

Zoo Group Gazette

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 11

TEXAS CHAPTER Z

NOVEMBER, 2009

What's Inside this month?

Birthdays & Anniversaries	11
Calendars	9-10
Director's Corner	3
District Events	5
M.E.C. October Participation Report	5
Our Road Trip	1
Rider Education –Your Co-Rider	4

Our Road Trip

Submitted by Mary Miller

It was August 28th 2009, bright and early Friday morning as we left on our trip to explore places we had never seen before. What we thought would be just a couple of week's long trip; in fact turned into a month long wonderful experience we will never forget!

With the temperatures topping the charts well into the 90's we headed west in hopes to cool down a little. Traveling a total of 403 miles the first day we made it to Sonora, TX, only to rest at minimum and head out early Saturday morning. We made it to Carlsbad, New Mexico that evening and rested our heads in Roswell, NM. Traveling some 523 miles the next day; which would conclude the longest stretch traveled the whole trip. We arrived in Parker, CO., exhausted to say the least, but we achieved our goal to cool off, and ended up staying there 2 nights with some friends we had met on a prior trip!

Well rested we continued on North bound. Our mission was to meet up with our daughter and her boyfriend which were flying into Salt Lake City, UT., renting a car and driving to Jackson, WY. Mission successful, we all met up that Wednesday evening. Billy and I were actually ahead of schedule, making it there 3 hours before they arrived! We stayed there 2 nights and had a wonderful time. I actually went white water rafting with my daughter and her boyfriend;

Join Us at our next meetings:

11/30—Planning Meeting
12/09—Chapter Meeting
12/28— Planning Meeting



See Road...Continued On Page 8

Texas Chapter Z Officers and Staff

www.zoogroup.org

Chapter Directors

Ted & Carrie Geier
713-473-5693
cgeier1@sbcglobal.net

Asst. Chapter Directors

Vern & Phyllis Hall
281-334-1217
vfhall@comcast.net

Asst. Chapter Directors

Lonnie & Deanna Hebert
281-331-1348
lhebert@earthlink.net

Asst. Chapter Directors

Joe & Denise Hile
713-857-9511
gczshark@yahoo.com

Chapter Educators

Gene & Carolyn Tice
281-471-9544
bubba@ticetrikes.com

Treasurer

Fay Eger & Everett Hunt
(409) 925-5672
egerfn@earthlink.net

Communications Coordinator

Mike & Patrice Fogarty
281-337-4015
pfogarty@missouricitytx.gov

Membership Enhancement Coordinator

Ken Robins
713-944-7501
membership@zoogroup.org

Ride Coordinator

Mike & Patrice Fogarty
281-337-4015
pfogarty@missouricitytx.gov

Motorist Awareness Division

Bob Curtis & Debbie Hanlin
281-838-8150
eaglequest55@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Butch & Bobbie Haines
281-476-0138
bobbie.haines@earthlink.net

Merchandising Coordinator

Pat & Joyce McTigue
281-481-3078
pmctigue@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster

Gene & Carolyn Tice
281-471-9544
red-trike@att.net

Technical Coordinator

Lonnie Hebert
281-331-1348
lhebert@earthlink.net

Couple of the Year 2009

Butch & Bobbie Haines
281-476-0138
bobbie.haines@earthlink.net

Texas District Staff

www.gwrri-tx.org

District Director

Ken & Barbie Peterson
817-791-6685
TexasDD@gwrri-tx.org

Asst. District Director

Fred & Mandy Mew
972-425-3077
TexasADD@gwrri-tx.org

District Educators

Michael & Suzanne Elrod
281-987-3302
TxED@gwrri-tx.org

Asst. District Educator

Collen Campbell
713-907-8700 cell
AsstED@gwrri-tx.org

Treasurer, Newsletter Editor & Patch Diva

Pamela Meyer
281-578-8371 home
713-823-4053 cell
treasurer@gwrri-tx.org

Membership Enhancement Division-Activities Coordinator

Carolyn Barton
254-578-3353 home
903-879-4188 cell
txmedac@gwrri-tx.org

District Webmaster

Mark Heene
512-288-4152 home
512-694-3064 cell
webmaster@gwrri-tx.org

Membership Enhancement Division-COY Coordinators

John & Lena Bryant
817-741-5216
txmedcoy@gwrri-tx.org

Asst. Membership Enhancement Division

Donna Holley
940-231-4026 cell
asstmec@gwrri-tx.org

District Trainers

Lynn Heene
512-288-4152 home
512-694-3064 cell
TxTrainer@gwrri-tx.org

Vendor Coordinators

Jim & Ruby Seale
903-856-5153 home
903-767-1022 cell
TxVendor@gwrri-tx.org

Membership enhancement Division—COY Coordinators

John & Lena Bryant
817-741-5216 home
817-791-8918 cell
txmedcoy@gwrri-tx.org

Texas District Couple of the Year 2009

Don & Linda Holley
940-390-0873
TxCOY@gwrri-tx.org

Chapter Z Monthly Meeting
(Second Wednesday of the month)

Meets at the Golden Corral 4021 Spencer in Pasadena at 7:30PM

Come early and eat with us

Chapter Z Planning Meeting
(Last Monday of the month)

Meets at 7:15 PM at Pepper's Grill located at 3604 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX

Unless otherwise stated, ALL RIDES depart from the southwest corner of the Summit Parking lot on Beltway 8 and Red Bluff behind the Exxon Station

Director's Corner

Director's Corner

3rd Annual Golf Tournament: We ALL had a Ball

At this writing we have just concluded the famous (?) Chapter Z Annual Golf Tournament. You may have heard about it on ESPN,..... but perhaps not. At any rate we had 18 participants and hit and lost and found a bunch of balls. Some balls went long and straight, some hit trees and came back “return to sender!” What mostly happened was that we all had a lot of fun. I won't report all the winners and losers and such. I'm hoping someone will write a more detailed article on that later.

I would really like to thank our own Mike and Patrice Fogarty for making our golf tournament the success it has become. They bought all the prizes and rigged (I mean set up) all the teams and also made it possible for us to use the Chaparral Country Club to conduct our event. Thanks guys. Y'all rock!

In our chapter we try to ride as much as we can, but we also do some non-riding activities. I would like to encourage everyone to try to participate in both. You don't have to engage in the activity. You can have fun just by just being there. Trash-talking and light hearted making fun of each other is half the fun. Our most recent favorite activity has been Wii Bowling. It's a great low stress good time. We bring some food, we bowl, we get stupid and have a great time. Last time out we had 2 lanes going at one time! Incidentally, I totally suck at Wii Bowling and I promise I have as much fun as anyone. Please come out and enjoy the camaraderie of your “Z” family, whether it's on 2 wheels or 2 cheeks (butt cheeks that is).

That's all for now, lots of riding coming up in the very near future and Carrie and I look forward to riding with each and every one of you.

See you on the road.

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





Your Co-Rider – One-half of the riding team...

We just love it when someone insinuates that the passenger on the back of a motorcycle doesn't have to do anything, or that no skill level is required when riding as a co-rider. That's when WE just love it because we have to straighten them out and let them know that a co-rider can and should be just as important as the rider. A co-rider who doesn't actively participate in the safe riding of a motorcycle is putting both the rider and themselves in danger, and besides that, they are missing out on a lot of fun.



There are actually three components to safe motorcycle riding when you have a passenger... there's the **operator** preparation, then there's the **motorcycle** preparation, and last, but not least, there's the **passenger** preparation. Let's go over each of those components...

Operator preparation -

Passengers should be considered as a second "active" rider so they can help ensure that safety and procedural operations are correctly followed.

A passenger will affect the handling characteristics of a motorcycle due to the extra weight and independent motion.

A passenger tends to move forward in quick stops and may "bump" your helmet with theirs.

Starting from a stop may require more throttle and clutch finesse.

Braking procedures may be affected. Braking sooner and/or with greater pressure may be required.

More weight over the rear tire may increase the usefulness and stopping power of the rear brake, especially in quick stop situations.

Riding on a downgrade will cause braking distance to increase.

Extra caution is called for in a corner because of the extra weight.

Cornering clearances may be affected.

More time and space will be needed for passing.

The effects of wind, especially side wind, may be more pronounced.

Motorcycle preparation –

1. The motorcycle must be designed to accommodate a passenger.
2. The motorcycle owner's manual should be reviewed for manufacturer's tips about motorcycle setup as well as any related operational recommendations.
3. The motorcycle's suspension and tire pressure may need adjustment.
4. Care should be taken to not exceed the weight limitations specified in the owner's manual.

