



The New Freedom Rider

DFW Honda Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club

Volume 4 Number 7

www.dfwfreedomriders.org
HRCA Chapter #364

March 2006

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Writing this column in the rain is getting to be a habit. Here it is, another Saturday, and the rain is falling once again. Rather than complain, I think I'll spend the day dreaming about possible summer trips.

We have the Spring Hill Country ride coming up March 31 through April 2. That is always a wonderful trip with great food and great rides. **Dan McDonald** does a superb job of organizing this ride each year.

Other opportunities you might consider include the Branson Motorcycle Rally. This rally is being held in Branson, MO May 18 – 21 this year. The rally itself is a moderately sized rally but the roads in northern Arkansas and southern Missouri are absolutely superb. The rally organizers even produce a small booklet with maps of the better rides.

June 21 – 24 is the Honda Hoot in Knoxville, TN. This is a fairly large event with some 15,000 attendees last year. Again, the riding around this part of the country is superb with the Cherohala Skyway and Deal's Gap both in close proximity.

About a week later the GWRRA's Wing Ding will be held in Nashville,

TN, July 3 – 6. This is the first time for Nashville. If you like chrome and country music, this should be quite an event.

Later in July, the 27th through the 29th, the Honda factory in Marysville, OH will be hosting the Honda Homecoming. This is a large event with almost 17,000 bikers attending last year. Factory tours are offered so you can see a Wing being built.

I have attended most of these rallies and they are great fun. If at all possible, grab a friend, make some preliminary plans and hit the road and head for one of these events. You will bring back great memories for the next time a ride gets rained out.

Ride safe!
Ken

MEETING MINUTES

1-19-2006

by **Dan McDonald**

President **Ken Frazer** called the meeting to order and welcomed the 38 members and guests **Russell Hamlin** and **Zane Hilger**. **Russell** joined and became our newest member.

Ken discussed a series of motorcycle safety and riding books that he regularly uses as reference, including Ride Texas, Biker's Guide to Texas, and Peter Egan's - Leanings.

Dan McDonald discussed the upcoming trip to the Hill Country on March 31st - April 2nd for the HRCA regional event. We will be staying at

the Y.O. Resort in Kerrville and the HRCA event will be at the same hotel. This is a very nice hotel with lots of room for the dinner. Dinner tickets will be available at DFW Honda. The cost is \$20 for HRCA members and \$30 for non members.

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

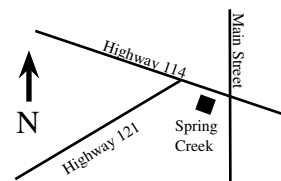
Continued on Page 2

Inside this Newsletter

- 2 MSF Rider Courses
Club Officer & Staff Contacts
Safety - Priority #1
DFW Honda new e-Club
- 3 This Month's Birthdays
For Sale or Trade
Thought for the Month
- 4 Ronald Reagan's Wit & Wisdom
Upcoming Events
2006 Rally Schedule
Upcoming Events
- 5 This Month's Calendar

March 2006 Meeting

Thursday March 16, 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.



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expenses of \$77.40 for the Polar Bear Ride, we have an ending balance of \$1161.77. Mike also conducted a 50/50 drawing with **Betty Oswald**, **Toby Burgess** and new member **Russell Hamlin** winning. A book on the history of Goldwings was given away as a door prize, with **David Hurt** winning the book.

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

SAFETY PRIORITY #1

The Invisible Man

by Jackie Vaughan,
Wheels-in-Motion, Used with permission.

The sun was balancing gently on the horizon as I packed up my gear after a long day of amusing the fish with my clumsy efforts. I was stowing the tackle box in the back of the truck when the sun abruptly winked

out behind a large bank of very dark clouds.

The sun lost its battle with the clouds and sank below the horizon, leaving the heavily tree-lined road in a darkness that blended into the blacktop. Storm winds set the tops of the pine trees swaying, bringing down flurries of slippery pine needles and occasional pine cones. The first drops of rain were huge, splatting on the windshield and causing the pine needles to stick to it. The wipers only smeared them. All I could do was turn the wipers on high and hope the rain would wash the needles off.

