

LONE STAR



*One of
these stars
belongs to me.
I'll do what I must to keep it Free!*

WARRIOR



News Of The
TEXAS MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

The Lone Star Warrior is the state publication of the Texas Motorcycle Rights Association (TMRA2).
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Texas Motorcycle Rights Association
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DISCLAIMER

The Lone Star Warrior is the official publication of TMRA2 and accepts no responsibility for the comments or opinions contained in this publication.

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EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

You are encouraged to submit TMRA2 related events, letters, stories, articles, incident, discrimination, or harassment reports, poems, comments, humor, etc.

All items become the property of TMRA2. Please do not submit slanderous or accusing letters or profanity.

LONE STAR WARRIOR MATERIAL DEADLINE

The submission deadline for all material intended for publication in the Lone Star Warrior is the **11th** of each month.

Send Warrior material to:

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ADVERTISING RATES

Full page: \$50 issue/\$500 year

Half page: \$30 issue/\$300 year

Business card:

\$10 issue/\$100 year

TMRA2 and/or the Lone Star Warrior will not accept any advertising that discriminates against any type of motorcyclist.

Printed "camera ready" ads: full payment for all future Warrior issues must accompany the ad when submitted to the Publisher.

E-mail attachment ads: full payment for all future Warrior issues must be received by the Publisher before publication.

Non-TMRA2 event flyers are subject to the Warrior's advertising rates and space availability.

Event flyers will be published free if the organizer specifies in the ad:

that at least \$1.00 per paid admission will be donated to TMRA2

and/or

anyone who becomes a paid member of TMRA2 at the event receives free or reduced cost admission.

Advertising copy, contracts, and the advertisement order are subject to the Publisher's acceptance. Publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertisement that does not conform to the editorial or graphic standards of TMRA2. Every effort will be made to comply with ad placement requests; final ad position is at the discretion of the Publisher. Cancellations or changes are not accepted after submission date. Publisher is not responsible for ad copy errors.

LONE STAR WARRIOR AD DEADLINE

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Senator: Teel Bivins (R)

Senator's name in **bold** indicates TMRA2 member

CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

Revised: 03/22/04 14:00

1st Tuesday – Austin Minutemen, Austin

1st Tuesday – Big Spring, Big Spring

1st Wednesday – Panhandle, Amarillo

1st Wednesday – Bad Company, Granbury

1st Thursday – Plainview, Plainview

1st Thursday – San Angelo, San Angelo

2nd Sunday – Heart of Texas, Axtell

2nd Tuesday – Big Country, Abilene

2nd Tuesday – Tri-County, Stamford

2nd Wednesday – D/FW, Dallas

2nd Saturday – 1st Brazoria County, Angleton

3rd Sunday – North Central, Wichita Falls

3rd Wednesday – El Paso, El Paso

3rd Wednesday – Tarrant County, Fort Worth

3rd Thursday – Liberty Riders, Harker Heights

3rd Thursday – Permian Basin, Midland

3rd Saturday – Independence Riders, Jacksonville

4th Tuesday – Cowtown, Fort Worth

Last Thursday – Lubbock, Levelland

CHAPTER INFORMATION listed by city

Big Country chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 57, 302 S. 11th St., Abilene 79602, (915) 672-8348 Contact: Ron (915) 692-9389

Panhandle chapter meets the 1st Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. at Italian Delights Inc., 2710 W. 10th Ave., Amarillo 79102, (806) 372-5444 Contact: Cody (806) 376-4804

1st Brazoria County chapter meets the 2nd Saturday @ 10:30 a.m. at Smithhart's County Seat Grill, 2440 N. Velasco St., Angleton 77515, (979) 848-1320 Contact: Frank (979) 964-3480 or Roddy Mohler (979) 233-1439

Austin Minutemen chapter meets the 1st Tuesday @ 7:30 p.m. at Vinny's Ten-O-Three Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., Austin 78704, (512) 482-8484 Contact: Glenn (512) 247-7689 nelglaid@aol.com

Heart of Texas chapter meets the 2nd Sunday @ 1:00 p.m. at Jim's Cycle Shop, Highway 31, Axtell 76624, (254) 863-5460 Contact: Jim (254) 863-5460

Big Spring chapter meets the 1st Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. at La Posada Restaurant, 206 NW 4th St., Big Spring 79720, (915) 267-9112

Contact: The Blonde Bomber (432) 213-4421

D/FW chapter meets the 2nd Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m. at VFW Post 4477, 300 S. Smith St., Dallas 75211, (214) 339-5800

Contact: Elmer (214) 316-3405

El Paso chapter meets the 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. at Luby's Cafeteria, 1010 Chelsea St., El Paso 79903, (915) 772-1345 Contact: Jerry Kelly (915) 433-8955

Cowtown chapter meets the 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 569, 400 W. Felix St., Fort Worth 76115, (817) 924-0931 Contact: James Scott (817) 531-3820

Tarrant County chapter meets the 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. at American Legion Post 516, 6801 Manhattan Blvd., Fort Worth 76120, (817) 451-7222 Contact: Mike (817) 468-7328

Bad Company chapter meets the 1st Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. at Grumps Restaurant, 3503 E. Hwy 377, Granbury 76049, (817) 573-5000 Contact: "Popeye" Richter (817) 597-9364

Liberty Riders chapter meets the 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. at TBD, Harker Heights 76548 Contact: Grumpy (254) 518-6409 or (254) 681-1141

Independence Riders chapter meets the 3rd Saturday @ 12:00 noon at VFW Post 3984, Memorial Dr. & US69, Jacksonville 75766, (903) 586-1306 Contact: Tommy Wilson (903) 589-7888

Lubbock chapter meets the last Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. at Aces & Eights Club House, 5608 Cactus, Levelland 79336, (806) 885-1515 Contact: Sam Copeland slc1949@sbcglobal.net, or Kristen Phelps 806-470-9551 gkphelps@netzero.net

