everyone. We just got back from Lafayette. Those Cajuns know how to have a good time! As always it was a great trip. We had some bad weather on Saturday, but they had some new classes to attend and the rain really didn't come in to play all that much. It's pretty much an all-inclusive event and it isn't necessary to leave the hotel at all once you get there until it's time to leave. The vendors are both inside and right out the back door. There weren't as many as some years, but I managed to spend some bucks on some new trunk and saddle bag lights (installed) and I was way not the big spender of the weekend, right Gregg?

One "big-hit" vendor of the weekend was the purse lady. There was a booth that had these "to die for" purses that Chapter Z ladies seemed unable to resist. I'm only sorry I couldn't personally find one with enough chrome and lights to match my bike. Maybe next year!

We had (our new tradition?) Popeye's Fried Chicken outside on the terrace one evening for dinner. This time Carrie went with me. We managed to get 39 pieces of chicken with 6 sides and 2 dozen rolls all in/on the bike and safely back to the hotel. There is still a faint smell of Nawlin's spice in my right saddle bag!

It's always great to get away and lose yourself in the company of friends and leave your worries behind.

What's the "poop face" thing all about? One day on the tennis courts where I teach, written in scrawled letters from a rock was the sentence "Rose is a poop face." It was funny, but when my (adult) Cardio Tennis class got there and saw it, everyone and everything (especially poor Rose whoever she was) became a poop face. I was telling our Z group the story on the ride over and before the weekend was over, everyone and everything was, as you might guess by now, a "poop face." It was a delightful bit of childishness of which I was happy to be a part. All in all it was a silly, fun, entertaining and educational weekend and I felt privileged to a part of it. If you didn't get to go this year, go ahead and make plans to join us next year. Many of us have already have made our reservations.

'Til next time, keep the shiny side up and smile ;-)
(don't be a poop face).

Ted and Carrie Geier Chapter Directors
Master Tour Riders #7127 & 7126





M.A.D. - Saving Lives Through Awareness Education

With May being the Motorist Awareness Division's ("MAD(s)") anniversary month, we thought we would give you some details about MAD, the goals and objectives, and just what this division can do for **YOU**.

While Rider Education trains and educates motorcycle riders, MAD focuses on educating the motorist community. The primary goal in motorist awareness is to reduce the number of motorcycle crashes, reduce injuries and reduce the loss of life.

The plan is simple... it focuses on a "Share the Road" campaign. There are three interrelated topics being used to get the word out to the motorist community:

Awareness Education - Providing motorists with first class, professional education through certified seminar presentations. Presentations have been developed for a huge number of audiences – providing them a better understanding of motorcyclists, the risks involved, a heightened awareness of motorcycle presence and what they, as motorists, can do in the prevention of crashes.

Awareness Advertisement - Serves as a reminder to motorists that they share the road with motorcycles. Reinforced reminder to the education aspect.

Public Relations - Interaction with the motoring public has the ability to reflect highly on GWRRA and to mold public opinion on how they view motorcyclists.

We feel it's very important to build a rapport with motorists. Just a friendly wave and smile will leave a motorist with the impression that we are real people who, in real life, could be their friend, neighbor, or even a relative.

Did you know that MAD has presentations specifically geared toward the motorist community? You can view them at <http://www.gwrro.org/regional/MAD/Seminars.html> (you have to scroll down towards the bottom of the page). Check them out and learn how you can help inform the public about sharing the road.

Most importantly, Chapter Z is very fortunate to have their first active MAD Coordinators – Bob Curtis and Debbie Hanlin. Bob and Debbie have been very proactive in bringing the MAD program to Chapter Z's participants and making us, as motorcycle riders, visible to the motorist community.

Bob and Debbie have already organized two MAD Public Relations activities, and currently they are working on Awareness Advertising by trying to obtain billboard advertising for our area. They would be more than happy to answer any questions you have about MAD and how you can help with communicating this important program and message to the motorist community. Their home phone number is (281) 838-8150.

Let's all work really hard to support our MAD Coordinators (the "Debs") and make 2009 a banner year for the Motorist Awareness Division. Remember, our work benefits the entire motorcycling community.

As always, we welcome and encourage your questions and comments. Please don't ever hesitate to contact us if we can be of help.

Ride safe, have fun and always take the long way home.

Gene and Carolyn Tice

ATGATT Master Tour Riders #5088 & #5089



Louisiana District Rally... the best one yet!!

By Bubba and Carolyn Tice

For us, each rally countdown begins as soon as one rally is finished... so, you can say we have started counting down the days until next year's Louisiana rally. You probably think I am just kidding... but it ain't so – I'm serious as a heart attack.

