



# The New **Freedom Rider**

## DFW Honda Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club

Volume 4 Number 8

[www.dfwfreedomriders.org](http://www.dfwfreedomriders.org)  
HRCA Chapter #364

April 2006

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I just returned from the Easyriders V-Twin Expo down at Fair Park. Now I know this is not everyone's cup of tea, as evidenced by the response I got at my offer to lead a group to the show. However, I like going each year so I went anyway. I wasn't the only Goldwing, although I may have been one of two!

What really caught my attention at the show was the diversity of bikers. I saw a 70 year old great-grandmother and a 5 month old baby. There were many, many families. There were blue collar folks and PhDs. They all had one thing in common, the love of bikes and riding.

This common bond is what makes attending biker events so much fun. Everyone is generally open and friendly because they recognize that we share a common love; the love of the open road.

The same diversity appeared within the bikes. Although the vast majority were Harleys or total customs, there was a fair representation of metrics. There was also a wide diversity in style, all the way from tricked out choppers to old school bobbers. The paint jobs were simply awesome.

For those of you who didn't attend, Billy Lane and Rick Fairless were both there. Billy even brought the Biker Build-off bike that set his seat on fire while riding down the road.

Coming home, I experienced a repeat of last year. About ten miles down the road, I realized that I was traveling east. Now this wouldn't be a big problem except, as most of you know, I live in Coppell. Last time I checked, Coppell was west of Fair Park. Oh well, I wanted to ride more anyway.

Ride safe!

**Ken**

### MEETING MINUTES

by **Dan McDonald**

President **Ken Frazer** called the March meeting to order and welcomed the 35 members and guests; **Archie & Betty Beasley, Larry Martin and BJ Brown**. Archie and Betty joined and became our newest members.

**Ken** discussed the upcoming V-Twin event coming up at Stokers on March 25th, and said he would take a group if anyone wanted to go.

**Dan McDonald** discussed the upcoming trip to the Hill Country on March 31st - April 2nd for the HRCA regional event. Also discussed was Sonic Bike Night the next evening and the Ride For the Fallen in Austin to be held on May 13.

Treasurer **Mike Brown** presented the club financial report. After all new

income and expenses, we have an ending balance of \$1222.77. Mike also conducted a 50/50 drawing with **Lisa Hurt, Scott Kendall and Cecil Dreyry** winning.

**David Hurt** introduced three representatives of the Christian Motorcycle Association to the group. **Craig McCaughan, Jim Brockway,** and

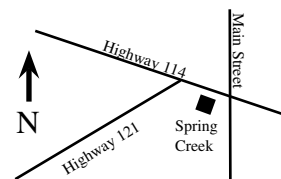
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### April 2006 Meeting

Thursday April 20, 7:00 pm  
at **Spring Creek Barbecue**  
315 Highway 114 West @ Main, Grapevine  
(817) 416-6250



Keep in touch with us on CB Channel 39

### Fine Print

The New Freedom Rider is a monthly publication of DFW Honda Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club. It is distributed on or about the 1st of each month, depending on the editor's mood and whether the riding weather is good. Deadline for articles or ads is absolutely, positively prior to publication. Distribution is by internet, or copies can be picked up at DFW Honda. The opinions and views expressed herein are those of the article's author, who is solely responsible for its content.



## Club Officers and Staff

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*apparel@dfwfreedomriders.org*  
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*newsletter@dfwfreedomriders.org*

**John Munson** were in attendance at our request to tell the group about the CMA, how it is organized, what their mission is, and to answer any questions about the group. Craig presented some very insightful information about the CMA and what it is all about.

The meeting was adjourned and everyone stayed around and socialized for a period of time.

## SAFETY PRIORITY #1 Higher Octane Gasoline Cheaper than overhaul!

by **James R Davis**,  
MS Group, Used with permission.