Permian Basin chapter meets the 3rd Thursday @ 7:30 p.m. at Warfield Restaurant, FM 1788 and I-20, Midland 79706, (915) 563-4900 Contact: Jan "Dumas" Walker 432-366-6432 itsdumas@grandecom.net or Ed (432) 689-6050

Plainview chapter meets @ 7:00 p.m. the 1st Thursday at Nu-Griddle Cafe, 401 W. 5th St., Plainview 79072, (806) 296-6733 Contact: "Blackheart" (806) 296-2991, or Ben (806) 762-5625

**San Angelo chapter meets @ 7:30 p.m. the 1st
Thursday at Pepe's Diner, 3618 W. FM2105, San
Angelo 76901, (325) 655-5511**

Contact: Broise (325) 657-9304 or Robert/Tonya (325)
655-4816

**Tri-County chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00
p.m. at Bulldog Machine, 211 S. McKinley, Stamford
79553, (325) 773 - 3056**

Contact: Larry or Susan (325) 773-5086

**North Central chapter meets the 3rd Sunday @ 2:00
p.m. at Deli Planet, 4016 Burkburnett Rd., Wichita
Falls 76306, (940) 855-1921**

Contact: Mary Beth Looney (940) 855-9125
dodymiteandbeefus@peoplepc.com

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Gerald R. "Garry" Brookman

Since Sputnik has legally changed his name, I have placed his former name on eBay for sale to the highest bidder. I'm sure there is a market for it among foreigners, identity thieves, terrorists, transvestites, fugitives, felons, etc. Minimum bid is \$1.00 with all proceeds being donated to TMRA2.

I have adopted a rescue Doberman named "Rusty" from Doberman Rescue North Texas (DRNT). He is a 90 lb., 1.5 year old "puppy" who is 30 in. at the shoulder.

Be sure to read "Street Stop Scenario" in this edition of the Warrior for information on your legal rights when a LEO stops you while in public or visit www.flexyourrights.org.

Future Warrior issues will contain the article "At Your Door". If you wish to no longer be intimidated by any LEO, obtain a Texas Concealed Handgun License (CHL).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO THE EDITOR:

Share the Road

The people with no emotional connection to motorcycles really DO NOT see us.

Several months ago, Sputnik posted a sign on the TMRA2 web site & told us all how a Mr. Cano, a motorcycle rider from the Panhandle, who had been hit by a motorist who did not see him, had finally gotten TxDOT to admit that bikers are at least as important as deer or ducks.

As it turns out, that's not quite true. Mr. Cano did get TxDOT to approve the use of the sign, and we all applaud him for this hard fought accomplishment. Unfortunately, TxDOT, not wanting to admit that bikers are human, and therefore, worth saving, added stricter conditions than a deer crossing or Amish wagon sign.

That's not great news, in fact, it's sucky news. However, after some diligent study, phone calls, conversations, etc., I have figured out what we have to do to get our "Share the Road" signs put up along the streets & roads of Texas.

Here's the TxDOT ground rules:

(Italicized wording comes from correspondences I have received from TxDOT officials)

"The motorcycle warning sign is associated with the national Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), but the sign is not installed on state-maintained roadways."

This means that the yellow diamond shape with the motorcycle rider profile in the middle is a nationally accepted and permitted traffic warning sign.

"Local jurisdictions may elect to use the motorcycle warning sign and the supplemental plaque, if it is justified for a high presence of motorcycles."

It's up to local jurisdictions - cities and counties - to utilize the "Share the Road" sign combination. TxDOT isn't going to put the signs up. And they are sure as hell not going to pay for them. We need to also focus on the phrase "justified for a high presence of motorcycles." With the exponential increase in motorcycle registrations throughout the state in the last few years, I believe that we have easily fulfilled this requirement.

"According to the Texas MUTCD, Section 2C.47 "Share The Road Plaque" (W16-1) is primarily used in "situations where there is a need to warn drivers to watch for other slower forms of transportation traveling along the highway, such as bicycles, golf carts, or farm machinery." It could be used when non-motorized, slower vehicles are present, such as in Amish communities."

Basically, they are saying that we don't qualify, however...

"Section 2C.39 states "A supplemental plaque may be displayed with a warning sign when engineering judgment indicates that road users require additional information beyond that contained in the main message of the warning sign. Supplemental plaques shall be used only in combination with warning or regulatory signs. They shall not be mounted alone or displayed alone."

"When engineering judgment indicates..." is our loophole. We must convince the traffic engineers in our hometowns that it is the best thing they could do for traffic safety in their jurisdiction.

"Placement, installation, and maintenance of all signs must conform to the Texas manual."

We don't have to know what size the signs are, or the exact placement along the roadway. We don't even have to know who makes the signs. Every City and County has this information or has access to it. Most cities have their own sign shop. If they don't, then they have a contract with a company that makes signs - and they know size, shape, color, post size, etc. If someone within the city government asks

you about the sign size, etc., just tell them to check the Texas MUTCD.

The other part of that statement (that isn't evident) is that the individual city is also responsible for the cost of the sign as well as the placement, installation and maintenance of the sign.

There's one last stipulation from TxDOT that you need to know about. If a city street is also a state highway, there's a gray area about whether or not a "Share the Road" sign can go up there. There is a funding/cost sharing formula that goes into effect on streets that are both a city/county thoroughfare and a state highway. We may or may not get signs on those streets. Each city will be different, and each district office of TxDOT will be different. If your city is willing to put up signs, the simplest thing for you to do, is let the city work it out with the district TxDOT office.

So, now that you know what we are allowed to do, let's look at what we need to do.

