



Wing Words

the rest of Colorado follows COL



FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

June 2010

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Member Contributions in this Issue:

- Fred & Linda Fisher, Directors
- Carl Williams, Rider Educator
- Judy Williams
- JR & Anita Alkire

Next Chapter Gathering
Monday, May 3, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.
Gathering at 6:45 p.m.

Columbine Room, Clements Community Ctr
 1580 Yarrow Street, Lakewood, Colorado

Gathering Refreshments & Coffee

- Refreshments: Bill Douglas
- Coffee: Linda & Fred Fisher

Words for Gold Wings

by Fred & Linda Fisher, Directors

I want to start this month's article with a big "THANK YOU" to Dennis and Anne Williamson for allowing us to have our annual garage sale at their place. We had a large number of items and did very well even though the weather was a little iffy on the first couple days. Again, thanks so much for allowing us to do this at your place every year. Thanks also to all of you who helped out at the sale.

As we are getting into the good riding season I want to remind everyone of a couple things. Get your bike, equipment, and your mindset into riding mode. Be sure to keep your mind on riding and a careful eye on those around us. In this early part of the biking season, many drivers are not use to bikes being on the road around them. Be careful out there!



As far as equipment, be sure to check your bike over more often early in the riding season. Some problem that you might have missed over the winter could pop up as you get out and about. Also, check and restock your first aid kit. You do have a first aid kit on your bike don't you?

As I'm writing this article, I just returned from the ERC class. It was nice to see a few members from Chapter L there. The key word here being...few. I'm not sure why more riders don't take this class. I've heard all kinds of reasons over the years. The two that really bother me the most are, "I've been riding for 40 years. What could I learn?" and "I might do something there to embarrass myself."

Well, let me address the first excuse. I too have been riding for 40 years. I still learn something every year. If you think you are that good a rider that you don't need to take the ERC, then I'm not sure we should be riding together. No one is "That Good a Rider." On the second excuse, I would think it would be better to embarrass yourself on a course in a controlled environment than to drop your bike or have an incident in the middle of the road that might get you or others hurt. I again encourage every rider in the Chapter to take this course. Since we have about 40 riders in the chapter and five took it this year, I can expect us to have a very large class next year.

Please come to the June meeting prepared to talk rides. I've been pretty disappointed in the number of rides we've had this year. We have some other Chapter meetings we can attend if nothing else. It is the ride there and back that's the great part.

Group Riding

by Carl Williams, Rider Educator

A Large Part of Chapter Fun

A few years ago, Nick Hoppner, the then Wing World Editor, and Mike Wright, past President of GWRRA, wrote their views of Group Riding. Mike was for Group Riding and Nick took the opposite position. I, for one was taken aback by Nick's position, which caused me to think about why someone would prefer not to ride in a group. Nick's reasoning, I believe, was based more on his personal style than anything else, which does not make him right or wrong, just different.

Mike made a strong case that many Gold Wings join the organization for what the motto captures, "Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge." The Fun of Chapter life is doing things together which includes riding Gold Wing motorcycles, the main reason for GWRRA.

Unlike most trips in a car, which takes us from point A to point B to enjoy an activity at point B, Group Riding tends to be more like;

- Enjoy the gathering at point A before the ride,

You might even meet some folks that you like. Linda and I rode to the Chapter I meeting in Colorado Springs on June 5th and had a great time!

A few of us from Chapter L joined up with Chapter A on Memorial weekend and rode into Wyoming and beyond. We left from the Cracker Barrel at 120th Ave. and I-25 at 7:00 am on Saturday. In all, we had seven bikes and 12 people. This two-night outing was quite a trip for the holiday weekend!

Do not forget to mark your calendar for June 13th for the "Ride for Kids" Colorado event on that day. If you can help out Dave and Pat Andrews with this event, please contact them. I'm sure they won't turn down your offer to help.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting on June 7th.

Until later.....Ride Safe.....Always.