Obligingly, the rain became a full-force pressure wash. The needles disappeared, but so did everything else. I crept along, the headlights' beam absorbed by the darkness. A sudden movement caused by a falling branch reminded me there might well be deer, rabbits, or other animals on the side of the road, ready to cross without warning. I leaned as close to the windshield as I could get, eyes straining to see ahead and to the sides at the same time. I knew it wasn't safe to stop because there was no place to pull over.

I thought I saw the red eye glow of an animal. Looking ahead, I saw it flickering between the swipes of the wipers. I immediately hit the brakes, glad for the anti-lock option I'd chosen. I juddered to a halt about ten feet from the animal, which hadn't moved. I turned off my lights briefly so it would move on, but it remained.

I finally crept closer. As my headlights cut through the watery darkness, I saw it wasn't an animal, but a black motorcycle stopped in the middle of the road. The rider was making futile swipes at his face shield, succeeding only in creating greater smears. His black leather jacket and pants were no

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

Burleson - A+ rider Course 1-800-410-4549 Burleson High School, 100 NW John Jones Rd - 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

Fort Worth - Moto-Ed (817) 239-6686 - American Ironhorse Motorcycle Company, 4600 Blue Mound Rd. 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

Lancaster - A+ rider Course 1-800-410-4549 - Cedar Valley College, Lancaster, Tx. - www.aplusrider.com

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

match for the rain, and he was soaked from the top of his black helmet to the soles of his black boots. He finally pushed the face shield up, started the bike, and continued his miserable trek.

Continued on Page 3



JUST ONE MORE LAP!
PLEEEEEASE???

We want to make that extra lap worth it by inviting you to join our **Exclusive VIPe-club**.

As a VIPe-club member, you will receive **HUGE Discounts** every month plus exclusive invitations to events that only our VIPe-club members will be invited to attend.

Click Here To JOIN Today!
Immediately Receive 20% OFF Your Next Purchase!

*Some restrictions apply. Offer & space subject to change.

DFW HONDA
THE ONLY Triple Crown Honda Dealer
In The Metroplex!
DFWHonda.com

2350 William D. Tate, Grapevine, TX. 76051

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 and click on the e-Club logo.

Safety Priority #1 - Continued

In a very short moment, he became the Invisible Man. Although the weather and the terrain helped to hide him, he had become invisible long before he ever slung a leg over his bike. He had done it by unknowing choice, by following tradition.

When he bought his motorcycle, he took that first sometimes fatal step. He chose the most popular color for a bike—black. Black is the traditional color for everything motorcycle that's not chrome. Black helmet, jacket, pants, boots, gloves, all to match the black motorcycle. Black can also be the color of death and mourning.

Black, far from being the friendly identifying color of the motorcycle community, is a rider's major enemy. The majority of the time, especially when contrast is poor, such as dawn, dusk, dappled shade, or darkness, black disappears into the environment. Dress a rider in black from head to toe, put him on a black bike, especially one with a small, low taillight, and he's the Invisible Man. He cannot be seen until the very last moment, and that's sometimes too late.

The typical car driver is not motorcycle-aware, and a bike suddenly appearing seemingly out of nowhere may slow the driver's reaction time or cause him to make the wrong decision. When there's an collision of this type, is it the driver's fault, or the rider's? Both were culpable, but it is the rider who must bear more of the blame. He made himself nearly impossible to see, and it worked. He chose to be the Invisible Man.

Could he have become the Visible Man instead and avoided the price he paid? Yes, and all it would have taken was the right choices beginning when he bought his motorcycle.

His biggest mistake was to follow motorcycle tradition in making every-

Thought for the Month

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.

thing about him and his bike, except for the fancy bits of chrome, black. He should have heeded the old saw, "Bright is right." A light- or bright-colored motorcycle should have been the first item on his list.