The real countdown starts about a month out because that's when we can start checking on the weather. We know it will change many times until the departure date arrives, but that doesn't deter us one bit. Every time there is a weather change, we are emailing each other noting the change and whether it's a "bad" one or a "good" one... when you give it some thought, it's pretty funny.

Okay, this year wasn't any different. And the weather just a few days prior to "lift off" was not good. We tried to put that in the back of our minds and figure out what all we would be taking and which route we would go. Everett had checked with the LA DOT and they told him that 82 was open all the way to Lafayette. That kind of sealed it for us... we intended to go the back way along the coast... after all, what is a ride if you don't have to fend off a few alligators and turtles... well... okay... turtles, anyway! But we did see a lot of alligators. So off we were... Everett, Fay, Bubba and me.

The ride along the coast was great and the roads were either in great shape or pretty good shape. There was some new paving and there were spots where there was road repair – either way it was pretty good. That is until we got about 30 miles outside of Lafayette. We were sailing along, minding our own business (but keeping an eye out for alligators and turtles on the road), when we went across a bridge... a terrible, terrible bridge... we all bottomed out and then had to stop so the guys could check the trikes. Fay lost a light and I had minor damage to my front fork seal. We vowed right then... we would come to almost a complete stop when approaching any other bridges. This strategy helped, but there were about 4 or 5 more bad bridges.



Our plan was to go to Avery Island, which we did and ended up having a police escort part of the way!! The tour was very informative and, of course, the girls enjoyed the country store. We had also taken sandwich fixings along with us and took advantage of the picnic area to eat and take a break. Then it was on to the Holidome, where we checked in, picked up our registration packages, said hello to a few of the friends we hadn't seen in a while and then we were off to eat at Fezzo's. No one could wait to take advantage of the Cajun food that is offered in the area. It had been a long day, so when we arrived back at the hotel, Bubba and I turned in.

Friday morning was an early morning as some were taking the trike course that began at 9:00am. That meant that we needed to have an early breakfast... Bubba and I arrived at the restaurant first and arranged seating for the group. Around 8:30am, we were through and all went our separate ways... some to the trike class, some to seminars/courses, and some to the vendors. The fun was just beginning...!!

I believe we can safely say that LA had an excellent assortment of seminars/courses/dress competition and since GWRRA adds new classes, there was something for everyone. (See the stats at the end of this article.) Chapter Z received a first place in casual shirts, a second place in knit shirts and Ted & Carrie received a first place in couples riding... in other words... we did GOOD and it was lots of fun.

Typically, Friday evening is the time of our well-known "parking lot party" and this year, the chapter treated everyone to Popeye's Chicken with the Fogarty's furnishing dessert. It was a great time with plenty of good eating.

Greg and Kris Johnstone were the big spenders this year. I'm sure the vendors will be keeping an eye out for them next year! The ladies learned about Miche Bags and loaded up on them. The guys seemed to have an affinity for the Cruiserworks boots... everybody seemed pretty happy with their purchases. In fact, I know that's true because we all kept going back to the vendors!

We had been watching the news about the bad rain/thunderstorms in the Houston area, and rain/thunderstorms were forecast for Lafayette too. But... they all occurred during the nights, so we were spared having to ride in any severe weather.

All too soon, it was time to return home. We left at 7:00am Sunday, stopped at IHop for breakfast and then we were on our way, arriving home around noon. There wasn't a lot of traffic on the ride home... a few 18-wheelers and I think twice the traffic was kind of stacked up, but we made our way through safely and once again, all arrived home safe and sound.

Bubba and I have been going to the LA District Rally since 2002. We've only missed one year (2007) when I was too sick to travel, even by car. That being said, we feel we are well-qualified to say that this year's rally was the best one yet!

Ride safe, have fun and always take the long way home.

Rally Continued From Page 1

also learned how to corner smoothly and brake properly. Of course, Rodd saved the best for last - - which turned out to be how to lift one of your back tires off the pavement and still maintain control of your trike. As this was an optional exercise, only those who wanted to participate actually tried their hand at it. Since Everett had been demoing all the exercises that day, it was only natural that he tried it first and was successful!! The main point Rodd was trying to emphasize was that it is very, very difficult to turn a trike over because of its triangle of stability. As long as the center mass (you) remains inside the triangle, the trike will remain stable. Also, the tire will always come back to the ground so traction can be maintained.

Most important thing to remember - Always ride within your limits and stop when you become tired.

The Darwin Awards for 2008 (Continued from April newsletter)

7. Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.

8. As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a positive ID. To which he replied, 'Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from.'

9. The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti , Michigan , at 5 A.M., flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The man, frustrated, walked away.

10. When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had.

Remember... They walk among us!!!