An apparently handy man with his tools recently posted a message in which he described a method for tuning your engine without having all the spe-

cial shop tools found at your motorcycle dealership. Among other things, he said:

"Does your motor ping? If it pings \*slightly\*, you're right on the mark. If she pings horribly, you need to retard your timing (rotate timing plate same direction as engine rotation). You can pull over and do this by the side of the road. If she doesn't ping at all, advance your timing a little."

'Pinging', in my opinion, damages an engine. Indeed, I have been told by a world class wrench that for every hour your engine runs while pinging you lose about ONE YEAR of life of normal 'ping-free' engine operations.

I full well recognize that the person was describing a technique to time your engine without the tools your mechanic has at his disposal and that he takes care to suggest that it should only ping 'slightly' when done. That, it seems to me, is still 'pinging' and is too much.

There was a time when I did all my own wrenching (30 years ago). Besides the fact that technology has evolved faster than my ability to keep up with it, I have come to believe that both my time and my life (and that of any passenger I might have with me) are far too valuable to fail to use an expert who is properly equipped/trained to take care of all but the most trivial of maintenance on my motorcycle for me - regardless of the cost.

If my motorcycle pinged 'slightly' after I had it in the shop for a timing adjustment I would take it back and have the mechanic correct it, and there is no doubt in my mind whatever that he would do so.

Assuming your engine is properly tuned, then you need to think about the octane rating of the fuel you use.

Octane ratings

I think that some attention should be paid by all of us to both altitude and temperature in the selection of our fuels. When it is hot a higher octane is often called for. The closer to sea level

## Motorcycle Safety Foundation Courses

**HRCA** (\$39.95/year) reimburses up to \$75 of the cost of a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) course each year for HRCA members. Reimbursement forms can be picked up at DFW Honda.

### Available courses by City

**Arlington** - Texas R.I.D.E.R (817) 246-4016 - Harold Patterson Sports Center - [www.texasrider.com](http://www.texasrider.com)

**Burleson** - A+ rider Course 1-800-410-4549 Burleson High School, 100 NW John Jones Rd - [www.aplusrider.com](http://www.aplusrider.com)

**Carrollton** - Rider Course Center (972) 317-6322 or 1-888-317-6322 - Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Stadium

**Flower Mound** - Motorcycle Safety Instruction - (972) 247-5011 - Marcus High School, 5707 Morris Rd. Discount offered to DFW Freedom Riders. [weridesafe.com](http://weridesafe.com)

Fort Worth - Moto-Ed (817) 239-6686 - American Ironhorse Motorcycle Company, 4600 Blue Mound Rd. [www.moto-ed.com](http://www.moto-ed.com)

**Irving** - Brookhaven College (972) 860-4715 or Texas R.I.D.E.R. (817) 246-4016 - American Honda Training Center, 4529 Royal Lane, Irving - [www.texasrider.com](http://www.texasrider.com)

**Lancaster** - A+ rider Course 1-800-410-4549 - Cedar Valley College, Lancaster, Tx. - [www.aplusrider.com](http://www.aplusrider.com)

**Southlake** - Motorcycle Safety Instruction - (972) 247-5011 - Dragon Stadium, 1085 S. Kimball Ave. Discount offered to DFW Freedom Riders. [weridesafe.com](http://weridesafe.com)

**DFW Honda**  
2350 William D. Tate, Grapevine, Tx. 76051

The ONLY Triple Crown Honda Dealer  
 In The Metroplex!  
[DFWHonda.com](http://DFWHonda.com)

## DFW Honda's e-Club Program

DFW Honda has started a new program called the VIP e-Club. By simply signing up on line, you can receive a 20% discount off your next purchase, as well as exclusive offers available only to the e-mail list subscribers.