- Enjoy traveling and the stops along the way to point B,
- Enjoy the event at point B, and
- Enjoy traveling and the stops along the way back to point A

However, Nick did make some important points why someone would not like Group Riding. So, let's review how we Group Ride and what we do to make the Group Ride more enjoyable for our members.

Some Tips for an Enjoyable Group Ride

Plan the Ride

The Ride Coordinator should take the time to plan a route prior to the day of the ride. The planning should include:

- selection of roads (including pre-riding to ensure roads are safe when unfamiliar with the roads);
- selection of planned rest stops if the riding is longer than the typical bladder can handle;
- plan the timetable to make sure the riding fits in the available time;
- make a map to hand out the day of the ride; and,

- hold a group rider's meeting at the start of the ride.

The intent of this planning is to ensure safe roads to match the skills of the group, a pleasant trip that includes the necessary stops, a schedule that allows the trip to be taken at a safe speed, and everyone is informed (map and schedule) of what to expect before the ride.

Rider Responsibility

Lead Bike

The Lead Bike paces the speed of the group and provides advanced information to the group about road hazards, turns, passing instructions, and other group control functions. The Lead Bike must have instant access to the CB at all times to communicate.

Drag Bike (Last Bike)

As much as the Lead Bike is controlling the group, the Drag Bike is providing controlling information to the Lead Bike about events coming from behind the group as well as providing observations about the group. Many times the Lead Bike cannot see the entire group because of road conditions so the Lead Bike relies on the Drag Bike for information such as clearing an intersection or safely passing a road hazard. The Drag Bike must have instant access to the CB at all times to communicate.

Bikes in Between (The Group)

As we all have learned in various safety training classes, the ideal group should be three to five bikes; and, experience has shown more than seven bikes creates more problems than what the typical Lead and Drag Bike can handle.

The Group:

- Rides in staggered formation (creates a safety cushion around each bike)
- Maintains a "2 second" minimum following distance from the bike directly ahead. The "2 seconds" allows for reaction time to stop safely. Large spacing between bikes creates a visibility and control problem for the Lead and Drag Bikes. Additionally, the group will find itself speeding up and slowing down in a rubber band fashion preventing an even flow or rhythm.
- Uses the CB sparingly. Allow the Lead and Drag Bikes to safely control the ride.

I will be talking about more aspects of Group Riding at future Chapter meetings. Meanwhile, ride smart - ride safe.

Remember, *Safety First!*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy June Birthday to:

Jim Floyd (Jun 1)
Pat Andrews (Jun 5)
Tom Weidner (Jun 8)
Mike Ackerman (Jun 23)



Happy June Anniversary to:

Lee & Susan Brown (Jun 5)
Carl & Judy Williams (Jun 6)
Fred & Linda Fisher (Jun 22)



Chapter L Basket for the District Rally

by Judy Williams

The Couples of the Year and Individuals of the Year from each Colorado Chapter have been asked to provide a basket full of goodies for the August "Wingin' the Rockies" Rally in Salida. ***WE ARE GETTING CLOSER BUT STILL NEED YOUR HELP!***

Please bring whatever you can to support this effort. Chapter L's basket raised the most money at last year's rally and we want to keep our position in that contest.

Most of the money earned by the baskets is returned to the Chapter to support the Couple of the Year and Individual of the Year Programs. We do such things as buy patches for the selectees which commemorates their selection as Couple or Individual.

We will gladly accept your cash as well toward the purchase of a really nice item. If we can raise enough cash, we are going to include a GPS in our basket. Your contribution will help Chapter L shine at this year's rally. So, please consider a donation to help us. The Patriotic Theme can be introduced either by the nature of the item donated or simply by the color of the item. *Thanks again!*

Chapter Patriotic Themed Basket
 Sponsored by your Couple of the Year and Individual of the Year.

Just a reminder that we need goodies for our basket for the the Colorado "Wingin' the Rockies" Rally on Aug. 27-28.

