

Next Gathering is: 18 May



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION
 Friends for Fun, Safety & Knowledge
Texas Chapter "U"
www.texaschapteru.org



Friends for FUN - SAFETY- KNOWLEDGE

From the CDs

**Duke & Chela
Thompson**

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Chela and I were accompanied to our last Chapter meeting by our 20 year old granddaughter. On our way home I asked her how she liked being dragged to meetings of older people, we have been doing this to her since she was two.

Her answer, "They are a fun group!"

And she was right, Chapter U is a fun group. Why are we? The answer is simple, "We are dreamers."

Lanston Hughes said, "Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly."

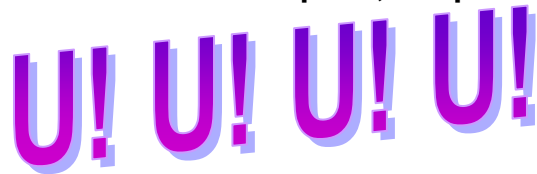
We have dreams and we are bold enough to live them. This is the key to success and happiness. as Hamilton Wright Mabie writes, "The question for each man to settle is not what he would do if he had means, time, influence and educational advantages; the question is what he will do with the things he has. The moment a man ceases to dream or to bemoan his lack of opportunities and resolutely looks his conditions in the face, and resolves to change them, he

lays the corner-stone of a solid and honorable success."

We have chosen freedom and adventure, living our lives with gusto. We are a fun group and we will continue to be a fun group. Ride on Chapter U.

Don't forget our next "Chapter Gathering" is Wednesday, 16 March!!

Duke and Chela Thompson, Chapter "U" CDs



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Ride Meeting Location

Unless otherwise specified, all Saturday rides depart from Yamaha of San Antonio, (YOSA), 15564 I-35 N between Evans Rd and Olympia Parkway. Check the website at www.texaschapteru.org for ride information.

Friday Night Rides

Meet at your favorite place to eat, all are pre-destined rides that are scheduled every other Friday of the month. So be sure to let Jack and Linda know where you would like to see the Chapter meet up for a Friday night dinner ride!

Chap "U" Gatherings

3rd Wednesday of each month at the La Cabana Restaurant, just outside of Cibolo, TX; 170 Buffalo Pl, Cibolo, TX. 78108. We "Meet-to-Eat" at 6:00 with "Information Sharing" beginning at 7:00 pm. Hope to see "U" there! Next Chapter Gathering is 18 May 11.



You know that May 8th is Mother's Day. So just for the fun of it, we thought we'd refresh everyone's memory about some things our mothers taught us. We'd bet that the following "helpful" tips (and probably more) were given to all of us at one time or another:

1. My mother taught me **RELIGION**—"You better pray that this will come out of my carpet."
2. My mother taught me about **STAMINA**—"You'll sit there until everything on your plate is gone."
3. My mother taught me about **RECEIVING**—"You're going to get it when we get home!"
4. My mother taught me **FORESIGHT**—"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
5. My mother taught me about the science of **OSMOSIS**—"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
6. My mother taught me **TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE**—"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."

7. My mother taught me about **TIME TRAVEL**—"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
8. My mother taught me about **BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION**—"Stop acting like your father!"
9. My mother taught me about **WEATHER**—"This room looks like a tornado went through it."
10. My mother taught me **HUMOR**—"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
11. My mother taught me about **CONTORTIONISM**—"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
12. My mother taught me about **HYPOCRISY**—"If I've told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
13. My mother taught me **MEDICAL SCIENCE**—"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they're going to get stuck that way."
14. My mother taught me about **ANTICIPATION**—"Just wait until we get home."
15. My mother taught me **GENETICS**—"You're just like your father."
16. My mother taught me **LOGIC**—"Because I said so, that's why."
17. My mother taught me **HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT**—"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."
18. My mother taught me about my **ROOTS**—"Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"
19. My mother taught me about **JUSTICE**—"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you."
20. My mother taught me to never ride a motorcycle—**BUT JUST LOOK AT US NOW!!!**

Have a Happy Mother's Day.