Signing up is quick, easy and painless. Just go to [www.DFWHonda.com](http://www.DFWHonda.com) and click on the e-Club logo.

you are, the more likely you should be running with a grade of gasoline above 'regular'. Note, however, that the newer your motorcycle is, the less likely you need to run anything other than 'regular'

*Continued on Page 3*

## Safety Priority #1 - Continued

- ever. Motorcycles manufactured after about 1980 (other than the odd 'Boxer Twin') were made to run quite well with regular gasoline. In the middle of summer, if you notice a slight pinging from your engine, a medium grade of gasoline might be just the right 'fix', and it's cheap.

Using a higher octane than is needed does not cause unusual engine wear, though it may tend to cause a carbon build-up within the engine - particularly if you use premium grade. Using a lower rating, if it results in pinging, DOES do engine damage (the theme of this message, after all.)

Pinging is the sound of damage being done to your engine (directly or indirectly - and, of course, it could simply mean that you are driving in too high a gear.) A higher grade of gasoline eliminates pinging - however, it may also merely camouflage what is really wrong by eliminating those pings.) In other words it is perfectly safe (assuming that there is not something fundamentally wrong with your engine and you do not use a higher octane to eliminate symptoms), though a bit more expensive, to use a higher octane gasoline for part of your driving year.

If your bike does not ping (at all) when using regular, fine, use regular. If it does, then move up a grade of gasoline.

I may not be the most conservative motorcycle rider in the world, but paying an extra fractional penny per mile driven seems like cheap preventative maintenance to me.

## Tips for Little Riders of Big Bikes

by Elaine Anthony, MS Group

Most altitudinally-impaired riders learn to ride a motorcycle on something smaller than a GoldWing. Assuming you are thinking of moving up to a bigger bike, these 10 points may help you enjoy the move.

No matter how many miles you have behind you on a smaller bike,

don't assume you can ride a bigger one on the street without practicing on a parking lot first. Moving up to a bigger bike is almost like starting over. (Most little riders going up to a bigger bike don't have to be told this, but you never know. Some 'little people' still have 'big brass ones'...or else they wouldn't be trying to ride a big bike to begin with. <grin>)

If you can flatfoot one side and have 'ball of the foot' control on both sides of a big bike, you can probably ride it safely under most circumstances. [Most bikes can have their seats cut down about an inch to improve your ability to control it at the expense of some comfort

Since the fear of dropping a big bike needs to be overcome early, assuming your bike has sufficient guards on it to prevent damage, you may want to take it onto a grassy area and practice dropping it gently from a standstill a couple of times in order to learn the art of standing on the high peg and stepping away from the bike with your other leg, in the event you ever do. This, in order not to end up underneath it. You also may need either a reverse gear (if such is available for your model) or to ride with accommodating friends in order to get your bike out of incline trouble, now and then. Most of your fellow riders will be so impressed with your 'big brass ones' for what you're riding that they're glad to help. If not, find riders who are.

Before you take your big bike on the road for the first time, sit on it and learn where all the controls are, even the ones you don't think you will need (your 'mute' button, for example.) It can be so exciting to ride one of these beasts that should you forget to learn some of the basics early on, it may be too late when you're out there in traffic and too terrified to even move around on the seat.

When you stop a big bike on an incline across your lane, put your foot down on the HIGHER side only at first, and reach very carefully with

## THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS



- 2 David Mulkey
- 3 Charlotte Perez
- 4 Betty Copeland
- 5 Bonnie Gilbert
- 6 Russell Hamlin
- 6 Denise McMullen
- 7 Betty Beasley
- 11 Don Nowell
- 12 Mandy Hedgpath
- 13 Steve Grant
- 14 Joe Gilbert
- 14 Christina Harris
- 15 Chuck Nuber
- 16 Kathy Morgan
- 18 Larry Bryant
- 18 Debbie Jolley
- 18 Bev Mitchell
- 19 Nick Stickeler

## New Members

Welcome to our new members for the month; **Archie and Betty Beasley** from Keller, and **John Miller** from Lewisville. We look forward to many miles of riding with all of you.