His next choice should have been a full-face white helmet with highly-reflective material all around it. No color matches or fancy graphics, just plain white. The first thing a motorist sees, or fails to see, is the rider's helmet, because it's the highest part visible. Next seen is the upper body, then the lower body and the motorcycle. By that time, the driver is too close for comfort.

While the bike and rider don't have to look like a circus wagon, bright clothing and reflective material, especially on the upper body, are a must. A rider wanting the black leather look can wear a reflective orange vest while on the bike and tuck it into a saddlebag or tank bag when he arrives.

Adding extra lights on the back and sides of the bike creates greater visibility, too. Seeing a black-dressed rider on a black bike from the side is almost impossible. There's virtually no contrast. Add a few lights and the riders' bright clothing, and the bike suddenly appears.

Our miserable Invisible Man? He made it home that night because I followed at a safe distance behind him until he pulled into his driveway. He might not be so lucky next time.

New Members

Welcome to our new members for the month; **Russell Hamlin** from Wautaga, **Mark Palmer** from Coppell and **Cecil Drewry** from Dallas. We look forward to many miles of riding with all of you.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

If you have articles about your trips, please submit them to the editor, we'd love to hear your story.

THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS



- 3 Ty Hardt
- 8 Lyle Anderson
- 8 Ken Foster
- 18 Montana Stickeler
- 19 Sue Kyer
- 19 Mitch Mitchell
- 20 Jim Blakeman
- 20 Mary Cobb
- 20 David Hurt
- 20 John Lenheiser
- 21 David Stokes
- 23 Doyle Landers
- 24 Dan McDonald
- 24 Sam Paschal
- 25 Pat Brown
- 29 Steve Wedgeworth
- 30 Chuck Reynolds

Updated Address

Aaron Baggett is currently serving overseas and would love to hear from you. His new mailing address is:
Baggett, Aaron P.
B. Co. 7-158th Avn. Rgm.
Task Force Nighthawk
APO AE 09355
email: icedphoenix11@yahoo.com

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

Motorcycle trailer for sale. This trailer will hold three motorcycles the size of most dirt bikes, or one large cruiser. A Goldwing will fit, but just barely. Trailer needs new tires but that's it. \$325.00 or best offer. **Mike Sherwin** 817-431-9776 1/06

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 removed after two months, unless renewed.

Ronald Wilson Reagan

Ronald Reagan has long been called the Great Communicator for his style, ease and direct method of speaking. He has been both credited with defeating the Soviets in the cold war and vilified for his stance on some policies, but one thing always remained steadfast, his wit. Here are a few quotations that can be directly attributed to him.

"Here's my strategy on the Cold War: We win, they lose."

"The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

"Of the four wars in my lifetime none came about because the U.S. was too strong."

"I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandment's would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress."

"The taxpayer: That's someone who works for the federal government but doesn't have to take the civil service examination."

"Government is like a baby: An alimentary canal with a big appetite at

one end and no sense of responsibility at the other."

"If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

"The nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this earth is a government program."

"I've laid down the law, though, to everyone from now on about anything that happens: no matter what time it is, wake me, even if it's in the middle of a Cabinet meeting."

"It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first."

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it; If it keeps moving, regulate it; And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

"Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed there are many rewards, if you disgrace yourself you can always write a book."

"No arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hill Country Trip

March 31-April 2

Once again we are venturing to the Texas Hill Country, also known as Biker Paradise! HRCA is holding their regional rally in Kerrville on April 1 at the YO Ranch Resort Hotel in Kerrville. This is a very nice, big hotel and the one in which we stayed Friday night two years ago.

We will leave from DFW Honda to go to Kerrville on Friday, March 31st at 10am. Tentative plans now will be to stop for lunch in Stephenville at the Hard Eight BBQ (always a favorite) and Friday night dinner at Mamasita's in Kerrville. You will have all day Saturday to ride the Hill Country roads, shop, prowl around Kerrville, or just kick back and relax at the hotel.