Passenger preparation –

1. Passengers should be tall enough to reach the footrests and mature enough to handle the responsibilities.
2. Passengers should wear proper protective gear.

Passengers should receive a safety briefing (see #7 below).

Passengers should consider themselves a second operator and share responsibility for safety.

General Safety Considerations –

1. Riders need to be experienced in the motorcycle's operation and have a safety-oriented attitude before taking on the added responsibility of carrying a passenger.
2. Practice low-speed clutch/throttle control as well as normal and emergency braking in a low-risk area like an open parking lot, **with** a passenger.
3. Use caution in cornering and develop cornering skills over time to ensure passenger comfort and safety.
4. Use caution in corners as clearance may be affected.

The "Zee" Store

Chapter Caps \$10

Chapter T-Shirt \$10

Chapter Polo Shirts \$ 25

Chapter Long-Sleeve T-Shirt \$25

Zoo Group Orange Jacket w/Reflective Stripe \$35

Contact Pat & Joyce McTigue

Houston Trikes and Trailers

Everett Hunt
Dealer

[281] 488-3686

or Call Toll Free (877) 488-3686



www.houstontrikesandtrailers.com

16305 Hwy. 3

sales@houstontrikesandtrailers.com

Webster, TX 77598

California Sidecar * Escapade Trailers * Champion Parts

CO-Rider... Continued From Page 4

5. Use the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Search, Evaluate, Execute strategy ("SEE" (see the Rider Education article in the September 2009 issue of Chapter Z's newsletter)) to increase time and space safety margins.
 6. Allow time for a passenger to adjust to the sense of speed and the sensation of leaning; speeds should conservatively safe and reasonable until a passenger acclimates to the proper riding techniques.
 7. Ensure passengers follow safety procedures:
 - a. Complete personal protective gear is properly in use.
 - b. Hold operator's waist or hips, or motorcycle's passenger hand-holds provided.
 - c. Keep feet on footrests at all times, including while stopped.
 - d. Keep hands and feet away from hot or moving parts.
 - e. When in a corner, look over the operator's shoulder in the direction of the corner.
 - f. Avoid turning around or making sudden moves that might affect operation.
 - g. If crossing an obstacle, stand on the pegs with the knees slightly bent and allow the legs to absorb the shock upon impact.
 - h. Allow more time for passing.
 - i. Be ready to counter the effects of wind.
 - j. Avoid extreme speeds and dramatic lean angles.
 - k. Be ready for a passenger "bump" with their helmet when stopping quickly.
 - l. Start the motorcycle before the passenger mounts.
- Have the passenger mount after the motorcycle's stand is raised and the motorcycle is securely braced.

In addition to all of the above and to taking a Co-Riders' Course, we like to see co-riders complete a Basic Riders' Course. They are offered all around the Houston/Pasadena area. Once a co-rider has completed the course, they will definitely have a better understanding of how hard it is to handle a motorcycle safely while they are wiggling around on the back.

And, lastly, remember that FOUR eyes are *always* better than TWO!

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



BOB & THE BLONDE

Bob walked into a sports bar around 9:58 PM. He sat down next to a blonde at the bar and stared up at the TV. The 10 PM news was coming on... The news crew was covering the story of a man on the ledge of a large building preparing to jump.

The blonde looked at Bob and said, "Do you think he'll jump?"

Bob said, "You know, I bet he'll jump."

The blonde replied, "Well, I bet he won't."

Bob placed a \$20 bill on the bar and said, "You're on!"

Just as the blonde placed her money on the bar, the guy on the ledge did a swan dive off the building, falling to his death.

The blonde was very upset, but willingly handed her \$20 to Bob, saying, "Fair's fair. Here's your money."

Bob replied, "I can't take your money. I saw this earlier on the 5 PM news, and so I knew he would jump."

The blonde replied, "I did too, but didn't think he'd do it again."

Bob took the money...

while William stayed at the hotel to rest and to head west, taking *Highway 20 West* we enclean the bike. Jackson had so many wonderful dured the Cascade Mountains, Billy just kept entities to offer, from the beautiful scenery, lots right on going as we passed through Idaho, only of tourist, and excellent shops, we took advantage stopping to grab a bite to eat; and that night we of it all! From Jackson we decided to try out had made our way into yet another state, Kettle camping, and found it wasn't for us. However Falls, WA.! It was somewhere both of us had we did in fact camp for two nights with our never been before.

daughter and her boyfriend in Yellowstone National Park, after taking in the sites of Old Faithful and almost getting trampled on by the herds of Bison that roam the park, thankfully we made it safely to our camp site!