## FOR SALE OR TRADE

2000 Honda Shadow 750 ACE Delux 3,800 miles, Black-Silver Red trim \$3,200. Fred Butz 817-485-9634 1/06

Classic, very low mileage 1993 Honda Helix - fully loaded and dressed. Call Bob Mann at 940-479-0394 or bbmann@webtv.net for details. 4/06

Classic, very low mileage 1989 Honda PC800 - loaded with options. Call Bob Mann at 940-479-0394 or bbmann@webtv.net for details. 4/06

Vance and Hines Big Shot pipes that will fit 2002-2005 Honda VTX 1800C/F. They are used but in almost new condition. The only noticeable flaw is on the tip of each pipe that occurred after the bike fell over. The marks are so small that they don't show up in the photos. I am asking \$400.00 or best offer. Contact Rick Hendrix at 469-767-9614 or e-mail me at hendrixfamily1@verizon.net 4/06

To add or remove items for sale or trade, contact the newsletter editor at the e-mail address or phone number listed on Page 2. Items will be

your foot for the lower side. If you have to, you CAN hold that big bike up with one leg for a very long period - after all, its weight is on the tires, not carried by your leg. Short-legging a big bike (and dumping it) is usually a matter of absent-mindedness... but in some groups, you'll be wearing that pacifier for a while if you forget. <grin>

When turning a big bike at slow speeds, a tiny amount of pressure on the rear brake can help you maintain control of the degree of lean you want. NEVER forget to look through the turn!

To get a big bike off the side stand when it is leaning so much you can't easily pick it up, grip the front brake and clutch levers securely (whether the engine is running or not) and push the bike FORWARD as you try to bring it upright in one smooth movement. (This modestly compresses the front suspension, making the bike a little shorter.)

Be sure before you take your big bike on the road that you don't have pant-legs or chaps which will tangle on the peg as you put your feet down at a stop.

Just because it's big doesn't mean it won't lean smartly. If your engine will dependably carry you through a curve with power, you'll be able to lean a bigger bike just as much as a turn requires, with normal skills, at prudent

speed. This is a matter of confidence and parking lot practice. You can control it through the foot brake and the clutch.

If the wind seems to be buffeting a big bike more than the little bike you used to ride, try to relax and know that your wheels are securely under you. The weight of the big bike will tend to keep the rubber on the road in the absence of crisis braking, even if you have to lean. If you increase speed somewhat in a strong cross-wind, this may help to give you stability (and will get you to the next stop a little sooner, where you can relax your pucker string for a while).

You will soon get past the feeling that you are 'flying a 747' or that the big beast 'wants to go faster', although those are common reactions when you get on a bigger bike. Big bikes tend to have smoother engines and a somewhat different gear ratio from your smaller ride. Once you do get the hang of it, and after that magic 'click' in the mind that tells you you're really RIDING this thing, remember to relax and enjoy yourself -- and now and then, when you feel comfortable, to wave at your admirers!

**Thought for the Month**

Strangers are just friends waiting to happen.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**CMA Brown Bag Run**

**Saturday, April 15**

Come one, come all. Ride the Texas trails on your bike or in caged vehicles. Young and old are welcomed on this day of joy and beauty, as we swing around those curves together. April 15 marks the 2nd Annual Brown Bag & Blue Bonnets Ride for The Fishermen, an Arlington TX CMA Chapter. It's a time to renew friendships and make new ones.

Starting at:

Victory Motorcycles  
HWY 360 at Randol Mill Rd.

Date:

Saturday, April 15  
\$8 Solo Rider, \$15 2up

9am Registration

First Bike Out 10am

Last Bike Out 11am

All Proceeds to Benefit CMA, Run For The Son and its Ministries.

Donations are Welcome.

Fishermen Chapter of CMA will be Furnishing a Brown Bag Lunch and Soft Drink

at end of the ride.