1. Study your hometown - where do you think signs would be most effective? Be prepared to justify your answer.

2. Gather statistics about your city: From your County Tax Assessor's office - You need to know how many registered motorcycles are in your county & if possible have the tax assessor's office break it down to how many in your city. Get the #'s for last year and the previous 2-5 years. (2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998)

From your local law enforcement agency - Ask for the statistics for motorcycle accidents that involved another vehicle per year from the last 3 years - # of vehicles, location of accident, cause of accident, injuries/death, ages of drivers

3. Add a national perspective to it: Get familiar with the National Agenda on Motorcycle Safety.

<http://www.ahainc.com/nams/>

It's a long, involved document. You don't need all of it; just download the introduction and section 4 "Social Factors." Get a copy of the HURT study synopsis (<http://www.magpie.com/nycmoto/hurt.html>) It lists the 55 main points of the study which show that most of the time, the person in the car really did not see us because they had no emotional connection to motorcycle riders - no family, friends, relatives who rode. The HURT study is very enlightening and effective.

NHTSA's statistics show that when motorcycles are involved in 2 vehicle accidents, 2/3rds of the time, it is the car driver's fault. <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>

If you don't have Internet access, go to your local library. Reference librarians really do enjoy helping people find stuff. If that isn't an option, contact me and I will send you a packet of info that will include the HURT, National Agenda and NHTSA information.

4. Now add the local economic impact: Why it's in the best interest of the city/county to protect motorcycle riders. Do you have local motorcycle shops that host events (high traffic area!)? Do you have big motorcycle events in or near your town? Do MC events bring added money to the city? If you live in a suburb or just outside a big city, mention that big city's events too. For example, ROT brings in thousands of motorcycle riders to Austin, but those riders also go riding through the hill country. Dripping Springs benefits, several other smaller towns benefit too. Each of you in that area can use the ROT info to support your reasons for these signs. So can every town along every road that leads to Austin.

Do local clubs & organizations help the local non-profits? If so, ask them for some #'s - how many bikes? How much money is raised for the local charity? If the charity sends a thank you to the club, see if they will allow you to include a copy of the letter in your information packet that you are preparing.

Don't freak on me, ok? I know I just gave you a lot to absorb. If you have a good relationship with other riders/clubs/organizations in your town, see if they would be willing to work together on this. If each person only has to gather one or two pieces of the information, it will be much easier & quicker to get it all.

Once you have your information, take a little time to get organized. Get a copy of the "Share the Road" Sign - available at www.tmra2.org/images/share.jpg. Get a map of your city and put a red dot everywhere there was a motorcycle related accident. Have the accident statistics organized and on top. Be prepared to give the engineer a copy of everything.

Now that you have your information organized, it's time to make an appointment with the city's traffic engineer. You're gonna have to make some phone calls, or some e-mails to find who you are looking for.

These traffic engineers are your friends, be glad to see them and happy that they allowed you to make an appointment to come talk to them. They are under appreciated, they get blamed for a lot of things that aren't their fault, and they are used to being defensive, so be nice, be understanding, be patient, be a safety advocate - traffic safety is important to them or they wouldn't be traffic engineers!

Tell the traffic engineer about the signs and why they are important to you. During that meeting, ask the engineer what

needs to be done to get some signs up. He may ask for additional statistics, he may want to know where you think signs need to go and why.

It's up to you to develop a partnership with the traffic engineer, don't intimidate him, don't patronize him, don't be defensive. DO help him understand why this is so important to the motorcycle community.

If the engineer is willing to pursue getting the signs up in your community, he will have to go through a few steps (bosses) to make it happen. There may or may not be more opportunities for you to meet with him, the city manager, or even go before the Planning & Zoning Commission or the City Council. Let the Traffic engineer know that you are willing to participate in the process.

You could skip the engineer & go to the city council with your request for signs, but guess what? They have to refer it to the traffic engineer to study its feasibility. Then the traffic engineer will come back to the Council in a later meeting with information. Instead of being partners, you become adversaries because you just gave him an extra assignment. So, in the case of our "Share the Road" signs, go to the traffic engineer first, and bring your statistics with you.

If you get the signs approved, but the city doesn't have the money to make and install them, find out what their full cost would be - including the post and installation. Maybe a local motorcycle shop would be willing to sponsor a sign, or your riding organization or club.

As of this writing, Bikers Against Negligent Driving (BAND) is researching several federal grants that would make it possible for us to purchase the signs for communities that don't have the financial ability to implement the signs. The BAND Board of Directors are committed to this program. We will help you in any way we can, but it's still going to be up to you to make "Share the Road" a priority in your town.

Next month, I'll tell you how to turn those signs into the perfect Public Relations tool that will help you promote motorist awareness AND make your city look good too!

Ride like you're invisible!

Rebecca Hollingshead
TigGirl@scootertramps.net
972-816-8475

Bikers Against Negligent Driving
<http://band4safety.homestead.com/>

TO THE EDITOR:

As a current member of TMRA2 I am writing this to let out some frustration with my area. That is the Galveston County area. A few years ago Sputnik got us all started in local government. I became a Precinct Judge and the Precinct Chairman of my area (Precinct 341). With the upcoming Primary next month I can't even get anyone to work as a clerk. I would just like to say that I am very disappointed with the bikers in my area. I will continue to do what I can as an individual and as a member of TMRA2. I am currently considering running for a city council position in the near future. Sputnik told me once that if you get one out of ten to participate you have done well. I think that we should look deeply at ourselves give up some personal time a get back involved in the cause.

Ray Weaver, Galveston County Area

Street Stop Scenario

In any given public police encounter, with a few notable exceptions, the below rules will help protect your civil rights and improve your chances of leaving safely—so you don't have to be a legal expert to say and do the right thing.

1) Keep Your Private Items Out of View

This is common sense: Always keep any private items that you don't want others to see out of sight. Legally speaking, police do not need a search warrant in order to confiscate any illegal items that are in plain view.

2) Be Courteous & Non-Confrontational

If you are stopped by a police officer, remain calm. Don't ever -- under any circumstances -- talk back or raise your voice to a police officer. You have nothing to gain -- and everything to lose -- by escalating the hostility level of the encounter.