Items in the basket to date:

1. American flag & chrome holder for Gold Wing
2. Quick change screwdriver
3. \$20 Dairy Queen gift certificate
4. Ceramic coffee mug
5. I love America wall plaque
6. 12 Volt air compressor
7. POW-MIA Coin
8. Fleece blanket
9. Wind twister
10. Quilt/pillow
11. \$120 cash
12. Hand towel
13. Whirlygig
14. Battery tender junior
15. Hand beaded bracelet
16. Neck warmers
17. Motorcycle prop
18. Hand-made greeting cards



Please bring items for the basket to our meetings and give to Ralph Spencer or Carl & Judy Williams. Cash will work also and we will buy items for the basket.
 Thanks for your support!

What an Awesome Region Rally!!!!

by Anita and JR Alkire



There are so many folks to thank but let us start with the important folks...YOU!! For all of you who attended the rally, thank you so much and thanks for all the nice comments and emails. We thank our sponsors, vendors, hotel staff and our most important asset, our fabulous Region Staff. They are awesome and worked their tails off to serve you the members the best rally ever! We are looking forward to next year BUT we



need your help to determine where. At the end of this article is a questionnaire. IF you filled it out at the rally please don't fill it out again, BUT for all of the rest of you, PLEASE share your thoughts with us so we can have this rally where you would like to ride to. We'll be collecting your thoughts through July 20, 2010 and then let you know the results.

We want to congratulate all the graduates from the rally. I believe I'm close on all these numbers:

- New OCP graduates = 30;
- New Rider Ed Certified Seminar Instructors = 20;
- New PLP Facilitators = 34;
- Then there were Rider Ed Seminar Instructors who finished their certification by teaching their class.

We taught many co-riders, new team riders and many of the LTD courses as well. We also had the first ever Motorist Awareness Division (MAD) presentation that gives you the “what to say” in front of a group so that you can go out and help the public understand how they can participate in our safety. Thanks to Dave and Sandie Novitt for getting permission to share with us what will be unveiled at WingDing!

We had a great opening night party at the pool after we heard an inspiring patriotic presentation by Jimmy Weldon. Thanks to Dave Gilman and Hamar Toyota! We had some fun opening comments and an incredible group of COY’s and IOY’s in the selection of the new Region “F”un Couple and Individual. We all congratulate the participants and welcome Keith and Teresa Morrison, New Mexico District Couple as the new Region “F”un Couple of the Year, and Leonard “Hammer” Willingham, CA District Individual, as the new Region “F”un Individual of the Year. We welcome you to the Region staff!

Saturday night’s highlight was the Talent Show thanks to Jeffrey Goldin and his crew. We had a great group of talent to entertain us from a magician to singers to an extreme martial arts presentation. It was a great show.

Sunday we awarded the skills games winners and the bike show winners. I think you could see that chrome shining from space in a separate presentation and then we ended the rally with delicious In-N-Out Burgers and had fun playing GWRRA’s Price is Right. It was a great weekend and a great rally!

So, here is the questionnaire, please email your opinions to: jralkire@cox.net

What is your preferred date for a Region Rally?

Memorial Day weekend? _____

Earlier in the year? _____

If neither, WHEN?? _____

Please select your #1 favorite spot for next year’s rally

Grand Junction, CO _____

Las Vegas, NV _____

Albuquerque, NM _____

South Lake Tahoe, CA _____

Breckenridge, CO _____

Pueblo, CO _____

You can just put your answer in an email to us as to your preferred date and your #1 favorite spot and get that to us by July 20, 2010 so we can start planning for next year.

For any of you going to WingDing we would like to ask you to wear a medium blue shirt, any style to opening and closing ceremonies and look for Region “F”un’s banner and come sit with us. We’d like to show the rest of the county that the Southwest is riding and here. Please come and join in on the fun as we whoop it up with “FUN” with Region “F”un! For those of you who will be working the door prize booth with us, please wear that blue shirt during your shift as well, thanks!