Bike Blessings will be Available

**Ride for the Fallen**

**May 13, 2006**

The date for the annual Ride for the Fallen in Austin has been set for May 13 this year. This is an annual ride to pay tribute to those peace officers killed in the line of duty and to raise funds for the Peace Officer's Memorial Foundation. For more information about the organization, go to [www.pomf.org](http://www.pomf.org).

**BE THERE - DO THAT**

**SHORT LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Mar 31 - Apr 2** - Hill Country Trip

**Apr 14** - Full Moon Ride

**Apr 15** - CMA Brown Bag Run

**Apr 20** - Meeting Night

**Apr 21** - Sonic Bike Night

**May 13** - Ride for the Fallen

**2006 RALLY SCHEDULE**

Date	City	Event	For Information
May 18-21	Ruidoso, NM	AspenCash	<a href="http://www.motorcyclerrally.com/">www.motorcyclerrally.com/</a>
May 18-21	Branson, MO	Branson Rally	<a href="http://bransonmotorcyclerrally.com">bransonmotorcyclerrally.com</a>
Jun 1-4	Austin, TX	Republic of Texas	<a href="http://www.rotrally.com">www.rotrally.com</a>
Jun 5-10	Lake George, NY	Americade	<a href="http://www.tourexpo.com/">www.tourexpo.com/</a>
Jun 10-17	Los Angeles, CA	Mother Road Rally	<a href="http://www.hhjm.com/rally">www.hhjm.com/rally</a>
Jun 20-24	Hatfield, AR	CMA National Rally	<a href="http://www.cmausa.org">www.cmausa.org</a>
Jun 21-24	Knoxville, TN	Honda Hoot	<a href="http://www.hondahoot.com">www.hondahoot.com</a>
Jul 3-6	Nashville, TN	GWRRRA Wing Ding	<a href="http://www.gwrra.org/wingding">www.gwrra.org/wingding</a>
Jul 17-20	Hot Springs, AR	GWTA Gold Rush	<a href="http://www.gwta.org">www.gwta.org</a>
Jul 27-29	Marysville, OH	Honda Homecoming	<a href="http://www.ohio.honda.com">www.ohio.honda.com</a>
Aug 7-13	Sturgis, SD	Strugis Bike Week	<a href="http://www.sturgisrally.net">www.sturgisrally.net</a>
Sep 13-17	Ruidoso, NM	Golden Aspen	<a href="http://www.motorcyclerrally.com/">www.motorcyclerrally.com/</a>
Oct 18-22	Hatfield, AR	CMA Colors Rally	<a href="http://www.cmausa.org">www.cmausa.org</a>
Oct 19-22	Daytona Beach, FL	Biketoberfest	<a href="http://www.biketoberfest.org">www.biketoberfest.org</a>

# WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

## Monthly Calendar of Events



### Standing Rides



### Sonic Bike Nights

Cycle Club of Fort Worth - 2nd Friday -  
7:00-8:30 pm Hurst Sonic - 1308 Precinct Line Road

DFW Honda Freedom Riders - 3rd Friday - 7-9 pm  
Grapevine Sonic, West of Main on Northwest Hwy

GWRRA U-2 - 4th Friday - 7-9 pm  
Grapevine Sonic, West of Main on Northwest Hwy

**Thursday Dinner Run**, except 3rd Thursdays.  
Leaves from DFW Honda in Grapevine at 7:00pm

**Saturday Ride** - Saturday Morning. Leaves from DFW Honda at 10:00am from October through May, then from the Grapevine Chevron McDonald's at 8:00 am from June through September.

**Full Moon Rides** - Friday or Saturday closest to the Full Moon, April through October. Leaves from the Grapevine Chevron at 9:00pm.

The Saturday and Thursday rides are opportunities to get together and ride from a common starting point. An officer or group leader is normally present, but if one is not available, then form a group and enjoy the ride.