We departed that Sunday morning heading even further North and made it to Missoula, MT., where Billy decided to unload all our camping gear on a woman who gladly accepted, allowing us more room for the items we would pick up on our way! From Missoula we made it to West Glacier but not before stopping to see the Hungry Horse Dam. We managed some sleep that night, with the railroad tracks being only 200 yards away from us. We left bright and early the next morning on the Sun Road. We reached the top and we felt every bit of how cold and windy it was being on the bike, with the temperature only reaching a mere 34 degrees that day! As we made our way to see Many Glacier we didn't realize that the road would be so rough with some parts still left unpaved. Although the scenery was beautiful, it was a challenging ride. Staying in Kalispell, MT., that evening we were unsure whether or not we were going to start heading back home or make our way West. We decided

In Washington we were able to really enjoy ourselves, I was able to get some shopping done, we saw the Space Needle, and the Port of Washington! By this time the tires on the trailer were starting to wear thin and Billy wanted to start looking for some new ones, he found 1 that he needed in Seattle, Washington; it just so happened we needed 2. It wasn't until we were in Oregon that he ended up finding both the tires, at two separate locations that is! We were in Junction, City Oregon where we were fortunate enough to find a good soul to put them on for us.

Once we left the great state of Oregon with our new tires, we were on our way to California. We rode *Highway 101* right down the coast line, with the Pacific Ocean to my right and huge redwoods all around, I couldn't help but take as many pictures as my camera would allow. We stayed the night in Eureka, CA, awaking to a beautiful morning we headed toward San Francisco, we saw drive thru trees, wineries, and beautiful vineyards on our journey. We were able to make it to Mill Valley, California that night, right outside of San Francisco, such a neat place to see right on the Bay! We drove over the Golden Gate Bridge the next day, and were both

surprised to see there were mountains around it, so we decided to ride up to them to get a better look, but the fog was too heavy so we weren't able to. However, we were able to see some old Bunkers, from the Pearl Harbor Era, they were in place but never used.

Before leaving the Bay Area we had to stop at the infamous 'Fisherman's Wharf'! After leaving there we went through Yosemite National Park, sadly there was no lodging there making us back track for a place to stay that night. We found room in Buck Meadows CA. but not until 7:30 that evening. We rested well and headed back to the Park the next day. We saw the beautiful White Rock also some burnt forest, and an interesting lake with a beach! That night we were able to make it to Tenapo, NV. Stayed in a complete 'smoke pit' (Hotel/Casino), big mistake but somehow survived. We made it through Death Valley the next day temperature: 105⁰.

Finally making it to Las Vegas, where we stayed the night. It had really changed since the last time we had been there. From there we ended up going into Utah, just to say we had covered all 12 states; bringing us to St. George where we accidentally took the wrong road and had to back track and ended up staying the night in Kanab, UT. After that adventure we drove to the North rim of the Grand Canyon which was absolutely majestic. We drove hard to make it to Flagstaff, AR., that evening. I noticed there was a church in Dewey, so we detoured a little and were able to attend mass that Sunday, the first time the entire trip. We made it into to Phoenix that evening, and ended up staying up a couple nights.

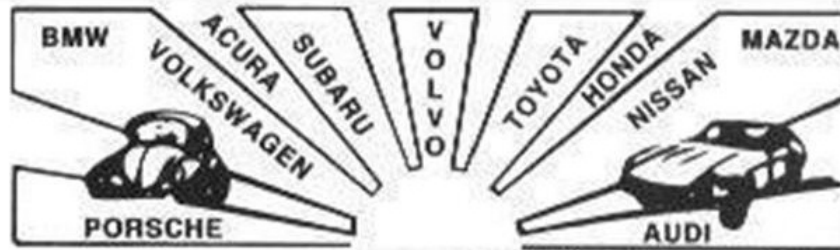
Making our way back on I-10 after leaving Phoenix; we stayed in Mesilla Park, NM with an old friend, and it was there we realized we needed new tires for the bike. It was Billy's Brother that found us some new tires in St. Teresa, NM. We took off from there with our new tires, and stayed in Marfa, TX hoping to see the famous Marfa Lights but it was too cloudy, it even rained a little on us. The next day was wonderful though, we were able to see the clouds over the West Texas Mountains, what a sight that was. By now we are on Highway 90, and passed by Judge Roy Bean's place in Langtry, TX, where we met some Gold-Wing riders from the Clear Lake area while we were there.

