

Member Spotlight

Bill and Joanie Fisher



Bill began working for the Houston Police Department when he was 20 years old. Shortly after starting there he began riding a Honda 350 for pleasure. He rode that one for about a year and then moved up to a 750 Kawasaki and rode it for about a year. Then reality set in. He needed to grow up and be more responsible while he was living, working and raising a family in Houston. He gave up riding completely in 1973, but not the dream.

Bill and Joanie meet in 1974 when she was working at a bank in Houston and Bill was working a second job as security at the bank. It was love at first sight (gag). They got married in 1975 and went about their regular non-winger lives, living and working in and around Houston. In 2000 they built their home in Spicewood. Then, in the fall of 2000 Jeff, a fellow police officer from Houston came up one weekend riding a 1995 Cherry Red Goldwing. He took each of them for a ride around the Spicewood area and they were hooked. Jeff also helped them start looking for a used Wing. It was only a few weeks later that he found a 1996 green wing one-owner with low mileage in El Paso. The current owner was ready to sell due to family and career obligations. Once again Jeff came to help when they meet with the owner in Sonora, Texas. Jeff looked it over, took it for a

test drive and drove it back to their house in Spicewood. They had their first wing! Bill got on it and began getting the feel for such a big heavy bike. After a few test drives he was ready to take Joanie for a ride. Off they go for a short ride around the area. Boy, what a surprise when Joanie found out that it was not an "automatic shifting" bike like the one Jeff had, or at least thought he had. Needless to say Bill had a lot more practicing to do to get his shifting as smooth as Jeff had it down. And he did a lot of practicing with and without Joanie and he became very smooth.

In December of 2000 both Bill and Joanie took the Basic Riding Course in Marble Falls. Bill already had his license and Joanie passed the course and received her motorcycle license. That's when she found out how much work it was to ride a bike and decided to become a professional co-rider. Their first long distance trip was to Big Bend in October of 2000. They had a great trip and were already planning another long distance ride the next year. Since that time they have taken at least one distance ride every year. They also joined GWRRA and Chapter O to meet other Wingers. They served as Chapter Educators for a two year term. They have taken the Experienced Rider Course several times and always get something out of the courses.

In June 2003 they purchased their first new Wing and have logged almost 60,000 safe miles on it along with another 30,000 miles on their previous 1996 wing. My how time fly's! They have attended two Wing Dings, district rallies and numerous chapter rallies. Their most recent long ride was with 4 BMW bikers to the Grand Canyon in April of 2007. They have met numerous Wingers and non-wingers across our great country and beyond and look forward many more years of riding.

As far as their other non-winging activities, they include boating on Lake Travis, scuba diving and snow skiing. Their son, daughter-in-law and four year old grandson live in the Houston area. Family, other activities and riding keep going all the time.