Rides scheduled to leave during times when DFW Honda is open will leave from there. The phone number is metro (817) 421-4663.

Unless otherwise noted, other rides leave from the Chevron/McDonalds on the corner of Highway 114 and Main Street in Grapevine.

TALK TO US ON  
CB CHANNEL 39

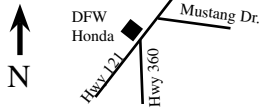
## April 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE <hr/> HILL COUNTRY WILDFLOWER TRIP <hr/> ARIZONA BIKE WEEK
<b>2</b> <hr/> WILDFLOWER TRIP	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00PM Dinner Ride Babe's	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
ARIZONA BIKE WEEK						
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00PM Dinner Ride Mystery Location	<b>14</b> 7:00PM - CCFW SONIC BIKE NIGHT PRECINCT LINE ROAD IN HURST FULL MOON RIDE	<b>15</b> 9:00AM GWRRA U-2 MEETING 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE <hr/> CMA BROWN BAG RUN ARLINGTON
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:00PM DFWFR MEETING	<b>21</b> 7:00PM - DFWFR GRAPEVINE SONIC BIKE NITE	<b>22</b> 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00PM GWTA CHAPTER B MEETING	<b>27</b> 7:00PM Dinner Ride Kincaid's or Leader's Choice	<b>28</b> 7:00PM - GWRRA U2 GRAPEVINE SONIC BIKE NITE	<b>29</b> 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:00PM Dinner Ride Ginger Brown's	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE

Year Calendar - Go to [www.dfwfreedomriders.org](http://www.dfwfreedomriders.org) and click on the Newsletter link. There is a downloadable calendar in PDF form for the remainder of the year.



2350 William D Tate (SH 121) • Grapevine, Texas  
 817 421-HONDA (421-4663)  
 or Toll Free 866-83HONDA (834-6632)



**Chapter #364**  
 Rider's Club of America™

**Motorcycle Association Monthly Meetings**

**DFW Honda Freedom Riders** • 3rd Thursday - 7 pm  
 Spring Creek BBQ - Hwy 114 & Main - Grapevine  
**CMA Fishermen** • 1st Tuesday - 7 pm  
 (not a dinner meeting) Vandergriff Community Ctr.  
**GWRRA U-2** • 3rd Saturday - 9 am meeting  
 (8:30 buffet) Golden Corral - Hwy 26 @ Loop 820  
**GWTA B** - Last Wednesday - 8 pm (7 pm Dinner)  
 Logan's Road House, 820 & Pipeline Rd.

<p><b>Parts &amp; Accessory Special</b></p> <p><b>10% Off</b> Any Parts &amp; Accessory Purchase</p> <p><b>DFW Honda</b> (817) 421-4663</p> <p><small>Coupon must be presented prior to purchase.        Coupon expires end of April 2006.</small></p>	<p><b>Service Parts Special</b></p> <p><b>10% Off</b> Any Service Related Parts <small>Does Not Apply to Labor</small></p> <p><b>DFW Honda</b> (817) 421-4663</p> <p><small>Coupon must be presented prior to service.        Coupon expires end of April 2006.</small></p>
<small>Coupons cannot be combined with any other coupon or offer.</small>	

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER MOTORCYCLE GROUPS, CONTACT**

**Honda Riders Club of America (HRCA)**  
 JJ Jean - jjean99999@msn.com - (972) 255-4525

**Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA)**  
 JJ Jean - jjean99999@msn.com - (972) 255-4525

**Gold Wing Touring Association (GWTA)**  
 Bill Fultz - reddog13@sbcglobal.net - (817) 283-5622

**Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA)**  
 David Hurt - 1800wingrider@sbcglobal.net (817) 281-4545



Dan & Rose Ann McDonald  
 921 Calloway Court  
 Hurst, Texas 76053

**April 2006**

**Meeting Location**

This month's meeting will be at  
 Spring Creek Barbecue