Even if the officers are being belligerent it's always in your best interest to remain calm, courteous and non-confrontational.

3) Determine the Reason You Have Been Stopped

Police may initiate a conversation with any citizen for any reason, however they may not detain you without "reasonable suspicion" that you are engaged in criminal activity. Ask the officer: "**Why am I being stopped?**" If the officer does not indicate that you are suspected of a specific crime, then this is a casual stop and you should be allowed to terminate the encounter at any time.

If the officer indicates that you are suspected of criminal activity, you are being detained. At this stage, the officer is attempting to find evidence on which to establish probable cause necessary to arrest you. Steps #4, #5, and #6 become extremely important at this point.

4) Just Say "No" to Warrantless Searches

Warning: If a police officer asks your permission to search, you are under no obligation to consent. The only reason he's asking you is because he doesn't have enough evidence to search without your consent. If you consent to a search request you give up one of the most important constitutional rights you have—your Fourth Amendment protection against unreasonable searches and seizures.

A majority of avoidable police searches occur because citizens naively waive their Fourth Amendment rights by consenting to warrantless searches. As a general rule, if a

person consents to a warrantless search, the search automatically becomes reasonable and therefore legal. Consequently, whatever an officer finds during such a search can be used to convict the person.

Don't expect a police officer to tell you about your right not to consent. Police officers are not required by law to inform you of your rights before asking you to consent to a search. In addition, police officers are trained to use their authority to get people to consent to a search, and most people are predisposed to comply with any request a police officer makes. For example, the average motorist stopped by a police officer who asks them, "Would you mind if I search your vehicle, please?" will probably consent to the officer's search without realizing that they have every right to deny the officer's request.

If, for any reason you don't want the officer digging through your belongings, you should refuse to consent by saying something like, "**Officer, I do not consent to any searches of my private property.**" If the officer still proceeds to search you and finds illegal contraband, your attorney can argue that the contraband was discovered through an illegal search and hence should be thrown out of court.

You should never hesitate to assert your constitutional rights. Just say "no!"

5) Determine if You Can Leave

You have the right to terminate an encounter with a police officer unless you are being detained under police custody or have been arrested. The general rule is that you don't have to answer any questions that the police ask you. This rule comes from the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which protects you against self-incrimination. If you cannot tell if you are allowed to leave, say to the officer, "**Am I free to go now?**"

If the officer says "Yes," tell him to have a nice day, and leave immediately. If the officer's answer is ambiguous, or if he asks you another unrelated question, persist by asking "**Am I being detained, or can I go now?**". If the officer says "No," you are being detained, and you may be placed under arrest. If this is the case, reassert your rights as outlined above, and follow Rules #6 and #7.

6) Do Not Answer Questions without Your Attorney Present

There is no reason to worry that your failure to answer the officer's questions will later be used against you. The truth is just the opposite: Anything you say can, and probably will, be used against you.

In just about any case imaginable, a person is best off not answering any questions about his involvement in anything

illegal. Assert your Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights by saying these exact words:

“Officer, I have nothing to say until I speak with a lawyer.”

*Remember- If you do choose to answer any of the officer’s questions, always be honest. Police are not easily tricked and will often become hostile if they feel disrespected. If you feel it is best not to answer truthfully, then don’t say anything at all.

7) Do Not Physically Resist

If the police proceed to detain, search, or arrest you despite your wishes—do not physically resist. You may state clearly but non-confrontationally: **“Officer, I am not resisting arrest and I do not consent to any searches.”** Or you may assert your rights by simply saying nothing until you can speak with an attorney.

NEWSARTICLES

MRF Introduces Young Activist Scholarship Fund

Rider activists have recognized for some time that our membership and leaders are aging, and that there is a need to encourage younger people to become involved in motorcyclists' rights. To that end, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is pleased to announce that we have created a scholarship fund to recognize deserving candidates under the age of 31 who otherwise may not be able to attend the MRF's Meeting of the Minds conference.

The MRF has dedicated a limited amount of seed money to the scholarship fund to get things rolling. We are looking for additional contributions from individuals, national, state and local organizations and businesses that would like to participate in the program. You can visit the MRF website at ww.mrf.org/yascholarship.php to make an on-line donation to the MRF Young Activist Scholarship Fund. Checks made out to the MRF Young Activist Scholarship Fund can be sent to: MRF Young Activist Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1808, Washington, DC 20013.

Nominations for the MRF Young Activist Scholarship will be accepted from either state or local state motorcyclists' rights organization (SMRO) groups, and must be submitted on an MRF-approved application form. You can visit the MRF website at www.mrf.org/yascholarship.php for a printable form in either text or pdf format.

CANDIDATE CRITERIA:

- Nominated candidates must be thirty (30) years of age or younger on the first full day of that year's Meeting of the Minds.
- Candidates must be a member in good standing of an SMRO. No time requirement for length of membership in an SMRO is required.
- Candidates must be nominated by their SMRO. Nominations will be accepted from either state or local (district/chapter) SMRO groups, and must be submitted on an MRF-approved application form.
- Nominations must be submitted between March 15 and July 15 during the year in question.
- Candidates are encouraged - but not required - to submit a three hundred (300) word essay on why bikers' rights are important to them. Should nominated candidates choose to submit an essay, they must do so no later than August 1 of the year in question.
- Winning candidates will be announced via an MRF E-Mail News Release on or about August 15. All candidates will also received notification via the U.S.

Postal Service, regardless of whether they were selected or not.

WHAT DO WINNING CANDIDATES RECEIVE?