District Coming Events				
Date	Chapter	Event	Location	Contact/E-Mail
May 14-16, 2009	★	Texas District Rally	Amarillo, TX	
May 21, 2009	★	Arkansas District Rally	Mt. Memories III, Rogers AR.	www.argwrra.org
June 13, 2009	L2	Annual Blueberry Festival	Nacogdoches, TX	
July 2-5, 2009	★	Wing Ding 31	Expo Square Fairgrounds, Tulsa, OK	www.gwrra.org
Aug. 28, 2009	★	Kansas District Rally	Abilene, KS	
Sept. 12, 2009		Chapter R 12th Annual Rally		
Oct. 3, 2009	T	T-fest Rally	Killeen, TX	www.centexwings.org/rally
Oct. 12, 2009	W	Colorado River Rally	Smithville Riverbend Pk. Pavilion	
Oct. 17, 2009	U	U-Rally		Steve Ochs
Oct. 18, 2009	M2	M-2 Rally	Montgomery Comm. Ctr Montgomery, TX	

This information is provided for the convenience of Chapter Z members. Information is obtained from the Texas District web page and various sources. No warrantee is made with respect to the accuracy of any information on this page or any other page in this newsletter, and the staff of Chapter Z shall not be liable if any information is incorrect. You are advised to verify the accuracy of this information prior to attending any listed event. This information contained herein is subject to change without notice.

Louisiana District Rally		Rally Attendance:		
Chapter Z Participation Stats		Approx. 850		
Group 1 - Steamboat Bill's Route		Group 2 - LA Coast Route		
Ted & Carrie Geier		Everett Hunt & Fay Eger		
Pat & Joyce McTigue		Gene & Carolyn Tice		
Greg & Kris Johnstone				
Ken & Peggy Paul				
Mike & Patrice Fogarty				
Course/Event/Seminar		# of Chapter Z Participants		
Light Parade		14		
GPS Seminar		6		
Trike Course (classroom & range)		3		
Managing Change in Chapters		6		
Chapter Stress Management		6		
Chapter Problem Solving (i.e. How to Eat an Elephant)		4		
Riding in the Heat		4		
Trailerling (Classroom)		4		
MEC Seminar		2		
Best Dressed Competition:				
- Knit shirts		9		
- Casual shirts		4		
- Couples riding		2		

The "Zoo" Store

Chapter Caps \$10

Chapter Polo Shirts \$25

Chapter T-Shirt \$10

Chapter Long-Sleeve T-Shirt \$25

Zoo Group Orange Jacket w/Reflective Stripe \$35

Contact Pat & Joyce McTigue

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Wing Ding 31

...Cruising to the Pow-Wow

July 2-5, 2009
Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Expo Square Fairgrounds

TOURS & ACTIVITIES...



Master Hypnotist hosted and sponsored by



Come join all of your Wing Ding friends and enjoy an evening of laughter and exciting entertainment hosted by J&M Corporation July 3rd from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. The event will be FREE on the grounds of the Expo Square

All-You-Can-Eat BBQ Dinner! On Friday, July 3rd, from 6:00pm – 7:00pm, in conjunction with the entertainment hosted by J&M Corporation an indoor BBQ featuring pulled pork, smoked sausage and barbeque beef for just \$10.50 per person! (Seating is limited, while supplies last). The event will be held on the grounds of the Expo Square.

Wing Ding attendees will have the opportunity to visit Blue Bell for a guided tour during Wing Ding 31. In 1992, Blue Bell built its Broken Arrow facility, located southeast of Tulsa, Oklahoma. This guided tour offers a short video about Blue Bell and how they make their ice cream and a **FREE scoop of ice cream!**



The best ice cream in the country.

Register Today

www.wing-ding.org 800.843.9460 623.581.2500

The following is an article from Chapter U ...February 2009

Basic Truth ~ Teamwork

The next time you see geese heading south for the winter or north in the spring flying along in “V” formation, you might be interested in knowing what scientists have discovered about why they fly that way. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a “V” formation the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

BASIC TRUTH

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another. Whenever a goose falls out of formation it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly on its own and quickly returns to the formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

BASIC TRUTH

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed in the same way we are. When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

BASIC TRUTH

It pays to take turns doing hard jobs – with people or with flying geese. The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

BASIC TRUTH

We need to be careful what we say when we honk from behind.

FINALLY

When a goose gets sick, or is wounded by gunshot and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow it down to help protect him or her. They stay until the goose is either able to fly or until it has died, and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their group.

FINAL TRUTH

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other, protect one another, and sometimes make new friends who seem to be going in our direction. **May we have the sense of geese!**
This sounds like what we have learned in our Leadership Training Seminars and at Horizons.

