



The New **Freedom Rider**

DFW Honda Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club

Volume 5 Number 11

www.dfwfreedomriders.org
HRCA Chapter #364

July 2007

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Once Again. Hello again to all my fellow DFW Freedom Riders and again to all those who have picked up a copy of our newsletter at DFW Honda in Grapevine, Texas or found us on the Internet.

Another month has flown by, well more like floated by. The rain has been a constant hindrance this season, really this year. We've had a few good days to ride but many times those apparently good days have turned to a soaking. I think I said before, last year or two we were complaining about no rain and now we're complaining about too much. I hope you have been able to utilize the down time to your benefit.

Speaking of benefits, many of us deal with the daily problem of small health problems and concerns. I was just able to go see **Bob Nolden** earlier this week. My secretary got a message that he was in the hospital and doing poorly. I am overjoyed to say that was not entirely true. For those of you who don't know, our good friend from many rides was put into the hospital after a stress test showed he had heart problems. The end result was major bypass surgery. All went well there but after his release and when he was about to start rehab, it was discovered he had contracted pneumonia. Obviously a seri-

ous situation. Bob was "captive" (his words not mine) for twelve days in his hospital room because of it. But again, happy to say that the day I got to Baylor - Grapevine, Bob was sitting up, eating a healthy salad and informs me he's being discharged that day.

If you're like me, middle age has brought on a few more pounds than I'd like to carry. I think any doctor would probably tell you (heck, you don't have to be a doctor to know this) that extra pounds means more work for the old ticker, probably higher cholesterol, and certainly extra stress on the bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons that bind all this bodily stuff together. I can't say I'm dropping it fast but I have to make an effort. My only suggestion is to try to lead a healthy lifestyle my good friends. I want to see you around for as long as possible and want to be here for it myself. Try a little exercise. We all need it. **Bob Nolden** certainly isn't a heavy person by any stretch. Add some healthy, low fat meals, probably one a day would help. I've found some really tasty frozen low fat stuff at the local Walmart. I'm eating no fat Orange, Peach and Lime sherbert when I get a sweet tooth instead of my favorite Blue Bell Dutch Chocolate. And drink a lot of water, a lot of water. A few sips from the fountain ain't enough. Some suggest eight, eight ounce glasses a day (that's only 64 ounces). I try to drink five, twenty ounce glasses. In all these things I'm not perfect; don't try to be, and don't expect to be. But I'm making small steps towards a healthier and hopefully longer life. Start today and

good luck with it.

By the way check out the website (if you're reading this in print) **Dan McDonald** has once again worked some graphical magic and it looks great as always.

Until we meet again, Ride Safe.

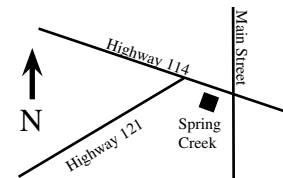
Scott Kendall

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July 2007 Meeting

Thursday June 21, 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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MEETING MINUTES

by **Larry Harmon**

The June Dinner Meeting of the DFW Freedom Riders Motorcycle Club was called to order by Club President **Scott Kendall**. Scott welcomed the 34 members present and reminded everyone that they can still submit their own good quality picture for the Members page to the Webmaster. There will also be another photo day planned soon. Be looking for an email announcing the date, time and location.

Scott announced there is a Group Riding class in the works. The class is being planned for late July. The topics will be Group Safety rules, Group Leader and Tail Gunner roles and instructions. This will be a non-ride dinner where class room instruction will also be held. The instruction is a great for riders starting to Tail Gun and Lead rides and also as a refresher for current leaders and gunners.

Bob Sympson told about his recent trip where he stopped in Birmingham Alabama at the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum. The collection now has over 900 vintage and modern motorcycles and as well as a substantial collection of Lotus and other race cars. It is considered the largest in North American and possibly the world. There are approximately five hundred motorcycles on display at any given time. See more at

Thought for the Month

I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody. - *Bill Cosby*

<http://barbermuseum.org>

Scott announced that there were possible plans for a summer trip. If there was an interest, the group could take a trip in later July or August. One possible trip destination could be Mena, Arkansas where the group would ride the Talimena Scenic Drive through the Ouachita National Forest.