Ride Safe,

Ken & Connie Jordan, ACD's – TX Chapter U
(segments from the Bulverde Standard)



Rider Education

Brad & Jill Severe

txeducator@aol.com



Riding in the Rain

I know we have not had much rain this year but it will come back! Spring usually means more rain and sometimes the Texas weather changes and we get caught riding in it! Riding in the rain does not have to give you white knuckles. For those of you that ride in all weather, this will just be a refresher. Here are some tips to make your rain riding experience a little easier.

Since it doesn't rain all that often here, oil does not get washed off the roads like it does in other parts of the country. When it does rain here the first 30 minutes or so can be real slippery! If it is a light rain, it will continue to be slippery for much longer. It has been so bad at times, it is hard to keep your boots from slipping at a stop light! So what should you do? Best bet is just find a place to get a cup of coffee and after the rain stops, continue on. If you can't stop, ride slower and try and keep the bike straight up. No sudden acceleration or braking...just take it easy.

Traction is your biggest concern when riding in the rain. Anything that will cause you to lose traction



must be avoided. If you have to ride in the rain, test your traction. Ride at a moderate speed on a straight, level surface and feel how

much traction you have at the rear wheel by hitting the brakes. You are not trying to do a big skid but just trying to see how much traction you actually have. Keep off that front brake and apply the rear for just a short time. Once the oil is off the road, you may be surprised how much traction you really have!

If you think you will be riding in the rain, buy the right gear! A high quality rain suit such as Frogg Toggs works great. Those cheap ponchos just blow up in

your face or rip apart. The cheap plastic suits don't hold up much better. Waterproof boots and gloves are also a plus. A full face helmet or one with a face shield will also make it easier to see. Here in Texas, it can also be very hot when it rains, and encapsulating yourself can make you feel like you are in a steam bath!

Puddles can be a terror in the rain. Not only can you lose traction and hydroplane, but that puddle may conceal a pothole or debris! It only takes one pothole to ruin your day! Avoid puddles whenever possible!!

Many things on the road are not a problem when dry but add a little rain and they can be downright treacherous! All of those nice painted crosswalk markings can be very slick. Slow down and if one is in your turn, stay upright and don't lean. Same goes for those big metal sheets used in road construction. Construction areas are bad enough with holes, gravel, cracks, etc, but in the rain it can be a total mess. Slow way down! There are also lots of metal hazards out there. Those great cattle guards are fun in dry weather but watch them in the rain, especially those in a curve (Edge Falls Road!) Other hazards include manhole covers, rail road tracks, and metal bridges. Once again keep the bike fully upright and no braking or acceleration!

Safety in the underpass? Maybe not! Many of the overpasses slope down and in a heavy rain there can be huge puddles. There can also be a variety of hazards such a tire parts and debris of all sizes. You are also not very visible off the road, and someone could hit you and your bike. If you have to get off the road and get in the underpass, get off and away from you bike.

Not all paving surfaces are the same. Some apartment complexes and shopping center surfaces have a different texture than the roads and can be very slick. Think about the surface you are getting onto when getting off the road!

Ride behind the rear wheels of the car in front of you. Give yourself a safe distance of course. Hopefully all that watery sludge on the road will be thrown to the side and will make your ride a bit easier.

In motorcycling we do many things at one time without much thought. We downshift while coming to a turn (two things), shifting weight while turning and accelerating (three things), etc. When it rains, it is best to do just one thing at a time. That way there is less tension on the tires and hopefully more traction.

With a little practice you can get used to riding in the rain. Not that any of us really want to but it is nice to know that we can do it if we have to. You will develop a feel for how you bike handles and will know if you are slipping or not and when to adjust. What is the key if you have to ride in the rain? **Ride straight up and slow!!!**



Ride Safe & Have Fun!
Brad & Jill Severe
TX-U Educators

step on him. There was no blood and he was conscious so this means he had a clear airway and a heartbeat. What to do next? He was obviously in pain and very vocal about it so all I could do was try to calm him by talking in a normal tone and give him both of my hands to squeeze when he felt the need. The passenger in my truck summoned 911 as I left my seat so it wasn't long before he had professional help.