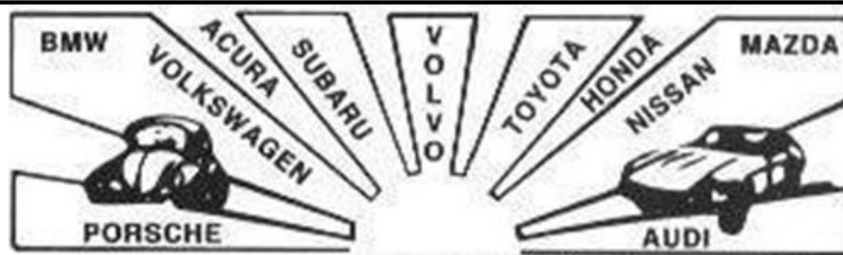
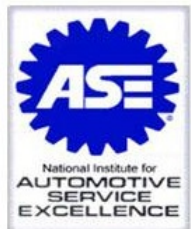
Lynn & Mark Heene
District Trainers
Master Tour Riders
7183 & 7184



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Pat & Jan Elzey



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MAY 2009

Chapter Z GWRRA

Pasadena, Texas

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>Have BREAKFAST with the ZOO GROUP ...Every Sunday morning at Frank's Grill 3807 Spencer Hwy in Pasadena 8:00AM</p> <p>Please check individual dates for possible changes in the location of our Breakfast meeting</p>					1	2 Open House at the McTigue's in Onalaska-KSU 9AM Z's J.O.
3 M.A.D. Bike Show at tourist Cntr TX/LA KSU 8AM-Kroger Pk lot -146 & Fairmont Pkwy	4	5	6	7	8	Full Moon Dinner Ride to the SPOT in Galveston JO -South 5:PM Kroger I-45 and FM 517 in
10 Breakfast at Joe's in Alvin 1400 E. Hwy 6	11	12	13 Z's Monthly Meeting 7:30PM Golden Corral	14	15	16
Mother's Day				Texas District Rally in Amarillo		
17 Breakfast Ride to Sunshine Bakery in Galveston KSU 7:30A S JO I-45 & FM517	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Arkansas District Rally		
24	25 Z's Planning Meeting <u>RESET to June 1st</u>	26	27	28	29	30 Lunch Ride to Mel's Country Café Z's JO 8AM
31						

June 2009

Chapter Z GWRRA

Pasadena, Texas

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 Chapter Z Planning Meeting 7:15PM at Pepper's on Fairmont	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Chapter Z Monthly Mtg. 7:30 Golden Corral on Spencer	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Chapter Z Planning Mtg. 7:15P at Pepper's on Fairmont	30	<p>Have BREAKFAST with the ZOO GROUP ...Every Sunday morning at Frank's Grill 3807 Spencer Hwy in Pasadena 8:00AM</p> <p>Please check individual dates for possible changes in the location of our Breakfast meeting</p>			

GWRRA Texas Chapter Z
Meets the 2nd
Wednesday of each month at
Golden Corral
4021 Spencer Hwy.
7:30 pm

Z's Jump Off:
All rides depart from the
parking lot on the
southwest corner of
Beltway 8 @ Red Bluff
behind the Exxon station

Z's SOUTH Jump Off:
Kroger on I-45 @ FM 517 in
Dickinson

Z's MID Jump Off:
AMC Gulf Pointe Parking Lot
I-45 & Beltway 8

Chapter Z meets every
Sunday for breakfast at
Frank's Grill
3807 Spencer Hwy. 8:00AM
**CHECK CALENDAR FOR CHANGES IN
LOCATION**

Reminder

This is your newsletter, please feel free to write an article about a ride, a rally or other pertinent matter and submit it for publication on or before the next planning meeting.

Ya'll come back!

Zoo Group Celebrations



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

MAY

04—Patrice Fogarty
09—Jan Elzey
10—Susan Pierce
11—Bob Curtis
13—Barbara Edwards

*Happy
Anniversary*

MAY

26—David & Petie Lebanowski

Find your Number!

Each month there will be a GWRRA member number embedded somewhere within the newsletter. It could be yours. There will be a prize waiting for you at the next meeting if you find your number. Good Luck!



**WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ZOOGROUP.ORG**

And the first Pig said



This is a true story, proving how fascinating the mind of a six year old is.. They think so logically.

A teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class. She Came to the part of the story where first pig was trying to gather the building Materials for his home. She read . 'and so the pig went up to the man with the Wheelbarrow full of straw and said: 'Pardon me sir, but may I have some of that Straw to build my house?'

The teacher paused then asked the class: 'And what do you think the man said?'

One little boy raised his hand and said very matter-of-factly ...'I think the Man would have said - 'Well, I'll be d...ed!! A talking pig!'

The teacher had to leave the room.

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**A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother? He answered, "Call for backup."**

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A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'Honor thy father and thy mother,' she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'



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