

TOURING THE TEXAS BACKROADS

THUNDER ROADS
Web-zine *Texas*

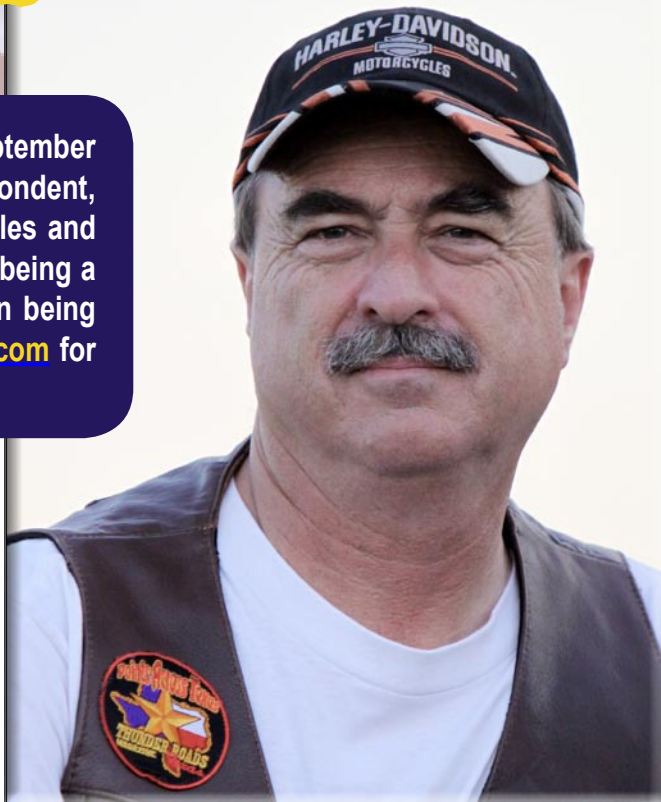
By Randy "Harley Doc" McCamey, TRT Correspondent

Randy McCamey started working with Thunder Roads in September 2010. For the last four months, he's been a top notch correspondent, submitting regularly to the magazine. You've seen his articles and pictures; here he offers a little background and his take on being a Thunder Roads Texas correspondent. If you're interested in being a correspondent for TRT, email shelly@thunderroadstexas.com for more information. ~ Shelly Horan, Editor/Owner.

As a new correspondent for Thunder Roads Texas, I thought a brief introduction might be appropriate. I'm from central Texas, born and raised here, and I've been riding for most of my life. I still remember when the Kawasaki KZ 1000 was the screamin'est new bike on the planet, the Triumph Bonneville was my idea of "the best way to meet girls" bike, and a Harley was something dreams were made of. If you remember those bikes, then you can probably guess my age. My dreams were realized one day when just the right circumstances led me to own my first Harley and it has been a dream come true ever since. I've been writing most of my life, too - such is the life of an academic - and I've been heavily into photography most of that time as well. So it seemed like a good fit to put all those things together and contribute what I could to the greatest Texas motorcycle magazine ever, Thunder Roads Texas. Thankfully Shelly Horan and Bob Cooney (owners) agreed, so here I am. My riding interests are mainly on the backroads and byways of this great state and I'm sure much of what you see from me will contain at least a little bit of Texas history. Of course, I don't mind any motorcycle related activity regardless of where it may be.

My first assignment was to attend the 2010 Texas HOG Rally, meet as many

of you fellow bikers as possible in 48 hours, and capture what I could of an overwhelming number of motorcycle moments. What a blast! I got to see plenty of Harley black and orange, all manner of ride patches and pins, and hundreds of great looking bikes. The bike giveaway at the Kiowa Casino generated a lot of interest with over 1100 of you being entered for the 2011 Blue and Silver Sportster. All of us at Thunder Roads Texas say, "Good Riding" to the winner, James Henderson. The parade of bikes Saturday morning was impressive to say the least, and the games were enjoyable as always. My favorite part of the rally had to be the Wichita Falls Police Department Motorcycle demonstration team exhibition. I think the WFPD Motor team embarrassed all of us with how easy they made it look to do a full 360-degree turn at five MPH, dragging the footboard, then reversing direction and doing the same thing from the right side, and then straightening up without ever putting a foot on the pavement! I'm sure a lot of practice was put into developing those skills. Way to go WFPD! It was sad to see the rally end but the Lonestar concert Saturday night was like icing on the cake. I want to give a big "Thanks" to Darrel Little and all the crew and volunteers of the Red River HOG Chapter (and fellow



photographer Bill Perry) for putting on such a great rally and giving me an insider's tour of the whole shootin' match. I know it was a lot of hard work but you all did a great job.

My primary beat for TRT will be covering motorcycle events in the Cross Timbers area of the state, generally defined as everything from Fort Worth to Fort Concho, Abilene to Aledo, and Wichita Falls to Waco. Like any good writer with a ride, however, don't be surprised to find me at any given rally or bike event on any given weekend. After all, riding the road is the name of the game. I look forward to meeting all of you and if you have a tip, comment, or story idea, please don't hesitate to give me a shout.

From the Backroads,
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