- One-year membership to the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, effective the first full day of the Meeting of the Minds during the year in question.
- Round-trip airfare to the MRF's Meeting of the Minds conference, or alternate travel expenses so long as those expenses in total do not exceed the cost of traveling by air. If an alternative mode of transportation is chosen, candidates will be required to provide receipts in order to be reimbursed (receipts will be accepted for tickets on other modes of transportation, hotel accommodations, gasoline and food purchased while traveling to and from the Meeting of the Minds conference). If there is any question about acceptable travel expenses, it is the responsibility of the candidate to check with the MRF prior to incurring said expenses.
- Hotel accommodations at the Meeting of the Minds conference. Accommodations will include the hotel room only. Telephone, food, movie rentals, etc. will be the sole responsibility of winning candidates.
- Meeting of the Minds conference registration and banquet fees waived.
- Special recognition at the MRF's Meeting of the Minds conference. Said recognition will include a plaque, presentation of one-year membership, and other items or activities as approved by the MRF Board of Directors. Questions about the MRF Young Activist Scholarship Fund should be directed to MRF Scholarship Committee Chair Miles France at miles@mrf.org.

THANKS FOR February, 2004

Permian Basin Chapter - \$100
George & Carolyn Tamplen - \$30
Tarrant County Chapter - \$100
West Texas Motorcyclist Chili Cookoff - \$370
Northwest Texas COC - \$1,500

CHAPTER REPORTS

Austin chapter minutes for February 3, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Glenn Dial at 7:35 p.m, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. We had 52 members attending.

Glenn introduced our guests, Sputnik and the new Democratic State Chair, Charles Schoecting (who joined TMRAII tonight). Sputnik gave a condensed version of the "5 Steps to Freedom" seminar (booklets are available). He said that there would be two more bikers in office this year if WE make it happen. The Primary is on March 9th. Country conventions will be held around April 27th (but check with your country headquarters). The State convention is in Houston this year and the dates are June 16-19.

Mr. Schoecting has promised that our resolutions will be brought to the floor this time and will not be sent to committee. He will look into streamlining the resolution committee's procedures so that everything can be heard. He said he would meet with Sputnik Thursday to discuss it. He said the Democratic Party is working toward a simplified government.

There is a new publication that will come out quarterly, a Texas Bikers Pocket Guide, (available in bike shops, etc.). It has TMRAII meeting info, membership applications, events, biker friendly bars, churches, etc.

Upcoming runs were discussed. Mike won the 50/50 and donated his share back. Austin Minutemen collected \$40. Thanks Mike. Our account has \$694.01. Steve adjourned the meeting at 8:35 with prayer. The next meeting will be March 2, 2004 at Vinny's.

Nanette Townsend

Big Country chapter minutes for February 10, 2004

Hello All from Abilene!

We meet every second Tuesday of the month with some exceptions, as in March we will meet the first Tuesday in lieu of because of the elections. We opened February's meeting at 7:18 with the pledge and a prayer by Larry

Looney of CMA, we once again had a mediocre turnout for our candidates night. We just don't know what more we can do to motivate people to take an interest in their own futures. You really can lead a horse to water, but you just can't make him drink. Anyway, we had Mr. Solis a candidate for county sheriff, Mr. Tomme and Mr. Wilson candidates for district 350 judge and of course the always diligent and available Mr. Bob Hunter of the state legislature, this folks were congenial and candid in their viewpoints and we enjoyed having them. After a short question and answer period, we had a short break and excused our candidates. We then briefly discussed our resolutions to be submitted by precinct chairmen, and the upcoming Abilene Gypsies' poker run to be held March 27, details to be available at the March meeting. Speaking of the Gypsies, thanks to Spooky who acted as the recorder for the meeting as our chapter secretary, Tammy, had to be away. After a little more political banter, chapter leader Rob Mason dismissed the meeting. Any local members reading this, please remember your monetary support is always welcome, however it would be nice if you attended meetings occasionally. Looking forward to any and all visitors at our next meeting, ride free, ride safe. Big Country chapter

Big Spring chapter minutes for February 3, 2004

Greg opened the meeting at 7pm with the pledge and prayer.

The minutes were read and approved for January.
The treasurers report \$213.62.

Greg discussed the upcoming elections.
There were 22 members present & 3 guest speakers.

One of our members Dick Dubose is running for County Commissioner in Precinct 3.

Willie Rangel was our first guest speaker he is running against Dale Walker for Howard County Sheriff. Dale Walker was our next guest speaker he is running for reelection for Howard County Sheriff. Phillip Bustamante was the other guest speaker he is running for Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 Place 1.

Roland Gore is running unopposed for Precinct Chair for Precinct 402 on the Democratic Party.

Smurf is running unopposed for Precinct Chair in Precinct 404. Mr Weaver was also at the meeting he is with the Concerned Citizens Group. He invited anyone that was interested in seeing what his group is all about to come to one of their meetings. The meetings are every 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7pm at the Howard County Library.

Greg went over the resolutions that TMRA II is working towards getting passed.

Greg made a motion to move the TMRA II meetings to the first Tuesday of each month in hopes of getting more

members to attend. Mary Dubose seconded the motion and it was called to a vote and passed.

Toni Reese one of the members hofferred to make a flag pole for TMRA II meetings and the restaurant agreed to let us leave the pole & flag there instead of transporting it back & forth.

Greg went over the dates for local elections and the convention dates for both parties.

Greg informed us that the traveling wall is supposed to be here 3-27-04 thru 4-2-04 and that volunteers were needed to stay the night at the sight of the wall to prevent any vandalism.

Upcoming events were discussed

2-13-04 to 2-15-04 St Valentines Day Massacre

3-5-04 to 3-7-04 Water valley Chili Cook off

3-12-04 to 3-14-04 Leferia

3-19-04 to 3-21-04 Del Rio Run

The next COC Meeting is scheduled for 3-27-04 4pm @ Levelland at the Aces & Eights Club House.

We passed the hat and collected \$45.00 for State.

50/50 we collected \$65.00 Donna Davis won the

drawing \$32.50 which she donated back \$12.50

The meeting was adjourned and Greg reminded everyone that the next meeting would be 3/2/04.

