

MSTA  MOTORCYCLE SPORT TOURING ASSOCIATION

# STARVIEW

VOL. 30 NO. 8

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# Texas Hill Country Rally

## ■ By Allen Singer

Ever go to a party and find the hosts missing? So it was this year in Kerrville. Vince and Mayda Wells did a great job planning and setting up the Texas Hill Country Rally. Then Mayda was admitted to the hospital the day before the rally suffering severe chest pains. Fortunately it was later determined to be a manageable upper GI issue and she is now doing well, but as a result the Wells were an obvious no show. While they were sorely missed person-

ally (and received rousing applause at the banquet), several others jumped in and the rally went off without a hitch.

Early arrivals got in some Friday riding on a cool day, though afternoon sunshine warmed us up nicely. Due to the long drought, the countryside was quite dry and a little brown but still a lovely place to ride. We hit the usual favorites; the three twisted sisters, Lone Star Museum in Vanderpool, Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop, the Apple

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Store in Medina, etc.

The real cool weather arrived overnight. We found ice on the bikes and the temperature was around thirty degrees at daybreak. Electrics on high, all departed the YO Ranch Resort early making for nearby Destination Cycle. There, the friendly folks provided a fine, and free, burrito breakfast. They do a great job and this has become a tradition at the rally. By ten o'clock with full bellies and warmed by the hot coffee we returned to the bikes to find a delightful, bright sunny, comfortable day just perfect for riding. So that's what we did, winding



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If you drive, please look twice for bikes and riders. If you ride, please wear your safety gear. Helmets are important, and we want you to survive your Hill Country ride. That's why we sponsor the KISO Club Ed course with Motorcycle Safety Foundation training—we supply the motorcycles and support. Start your trip right, and you'll get to the right Destination.

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HEAD TO THE HILL COUNTRY HEADQUARTERS





up at the beautiful home of Joe Paolilli & Michelle Achorn for their annual ice cream social.

Returning to the YO, there was just time to clean up and get ready for the evening banquet. No rubber chicken here. The buffet was heavily BBQ-themed and delicious. In the absence of the Wells, Ken Bowen served as emcee. Unlike at some other rallies we've attended the remarks were brief and to the point. Ken, ably assisted by Cinda and Brad Mobley, doled out a bunch of door prizes. Thanks to all of our sponsors:

OHLINS USA, RIDESMART Track Days, TXMOTOFOTO, White Horse Gear, Lone Star Motorcycle Museum, Vanderpool, TX; Woods Cycle Country, New Braunfels, TX; Cycle Center of Denton, *RoadRunner Magazine*, MotorcycleGear.Com, Frio Canyon Motorcycle Stop, Leakey, TX; Alamo Cycle Plex, San Antonio, TX; Amsoil, Brad Mobley, Dan Steed, Santa Fe, NM; Mario Baroz, San Antonio, TX.

Also thanks to Walt Kocal for soliciting the door prizes, Kevin Czap for our website and all the other volunteers that made this rally successful.

The Texas folks have been running this event for better than a decade and they've got the formula down. In 2012 the Texas Hill Country rally will be held October 26-28. Put it on your calendar now.



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