



Texas Patriot Guard Riders monthly newsletter

February 2015 edition

In the coming months we will be sending out a monthly newsletter to better keep you, the PGR members, more informed on the happenings throughout the State of Texas.

The newsletter will focus on one of the 11 regions in the state along with any announcements and/or information pertaining to the PGR in TEXAS.

Since February is the month of love, I think it would be appropriate to name this edition **"LUV Your SV"**. These men and women go to great lengths to ensure that we all have flags, water, and a smile if needed. Please reach out and give them an extra special "Thank You" this month!

We are proud to announce three new deputy state captains within the state: Bryan Read of North Texas; Tom "Preacher" Mullins of the Panhandle region; Steve Conger of East Texas.

In addition, please welcome our new assistant deputy state captains: Gary "Catfish" of Dunn North Texas; Brian "Postmaster" Liberty of North Texas; John Bradberry of East Texas.

The Panhandle region also has 2 new RCs: Joe Alvarez and Jerry Moore. Please welcome them into their new positions. We are confident they will be a great asset to the organization!

Now the focus region. This month we hear from CenTex. They serve a key area in the Killen/Fort Hood area of the state. The following words are straight from the DSC - Mary "Marebear" Gregory:



CenTex Snapshot

<http://www.CenTexPGR.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/CenTexPGR/354788031223248>

We are Patriots. We are Family. We are Veterans & Active Duty, Veterans group members, Law Enforcement, First Responders, MC and RC members, citizens, bikers & cagers. We average two to three missions per week and our members are our most important asset. We have a core group of "regulars," also some who come only for certain missions; i.e., Vietnam Veterans or KIAs - Matters not, each member is important. They know no one is keeping a record and when they do show up again, they're

welcomed with open arms because we genuinely miss them. Our members regularly step up without being asked to help run missions when we have four at the same time in different locations! They can always be counted on to make every mission a success. We ensure that all members know: Family & health first, then missions. Our missions are run a "hair" on the light side, yet there is NEVER any disrespect shown.

The CenTex Leadership is here to facilitate and guide. We have gained a reputation for being rebels because, among other things we rarely wear our Leadership Hats - partly because we're just like any other member in CenTex and partly because we just don't like to conform. Our Ride Captains are dedicated to a fault and most of them come every time whether they're listed on the mission or not. They are quick to give public accolades, offer help, or just tease mercilessly!

Everyone is friends and we socialize a great deal outside missions. Much of it is local Biker stuff like benefits put on by MCs/RCs and even our local Bars/Clubs. We attend and help with events hosted by groups with whom we are involved and close. We attend and support Veterans' Events hosted by groups like the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, TAPS, SOS, etc. We also love getting together outside of missions for breakfasts, visits to members homes, or a couple "cold ones," at the local watering hole. We take care of each other and are involved as any family would be, supporting each other in hard times, calling and checking on each other, hospital visits, and even doing favors like rides to appointments or babysitting pets!

And speaking of "pets..." CenTex has DOGS! We lost our one "Official" Mascot, Digger, a couple years ago. He belonged to Priscilla and Luke out of Burnet. He would come to missions in his own trailer behind their bike, wander around and dig in bushes - Ergo the name Digger! His passing was mourned. Hunter came next and he was with *Marebear* ALL the time, riding in her sidecar. Princess Emmaus came along shortly as *Bear's* Service Animal. Princess and Hunter were besties. 'Nam is now horning in. Periodically other members will bring their dogs with them to the missions. It is amazing how the families of the Fallen warm to these furry members being around. We've been thanked many times for bringing them and have had many a story shared by family about the Fallen's love for animals.

Some highlights of what we've accomplished are:

NOPE, not going to make a list. Each and every mission is as important as the next. Each Fallen Warrior or First Responder, to include TOO many of our Own, have made lasting impressions on our hearts. Here is the link to the Photo Albums on our Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/pages/CenTexPGR/354788031223248?sk=photos_stream&tab=photos_albums. Look for yourself and don't forget to check out the fun stuff - We DO have fun you know! Oh! Remember to "Like" us while you're there.

All in all, we're blessed with Leadership, Members, and a whole Community of Bikers and Civilians that completely support our mission and all Veterans Initiatives in general. So if any of you are ever in our area, please join us on one of our missions or social events!

Thanks to CenTex for the extraordinary work and support you provide your community!!

In closing, Texas attends more missions than any other state. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to hearing from you - the members - on any ideas you might have to improve the Patriot Guard Riders.

“The members who stand the flag line are the Heart and Soul of the Patriot Guard”

Thank you

Bobby “Kawabob” Stroka
State Captain
Mike “BigMike” Eubank
Asst State Captain