Thank you Pat Cypert

DFW chapter minutes for February 11, 2004

Meeting was called to order.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

A quick overview of the Legislative Workshop we sponsored was discussed. Although attendance was not as many as we had hoped, the Workshop was well done.

The election for SD 1 and SD 31 is coming up and any last minute help you can give to our candidates would be appreciated.

We discussed candidates for the March Primary and to be ready for the delegate process. We would hold the March meeting early (March 3rd) so we could hold a special workshop for the chapter.

Resolutions were passed out so everyone would have them.

The Tarrant County Chapter is going to do their Workshop on February 21st. With these to workshops in the area, we should be able to get training to everyone out there.

Gary Brookman was there to give us an update on the Warrior and some events that was coming up.

We would like to thank everyone for coming out to the meeting. We hope to see y'all again next time.

Elmer H. McKeegan

El Paso chapter minutes for February 18, 2004.

The meeting was called to order by Jerry. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. Steve gave the invocation.

Jerry did point out to everyone that our minutes were in the January Warrior and a Thank You for donations.

A letter of endorsement was sent to Jose Rodriquez. He is up for re-election for County Attorney.

A new and improved incident report form was brought in for review. Apparently no one at the police station knows where all of the old incident reports that were faxed in are.

The Interim Chief agrees with the Attorney General's Opinion.

Next meeting is March 17, 2004 at Luby's Restaurant, Chelsia & Trowbridge at 7:00 p.m.

Heart of Texas chapter minutes for February 8, 2004

The H.O.T. chapter met Sunday at Jim's Cycle Shop The meeting started at 1pm it was very informative, and all about becoming a delegate at the precinct caucus. Sputnik was there and spoke to the chapter of 13 present, including 2 guests.

Sputnik said we need a very strong showing in Houston at the Democratic convention. Become a Delegate, Alternate, or Guest to the convention. You'll have to vote in the Democratic primary to do this, and Sputnik said that this is where we are starting. Make sure you take copies of your resolutions to the Precinct Convention (right after the polls close).

The tickets are printed, and a flyer was submitted to the Warrior. The Shotgun winner will be drawn and announced at the May meeting. Tickets will be available at Jim's Cycle Shop or from any H.O.T. member. Tickets were passed out to be sold at the meeting. The shotgun is a 870 Remington 12 gauge pump. It is on display at Jim's Cycle Shop until the drawing at "TMRA2 Bash @ Jim's" .

It was stressed by Jim this meeting of H.O.T. will probably be the most important of the last 2 years, because it will be the last before the primary on March 9th. We passed out

copies of the Resolutions. THIS IS WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT !

We bought raffle tickets for contributions, and the meeting broke up around 2:30pm.

The next chapter meeting will be held on Sunday, March 14th at 1pm at Jim's Cycle Shop in Axtell. Come on out and bring someone with you.

Ride Free!
Greg Bodovsky

Lubbock chapter minutes for February 26, 2004

Meeting started at 7:05 PM

The attendance at this meeting was great! We had a fabulous 37 people attend. Thanks to everyone that participated. Alan started the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Then we started the meeting this time with elections. We have decided to go ahead and elect new officers every year. This year the nominees for Coordinator were Sam Copeland and Alan Noble. The nominees for Asst. Coordinator were Poodle, Barry Ross, and Travis. The nominee by acclamation for secretary/treasurer was Kristen Phelps. The nominees for the Legislative Officer were Blake Ball and Scooter. After passing out the ballots and electing from the floor the new officers are as follows:

Coordinator - Sam Copeland

Asst. Coordinator - Barry Ross

Secretary/Treasurer - Kristen Phelps

Legislative Officer - Blake Ball

Congratulations to all that participated!

Sam Copeland took the floor for the first time as Coordinator. The next TMRA II meeting will be held on March 21st at 2:00pm at Scuttlebutts (3404 Slide Road) on the patio and then after the meeting we will go for a ride on the bikes. Sam started out by telling us that we need to be up to speed on all legislative information. It is imperative for us to be educated on what is going on. Sam said that he has quite a few connections. He knows someone in public relations. This would be really handy to have that connection. Especially when big fund raising events come up. We had the toys for tots run every year and every year we keep hearing less and less about it. We need a connection in public relations to help us spread the word and get the TMRA II name out there. Sam also stated that he knows a few people in the Hawg club, BMW club, and he knows someone that has connections with the dirt bikers. We need to educate everyone on what we are fighting for. Especially the dirt bikers. Sam said that the dirt bikes are going to be outlawed to mudslide in the river beds. This is why we

need them involved in what we are doing. A lot of things are happening. The helmet law is a law that we still have to fight for. The open container law is another. We need to all come together and fight instead of letting the legislature tell us how to run our lives. Alan mentioned that he had some really good information on how to vote on March the 9th. There was a hand out at the beginning of our meeting tonight that was very informative. The 5 steps to Freedom, all of our representatives were listed by district, and our 3 important resolutions were included in the hand out. The 3 resolutions included the insurance coverage resolution, the failure to yield resolution, and the roll call resolution. Alan told us that the next COC meeting would be here at the Aces & Eights clubhouse on March 29th. This is the same day as the Democratic Convention in Lubbock County between 1:00-3:30pm. Please try and make both events. At the County meeting ask about the Precinct meeting!

Del Essary wanted to let us know about the Plainview TMRA II meeting that is held every 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. He said that the chapter meeting is usually held at a café, but might soon be moved to the VFW Hall. He will keep us informed. Del suggested that some of the Lubbock chapter members need to make it to one of these meetings and help them out anyway that we can.

There was a mention about a bank account for our Lubbock Chapter. Sam told us that there will be a bank account opened for the Lubbock Chapter and we need to find a bank that will let us bank for free. From now on the secretary (that would be me) will read the last month's minutes and tell everyone the amount of money that is in the TMRA II account. We have never done this in the past and it is time to do so.