Make your reservations now by calling **(800) 531-2800** and telling them you are with the HRCA group. The group rate is \$79 per night, which is a great deal for the Hill Country in Spring time. There will be a HRCA sponsored dinner on Saturday evening at the hotel. Tickets must be purchased in advance from DFW Honda. They are \$20 for HRCA members and \$30 for non-members.

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.

BE THERE - DO THAT SHORT LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 16 - Meeting Night

Mar 17 - Sonic Bike Night

Mar 31 - Apr 2 - Hill Country Trip

May 13 - Ride for the Fallen

2006 RALLY SCHEDULE

Date	City	Event	For Information
Mar 3-12	Daytona Beach, FL	Daytona Bike Week	www.officialbikeweek.com/
Mar 31-Apr 9	Scottsdale, AZ	Arizona Bike Week	www.azbikeweek.com
May 18-21	Ruidoso, NM	AspenCash	www.motorcyclerrally.com/
May 18-21	Branson, MO	Branson Rally	bransonmotorcyclerrally.com
Jun 1-4	Austin, TX	Republic of Texas	www.rotrally.com
Jun 5-10	Lake George, NY	Americade	www.tourexpo.com/
Jun 10-17	Los Angeles, CA	Mother Road Rally	www.hhjm.com/rally
Jun 20-24	Hatfield, AR	CMA National Rally	www.cmausa.org
Jun 21-24	Knoxville, TN	Honda Hoot	www.hondahoot.com
Jul 3-6	Nashville, TN	GWRRRA Wing Ding	www.gwrra.org/wingding
Jul 17-20	Hot Springs, AR	GWTA Gold Rush	www.gwta.org
Jul 27-29	Marysville, OH	Honda Homecoming	www.ohio.honda.com
Aug 7-13	Sturgis, SD	Strugis Bike Week	www.sturgisrally.net
Sep 13-17	Ruidoso, NM	Golden Aspen	www.motorcyclerrally.com/
Oct 18-22	Hatfield, AR	CMA Colors Rally	www.cmausa.org
Oct 19-22	Daytona Beach, FL	Biketoberfest	www.biketoberfest.org

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.

March 2006

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.

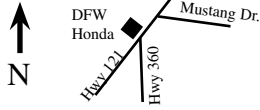
TALK TO US ON
CB CHANNEL 39

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7:00PM Dinner Ride	3	4 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
						DAYTONA BIKE WEEK
5	6	7 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	8	9 7:00PM Dinner Ride	10 7:00PM - CCFW SONIC BIKE NIGHT PRECINCT LINE ROAD IN HURST	11 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
DAYTONA BIKE WEEK						
12	13	14	15	16 7:00PM DFWFR MEETING	17 7:00PM - DFWFR GRAPEVINE SONIC BIKE NITE	18 9:00AM GWRRA U-2 MEETING 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
19	20	21	22	23 7:00PM Dinner Ride	24 7:00PM - GWRRA U2 GRAPEVINE SONIC BIKE NITE	25 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
26	27	28	29 7:00PM GWTA CHAPTER B MEETING	30 7:00PM Dinner Ride	31	1 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
						HILL COUNTRY WILDFLOWER TRIP
ARIZONA BIKE WEEK						
2 WILDFLOWER TRIP	3	4 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	5	6 7:00PM Dinner Ride	7 7:00PM - CCFW SONIC BIKE NIGHT PRECINCT LINE ROAD IN HURST	8 10:00AM DFW HONDA RIDE
ARIZONA BIKE WEEK						

Year Calendar - Go to 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)



HONDA 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>Parts & Accessory Special</p> <p>10% Off Any Parts & Accessory Purchase</p> <p>DFW Honda (817) 421-4663</p> <p><small>Coupon must be presented prior to purchase. Coupon expires end of March 2006.</small></p>	<p>Service Parts Special</p> <p>10% Off Any Service Related Parts <small>Does Not Apply to Labor</small></p> <p>DFW Honda (817) 421-4663</p> <p><small>Coupon must be presented prior to service. Coupon expires end of March 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

March 2006

Meeting Location

This month's meeting will be at
 Spring Creek Barbecue