The reason I bring this up is twofold. Your first instinct is panic when you see a fellow man in danger, but Skip did a great job of explaining how important it is to keep your cool. Next is how fast these accidents happen. I saw him coming at me and in the time I looked right and back he was in trouble. We often wonder what we would do if we were in his shoes and I can attest to the fact that there is nothing you can do but be prepared by wearing all of your protective gear. This man had it all on and he didn't get any road rash. I'm sure his left leg was broken from the impact of the car but other than being late for a meeting with his fiancé and the broken leg he was very fortunate. Please stay alert and never assume the other guy is going to do what you expect.

Hope to see you on our next ride.

Archie and Sharon Haley
Chapter U Community Service

<p><i>Community Service Corner</i></p> <p>Archie & Sharon Haley</p> <p>archie3@gmail.com</p>	
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April is gone and May is upon us. This means vacations are coming soon. Speaking of vacations, Sharon and myself will be joining Steve and Donna and Court and Diane to the Smoky mountains leaving on 7 May. Can't wait.

I know this is not a community service letter and I shared it with everyone at our last gathering, so for the benefit of those who were not in attendance I'd like to share this with you.

In the many first aid and CPR classes I have attended it is said that most civilians will only witness one accident that you can use your learned skills on.

About three weeks ago I was setting at the northwest corner of Pat Booker and 78 getting ready to enter Pat Booker. As I was rolling to merge onto Pat Booker I noticed a motorcycle coming my way off of Randolph so I slowed to yield the right of way. I looked right and then glanced back to my left just in time to see a car turn into the motorcycle who was doing about 30 MPH. It is not a pretty site seeing a 240 pound man flying through the air. I still see it in slow motion. He landed just outside my drivers door. When I opened the door I had to be careful not to





Saturday, 7 May - Coastal Ride to Fulton/Rockport. Departure from YOSA promptly at 8:00AM. Lunch at Big Fisherman Restaurant in Rockport with Austin St shopping if time permits, and a DQ stop on return trip.

SPECIAL NOTE: 12-14 May 11 - GWRRA Texas District Convention. Convention will be held In Killeen, Texas at the Convention Center, next door to the Shilo Inn. For more information on registration and hotels, go to http://www.gwrra-tx.org/11Convention/Rally_Flyer.pdf. **Let's Go!!!**

Saturday, 14 May - 6th Annual Ride 4 Troops. Meet at Gruene Harley Davidson. Registration from 8:00-9:30, registration fee is \$25. Ride to Luckenbach and release there. This charity ride is for the Fisher houses in San Antonio. **For more information and Registration Form [Click here](#).**

Saturday, 21 May - Uvalde Day Ride, Depart from I-35 Kent Power Sports (YOSA) at 9:00 AM. Tour of Aviation Museum at Garner Field and lunch in the area, ride home with DQ stop.

Saturday, 28 May - Motorcycle Show **(In Support Of Candy and Charlie Brown)** at Sonterra Health Center. Depart from Kent Power Sports at 9:30 AM. Get your bikes spruced up for the show. Bike show will have prizes and refreshments will be served. More info will follow.

Thanks to Maria Delaughter for helping us put together our Chapter "U" rides!!!

Folks it's time to start riding again. On designated nights we will meet at Pickrell Park Pavilion and ride to our "Eat" location. Of course everyone's always welcome to just meet us at the restaurant. We look forward to seeing all of you on the 2nd & 4th Friday of each month. As always, arrival time at the restaurant is 6:30PM. See you there!!!

Friday, 6 May - Meet "N" Eat will be at **Blakes** located at **9216 FM 78 McQuenny TX**. This will be a "Meet & Ride". Meet at **Pickrell Park Pavilion, Schertz, TX** at 6:00 PM for ride to McQuenny or meet at Blakes at 6:30 PM.

Friday, 20 May - Meet "N" Eat will be at **Mama's Cafe** located at **7929 Pat Booker Rd, Live Oak, TX**. This will be a "Meet & Ride". Meet at **Pickrell Park Pavilion, Schertz, TX** at 6:15 PM for ride to **Mama's Cafe** or meet at the restaurant at 6:30 PM.





May

Harrel Scot	11th
Cindy Edmonds	13th
Floyd Deater	16th
Bill Johnson	21st
Linda Dowda	21st
Ako Mills	23rd
Brad Severe	29th

**If we don't have your birthday listed
please let us know!**



May

Steve & Sue Ochs 28th

**If we don't have your anniversary
listed, please let us know!**



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