We also talked about the biggest fundraiser/party coming up and that is the Rock the Caprock! It will be held on June 26th at the Aces & Eights clubhouse. Sam mentioned that we need to start getting the word out and making flyers and get the advertising going.

Sam ended the meeting by thanking everyone for their support and telling us that this year will be fun. He said that we are pretty far from politics right now and we need to think about that. What we are doing now will effect our grandchildren in the future.

Again, that next TMRA II meeting will be held on March 21st at 2:00pm at Scuttlebutts.

We passed the hat. There was \$41.00. Thanks to everyone that donated. Meeting was adjourned at 08:15pm.

San Angelo chapter minutes for February 5, 2004

Greetings from San Angelo!

The February minutes are as follows

The main topic of discussion was the Patriot Act. Information was presented by Ashton, and it seems that as the law is written one can be considered an "urban terrorist"

simply by association with what may be deemed an unfriendly organization. Who defines what is or isn't a proper association? How does one protect oneself from overzealous prosecution? Why should American citizens have to consider how to protect themselves from their own government? A government that is to be by, for, and of the people themselves. It seems that this law does infringe on many of our constitutional rights and should be protested.

Kendall has been in contact with Mayor Lown. The outcome was favorable and Mr. Lown will probably attend in the future. The next meeting will be March 4th.

For anyone who wishes to attend there is a chili cook off in Water Valley at the park March 5th-7th.

Good bye and good riding.

Tri-County chapter minutes for February 10, 2004

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. We followed with a Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report. Both were accepted unanimously.

Dusty Smith then spoke on some traffic law changes. He spoke of the law that says a slower driver or rider must move to the right if there is a passing lane. This law has been in effect for some time but many still do not follow it.

Then we moved on to "Old Glory Days!!" This discussion filled most of the rest of the meeting. We first discussed who would be in charge of some of the activities.

Bike Games - CMA as per Dusty Smith
Trophies - Bill Martin, Ice, Dean Rosenquist
Build Hamburger Cooker - Larry Trotter & Warren Wilson
Operate Cooker - Larry Trotter
Poker Run - Mark Sellers

There was a motion made by Larry Trotter to use chapter funds to purchase needed supplies and food for the event. It was seconded by Dusty Smith and passed unanimously.

We put up a list of committees that needed chairpersons and workers. Everyone was advised to be thinking about what they would and could do to help. We also discussed some changes that could make the Poker Run smoother. It was decided that we would hold it "Rain or Shine" and that we would have more dealers.

Next, we held a 50/50 drawing. \$35.00 was collected and Alan Beard won the draw. He donated his half back to the chapter. Thank you Alan!

The senior class of Paint Creek High School is going to have a Poker Run on April 3rd, 2004. Don Ballard, the superintendent, spoke to us about it and invited all interested to attend.

Finally, we collected dues for two (2) new members and one (1) renewal. We are certainly glad to have the interest. We welcome some for the first time and some back. Welcome - Sissy, Don and Alan.

Ben Littlejohn made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Bill Martin.

DISTRICT ADVISOR REPORTS

#24 – Ron Ashmore

Bob Hunter wins primary 4 to 1 against Steve Russel and should have no problem in November. Rept. Hunter represents Taylor and Nolan counties after redistricting. He has a record of support for TMRA2 and we must keep him in office. In a rare move, the Big Country Chapter endorsed Hunter and campaigned for him. Congratulations, Bob.

We passed all three resolutions at our precinct but at this early date, have not heard how others came out. As just being appointed Chairman of the Resolution Committee, there should be no problem getting the resolutions through county and on to the State convention.

Several local races were final as there were no Democrats running including Sheriff, two County Commissioners and two Dist. Judges. These will take or continue offices in January. This means our excellent relationship with the Sheriff and the County will continue.

On to County Conventions on March 27. Let the fun continue.

#28 – Del Essary

Everything is starting to get more exciting now as we pass the primary elections. Because of contested races in my county I felt the need to vote in the Republican primary this time around. Cindy and I will be going to San Antonio in June, we expect as Delegates to the convention. We easily took over the precinct meeting and passed all three resolutions and will attend the county convention as delegates. Several members of the Lubbock Chapter will be going Republican as well. They did a good job at the precinct level. There should be several from this district going to San Antonio. Have not heard as of this writing, how many were successful at the Democratic meetings.

The Lubbock chapter elected new officers at their last meeting. I send my thanks to Alan for leading that chapter through hard times and good times for a few years. The new Coordinator, Sam Copeland has some ideas to increase membership, including moving the meetings back inside Lubbock. Sam is excited and we will all be behind him. Thanks to Kristen for staying on as Secretary/Treasurer. Also, the Aces and Eights MC continue to be the backbone of that chapter.

The Plainview chapter elected Mailman J.D. as their Coordinator. Mailman has been a dependable member of that chapter and has always been a big help even though he lives in Lubbock. They also voted to move the

monthly meetings to the VFW lodge at 1024 Broadway. (1st Thursday at 7 PM) We are also working on new members in Plainview.

It appears that San Angelo and Stamford are keeping with the program. Thanks to Brois Worley, Larry Trotter, and everyone else in those chapters. I look forward to attending whatever else I can on weekends. Those chapters are a little too far away for weeknights.

REMEMBER:

Axtell May 15th. Conventions in June. Rock the Caprock June 26th. Old Glory July 2,3,4.

#31 – Dean Maltsberger

Things have been busy for us in Dist 31 as we prepare for a new state senator to replace Teel Bivins. Special election is over, and Kel Seliger was selected to serve out the rest of the term. Day after tomorrow is the primary elections.