Toby Burgess announced the new arrival at their house. **Christy Burgess** is the proud owner of a Silverwing. **Christy** is in the process of taking the Motorcycle Safety Course. Also if you have any instructional info, please forward those on to Toby as he has "Got to get her mounted". Not sure what Toby was meaning but he was talking about his XM Radio and installing one on Christy's ride. Some how the group laughed for several minutes as Toby was trying to get his foot out of his mouth.

With the mention of the Motorcycle Safety course, **Larry Harmon** reminded everyone that the Experienced Rider course was available. If we have enough members interested, we can schedule a course with Tarrant County College Northwest Campus. If we have 7 persons signed up, they will provide 2 instructors. Your HRCA membership will reimburse \$75 of the cost of the course.

Update on **Bob Nolden**, Bob was back in the hospital at the time of our June Dinner Meeting. Bob was doing well physically recovering from the heart bypass surgery. But Bob was hospitalized with a case of pneumonia in his lungs.

Dan McDonald announced an Impromptu Ride for Sunday June 24th. The Impromptu rides are the replacement for our Sonic Bike Night that was discontinued last October. Be on the look out for emails announcing our Impromptu Rides and times.

Dan gave the Treasury Report; the club has an ending balance of \$1353.54.

Dan also conducted the 50/50 drawings. Cash Prize winners were

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. www.veridesafe.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. www.veridesafe.com

Super Dave Hurt and double prize winner **James Richardson**.

With all business concluded, Scott dismissed the meeting with club members gathering to chat with friends and to also give Toby a little more hard time about his slip of words.

New Members

Welcome to our new members for the month; **Larry & Sharon Brothers** from Glenn Heights. We look forward to many more miles of riding with you.

Upcoming Canada Trip

I am a very new rider with my 2003 Honda VTX1800C. Prior to this bike there have been 4 others...smaller. A good friend of mine and I are taking a trip to Golden, BC, Canada starting this coming July 15th. Both of us are novice trippers yet see no reason we should do anything but enjoy this diverse & scenic trip. Our route is initially planned as:

Day 1 Enjoy scenic NW Texas stop over night Dalhart, Texas.

Day 2 See NM volcanoes, mountains via Taos & the Rio Grande gorge stop over night Durango, Colorado.

Day 3 Ride highway US550/50 along CO's steep mountains and switch-back curves - climb up again to CO's high desert & into Utah's Flaming Gorge country then very high Wyoming grasslands stop over night Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Day 4 Ride through Jackson, WY, then along the Teton mountains/park, & through Yellowstone National Park stop over night Bozeman, Montana.

Day 5 Ride Montana's high passes and valleys via I90 to Missoula then north to Flat Head Lake (largest US fresh water lake west of the Mississippi), Kalispell and stop over night Whitefish, Montana.

Day 6 Cross the US/Canadian border at Roosville, ride Canada highways 93/3/95 through the Columbia River valley and finish in the heart of the majestic Canadian Rockies at our Blae-berry Valley cabin near Golden, British Columbia, Canada.

For bikers who have not seen these sights, it's a "must do" sometime in your life. I've been this exact route before but never on a bike. The bike will add another great dimension to this trip. When traveling this route before, I've passed good size groups of 25 bikers or more taking it all in. Any one interested is welcome to join us. For

more information, contact **John Blanding** at johnblanding@brahmas.net.

SAFETY PRIORITY #1

The Invisible Man

by Jackie Vaughan - Wheels-in-Motion.com - used with permission

(Editor's Note: Okay, this is finally written justification for all that safety chrome & lights. Woohoo!)

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 shuddered 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 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.

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-

THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Karen Hilger
- 2 Peggy Majors
- 3 Fred Butz
- 3 Lowell Yoder
- 4 Glen Rigney
- 8 Dawn Leslie
- 9 Lisa Hardt
- 10 Melvan Hawkins, Jr.
- 14 Connie Kendall
- 15 Jeff Chavez
- 15 Leslie Morris
- 17 Don Beckner
- 18 Emily Baggett
- 18 Bill Waldrop
- 20 J.J. Jean
- 30 Mark Palmer

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

American Proud Cruise-In July 14, 2007 Bridgeport, Texas

Sponsored by Yesterday's Texas.

Bike show registration begins at 5:00 pm at Yesterday's in Bridgeport, 305 W. Hwy 380 in Bridgeport. Winners will receive awards. This show is benefiting the new Veterans Clinic in Bridgeport. For more information call (940) 683-6620, click here to send e-mail, or go to <http://www.yesterdaystexas.com>.