Our last night on the road was in San Antonio Texas, where we stayed with my niece and her 5 kids! It was nice to be with family once again. She even went for a ride on Billy's bike!

Exactly 4 weeks to the day (September, 25 2009) we arrived home, safe and sound. With 7,858 miles under us. We were both glad to be back.

The Millers

Billy and Rita



Operating Hours:
Monday - Friday
7:30am - 5:30pm

Hunt's Foreign Automotive, Inc.

16305 Highway 3
Webster, Texas 77598
(281)488-3686

Some services available:

- Towing available
- Appointments available
- Professional service
- ASE certified technicians
- Same day service in most cases
- Same location for over 23 years
- Performs factory recommended services/ routine maintenance
- VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover, Checks, Cash



Located in Clear Lake on Hwy 3 between El Dorado and Bay Area Blvd.

Don't hesitate to contact us for an appointment or with questions...

281-488-3686 or elhunt47@earthlink.net



Pat & Jan Elzey



LET US INSURE YOUR HOME AND VEHICLE

LOCAL AGENT

Motorcycle / Classic Car Insurance

Boat / ATV / RV Insurance

"Our Policies Come with an Agent"

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| ♦ auto / home discounts | ♦ air bag discounts |
| ♦ multi-policy discounts | ♦ health insurance |
| ♦ new home discounts | ♦ classic car |
| ♦ burglar alarm discounts | ♦ business insurance |

Hartford / Safeco / Travelers / Foremost
Progressive / Blue Cross / Chubb

281 / 998 - 2500

www.TexanInsurance.com



NOVEMBER 2009

Chapter Z GWRRA

Pasadena, Texas

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<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 our website for possible changes in the location of our Breakfast meeting and any updates. www.zoogroup.org</p>						
<p>1 Meet at 8:AM at Joe's in Alvin for Breakfast — Then Ride to Lone Star Rally in Galveston</p>	2	3	4	5	6	<p>7 Sealy Bike Escort— KSU @7 AM North J.O.  Live Oaks & Dead Folks Meet 5:30PM at Schobel's in Columbus</p>
8	9	10	<p>11 Z's Monthly Mtg. 7:30PM at the Golden Corral ion Spencer</p>	12	13	<p>14 Mel's Country Café in Tomball KSU @10 AM North J O</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	<p>21 Dinner & Movie at Star Cinema & Grill in Webster DTBA</p>
<p>22 Meet at 8:00 AM at Joe's in Alvin for Breakfast</p>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	<p>30 Z Planning Mtg. 7:15 PM at Peppr's on Fairmont</p>					

DECEMBER 2009

Chapter Z GWRRA

Pasadena, Texas

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>Have BREAKFAST with the ZOO GROUP ...Every Sunday morning at Frank's Grill 3807 Spencer Hwy in Pasadena 8:00AM</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Night Parade S. Houston Fire Dept. DTBA</p>
<p>6 Breakfast at Spanish Flower JO TBD</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Z Monthly Mtg. at 7:30 PM at Golden Corral on Spencer</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Yankee Tavern Ride KSU 8:30 AM North JO</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Z Holiday Party 6:00PM—Pepper's on Fairmont</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28 Z Planning Mtg 7:15 PM at Pepper's on Fairmont</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p>	<p>Please check our website for possible changes in the location of our Breakfast meeting . 042798 www.zoogroup.org</p>	

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

Z's (North) 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

NOVEMBER

- 06—Lonnie Hebert
- 14—Kathy McKeever
- 20—Judy Thompson
- 27—Greg Johnstone
- 27—Jerry Larsen
- 30—Gerald Yoakum
- 30—Carrie Geier
- 30—Fay Eger

Happy Anniversary

NOVEMBER

- 18—Ron & Reatha Martin
- 20—Ken & Connie Robbins
- 22 = Pat & Jan Elzey
- 29—Alan & Jennifer Woodall

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!





2901 Spencer Hwy.

www.PasadenaHonda.com

713-941-5920

We Sell Fun!



*Now...even more accessories
to Bling your Wing!*



Pasadena Honda is
proud to be a
Ride for Kids Guardian Dealer.