Hopefully we can make a difference. I appreciate all the work people have done in researching who would make the best candidate for us to support. This can be a really good year for us....we just have to get our priorities in order. Surely nobody is planning on going to the ROT Rally at the expense of our May party and the State conventions. I'd love to see Hank Jr., but can't afford to go everywhere. See ya at the convention.

TMRA2 Major Contributors

Revised: 03/22/04 14:00

SUPPORTER - \$100 or more

Jim "Preacher" Ball 07/04
In memory of Al Coburn 08/04
Glenn "Clem" Dial 05/04
In memory of Nick DeLaCruz
Richard "Big Dog" Henry 05/04
Larry Jolly 04/04
Tim Moore 10/04
Walt Mosby 01/05
Cody Moulton 04/04
Beulah Ott 07/04
Tom and Tinker Rees 08/04
A.J. Reilly 02/05
Charles Soechting 02/05
Jerry Suttle 05/04
Carrol L. Van Cleave 08/04
Dennis "D-Man" Williamson 07/04

Armadillo Cycle Club 09/04
Bikers Against Child Abuse – Lubbock 06/04
Companeros M/C, Austin 02/05
Gypsy M/C, Big D 05/04
Iron Riders M/C 12/04
LaFeria Gypsy M/C 06/04
Lost Prairie Cycles 08/04
South Texas COC 12/04
Texas Wheels M/C, Waco 02/05

BRONZE - \$250 or more

Elmer McKeegan 11/04
Mad Mike & Brenda
Gideon & Jan Jones 10/04
George & Carolyn Tamplen 09/04

Aces & Eights M/C 09/04
Arlington ABATE 01/05
Branch Gypsy M/C 11/04
Davy Crockett Riders 12/04
Del Rio Gypsy M/C 12/04
Denton ABATE 01/05
Motorcycle Specialties 12/04
Texas Bikers News 08/04
West Texas Motorcyclist Chili Cookoff – 03/05

SILVER - \$500 or more

Lone Star BMW/Triumph 05/04
T-Twisters M/C 07/05

GOLD - \$1000 or more

The Brownswords
G&N Scooter Shack 07/04
Texas Motorcycle Roadriders Association 05/04
In memory of Cyndi Calhoun

PLATINUM - \$1500 or more

Alamo City Gypsy M/C 06/04
Mark Brandon/DFW Marketing 07/04
Cherokee Wind Warriors – 12/04
East Texas Chopper Guys 07/04
NW Texas COC 10/06

Lone Star Warrior Advertisers

Lost Prairie Cycles – Supporter - 08/04
DFW Marketing – Platinum – 09/04



Heart of Texas Chapter Shotgun Raffle

Remington 870 Express Magnum 12 ga. Pump



Ticket donations of \$1 each OR 6 for \$5

Drawing May.15.2004

@ TMRA2 Rally & General Membership Meeting @ Jim's
Cycle Shop

(need not be present to win)

Must be 18 years of age

Tickets available at Jim's Cycle Shop or from any Heart of Texas Chapter Member

Help support YOUR Right to Ride!!!

All proceeds to TMRA2

(a not-for-profit organization)

Heart Of Texas Chapter

Monthly Meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month @ 1pm.

The meetings are held at Jim's Cycle Shop, Hwy 31, Axtell, Texas.

Come on out and bring a friend!

For more info call: Jim's @ 254-863-5460

Or Greg @ 254-582-3252 or hdriver@htcomp.net



*Texas Motorcycle
Rights Association*



TMRA2 BASH @ Jim's

**May 14-16th at Jim's Cycle Shop (www.jimscycleshop.com)
in Axtell, Texas.**

Jim's is about 10 miles east of Waco on Hwy 31.

**TMRA2 will be having their General Membership meeting,
and there will be a tribute for Armed Forces Day on
Saturday the 15th.**

**Live bands, FREE camping, Bike games, Bike show, a
Shotgun raffle, and LOTS of vendors (call 254-662-5537).
Hope to see You there.**

**\$15 for the weekend. \$5 discount to current TMRA2 members
(you can renew or join at the gate and get the \$5 discount)**

Help support YOUR Right to Ride!!!

**All proceeds to TMRA2
(a not-for-profit organization)**

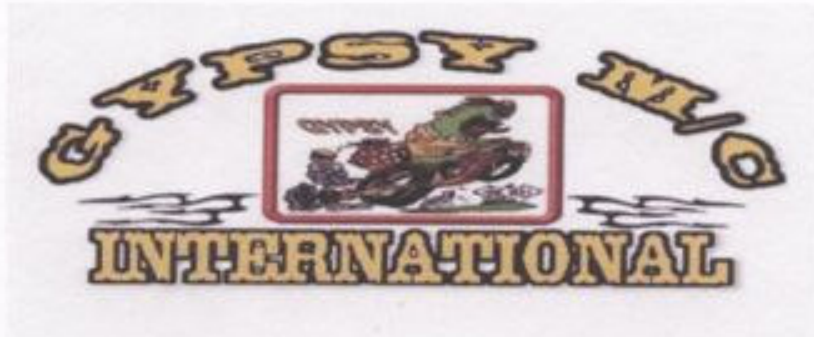
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**ABILENE GYPSY'S POKER RUN
MARCH 27, 2004**

BENEFITTING TMRA2

**ENRIQUE'S RESTAURANT & CANTINA
4358 SAYLES BLVD.**

**\$5.00 PER HAND W/ \$1.00 GOING TO TMRA2
EXTRA CARDS FOR \$1.00 EACH**

ALL BIKES AND CARS WELCOME

**REGISTRATION @ 11:00 AM
FIRST BIKE OUT AT 12:00 PM
LAST BIKE IN AT 5:00 PM**

**PRIZES FOR 1ST & 2ND PLACE
50 - 50 TICKETS FOR SALE**

COME OUT AND ENJOY THE FUN



**FOR MORE INFO CALL
MYLISSA @ (325) 518-9051
TONY @ (325)370-0544
BONNIE @ (325)690-0889**