Koinonia Riders 10th Annual Back to School Run July 14, 2007 - Weatherford, TX

Sponsored by Long Horn Power Sports. Starts at Long Horn Power Sports, 1811 Fort Worth Hwy in Weatherford. First riders go out at 9:00 am and the last riders go out by 10:30 am. This ride will be benefiting needy children in parker county. Ride fee is \$15.00 or diapers and wipes. For more information call (817) 594-3767

FOR SALE OR TRADE

Wanted - 2 bike trailer capable of hauling 1200 pounds. Contact **John Blanding** johnblanding@brahmas.net if you have one. 3/07

Widder Electric Vest & Chaps. Two tone, light grey and black. Includes new battery hook up and thermostat to keep you toasty warm in the coldest weather. Collar can be zipped all the way up and is heated. Like NEW! Chest size 44. Chaps are a small, but waist is fully adjustable to 32". New the set is \$292.00 (per web site). Asking \$165.00 for the set. You can add components like electric gloves, etc. We are not done with the cold weather! Contact **Mike Sherwin** at 817-296-2276. 3/07

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.

Annual Social and Rally August 11, 2007 - Marshall, TX

Sponsored by H&W Honda of Marshall and Turtle Hull Trailer.

The rally is held at the Civic Center on Hwy 59 South in Marshall. registration begins at 8:00 am. Entry fee is \$10.00 per person. The rally includes a bike show, bike games, a fun run, door prizes and Vendors. For more information call (903) 938-1408

Group Riding Class Sunday August 12

We will once again hold our training seminar for new group leaders, tail gunners, or those interested in finding out about group riding practices. The class is open to anyone in the club interested in finding out what we do and why when it comes to riding in groups.

A location and time for the class is still to be determined, but will probably be at a local restaurant so we can combine a dinner with the class. Keep an eye on the August newsletter for more details.

BE THERE - DO THAT SHORT LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 28 - Full Moon Ride

July 19 - DFWFR Meeting

Aug 12 - Group Riding Class

2007 RALLY SCHEDULE

Date	City	Event	For Information
Jul 4-7	Billings, MT	GWRRR Wing Ding	www.gwrra.org/wingding
Jul 16-19	Sioux Falls, SD	GWTA Gold Rush	www.gwta.org
Jul 26-28	Marysville, OH	Honda Homecoming	www.ohio.honda.com
Aug 6-12	Sturgis, SD	Strugis Bike Week	www.sturgisrally.net
Sep 12-16	Ruidoso, NM	Golden Aspen	www.motorcyclerrally.com/
Oct 17-21	Hatfield, AR	CMA Colors Rally	www.cmausa.org
Oct 18-21	Daytona Beach, FL	Biketoberfest	www.biketoberfest.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

Monthly Calendar of Events



Standing Rides

Sonic Bike Nights

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

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

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.

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

July 2007

Full Moon Rides -

On the 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.

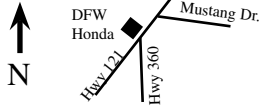
**TALK TO US ON
CB CHANNEL 39**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	4 Independence Day 	5 7:00PM Dinner Ride 	6	7 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's
GWRRA WINGDING - BILLINGS, MONTANA						
8	9	10	11	12 7:00PM Dinner Ride 	13	14 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's KOINONIA RIDERS 10TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL RUN WEATHERFORD
15	16	17	18	19 7:00PM DFWR MEETING 	20 7:00PM - CCFW SONIC BIKE NIGHT PRECINCT LINE ROAD IN HURST	21 9:00AM GWRRA U-2 MEETING 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's
22	23	24	25 7:00PM GWTA CHAPTER B MEETING	26 7:00PM Dinner Ride 	27	28 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's FULL MOON RIDE
GWTA GOLD RUSH - HOT SPRINGS, AR						
29	30	31	1	2 7:00PM Dinner Ride 	3 7:00PM - GWRRA U2 GRAPEVINE SONIC BIKE NITE	4 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's
HONDA HOMECOMING - MARYSVILLE, IN						
5	6	7 7:00PM CMA FISHERMEN MEETING	8	9 7:00PM Dinner Ride 	10	11 8:00AM SATURDAY RIDE FROM CHEVRON / McDONALD's ANNUAL SOCIAL AND RALLY H&W HONDA - MARSHALL

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)



Chapter #364

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 July 2007.</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 July 2007.</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

July 2007

Meeting Location

This month's meeting will be at
 Spring Creek Barbecue