Be safe everyone, be good to one another and yourself and we’ll see some of you at the Utah District Rally or at Wing Ding.

Your Region “F”un Directors

Future Events

June

Mon, 7th

Chapter L Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Clements Community Center

Refreshments by **Bill Douglas**

Sun, 13th

Colorado Ride for Kids, Register 8:00 a.m., Ride 10:00 a.m.

Wed, 16th

Chapter L Dinner Ride, 6:30 p.m. Host is Ralph Spencer

Wed, 30th

First Day of Wing Ding in Des Moines, Iowa

Various

Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2010 Ride Guide

July

Sun, 4th

Have a very safe Holiday!



Mon, 12th

Chapter L Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Clements Community Center

Refreshments by **Jeanine & Al Plumhoff**

Sun, 18th

Chapter L Pancake Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. @ Philly's

Wed, 21st

Chapter L Dinner Ride, 6:30 p.m. Host is Al & Jeanine Plumhoff

Various

Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2010 Ride Guide

Chapter L Ride Books

We still have copies of Chapter L Ride Books available. If you need one, either drop in to our meeting on the first Monday of the month, OR call Randall Drake at 303-933-6073 to arrange to get your personal copy.



Chapter L Officers and Staff

Directors	Fred & Linda Fisher	silverone@comcast.net	720-922-0789
Assistant Directors	Dennis & Anne Williamson	wllmsn@lbtDSL.com	303-239-8187
Rider Educator	Carl Williams	cawilliams2@comcast.net	303-200-0262
Treasurer	Mike Ackerman	bikermha@msn.com	303-988-0413
Couple of the Year (COY)	Carl & Judy Williams	jcwilliams5@comcast.net	303-200-0262
Individual of the Year (IOY)	Ralph K Spencer III	Ralph.Spencer@mms.gov	303-888-2705
Newsletter Editor	Randall & Janet Drake	HookdOnDiz@aol.com	303-933-6073
		Jdrake1111@aol.com	
Ride Book Editor	Randall Drake	HookdOnDiz@aol.com	303-933-6073
Membership Coordinator	Position Available		
Storekeeper	Bill Douglas	bdouglas1951@q.com	303-748-2671
Chapter Album	Position Available		

Colorado Chapters and District Staff

Colorado Chapter Directors

Chapter A	Carl & Becky Manning	wingnuts_cd@comcast.net	303-250-5735
Chapter B	Sandy & Farrel Harris	sfharris@bresnan.net	970-243-3325
Chapter C	Les & Sharon Brown	lesandsharon@bresnan.net	719-372-6498
Chapter E	Bill Weiss & Lisa Capano	lisacapano@aol.com	720-890-8122
Chapter G	Marty & Aimee Bond	m83wingrider@yahoo.com	970-302-2946
Chapter I	Butch & Linda Shelley	butchshelley@msn.com	719-495-5741
Chapter J	Garry Howland	scout4life@sprintmail.com	303-337-2740
Chapter N	Mike & Debbie Rose	debbierose@socolo.net	719-250-1988
Chapter Q	Nick & Ginny Hoppner	ginnyornick@bresnan.net	970-964-4379
Wyoming B (Northern CO)	Dave & Dawna Hill	dada@bresnan.net	307-635-5227



Colorado District Staff

District Directors	Steve & Teresa Randolph	wingncolo@comcast.net	720-963-9434
Assistant Directors	Randall & Janet Drake	HookdOnDiz@aol.com	303-933-6073
Assistant Directors	Chris & Casey Ward	chrisward@hp.com	719-495-4707
		cwardsprint05@earthlink.net	
Rider Educators	Mark & Sue Damschen	Goldwing049@msn.com	719-481-9263
Treasurer	Sherry Burgener	Sburgener@aol.com	303-591-2963
Membership	Jim & Alecia Mein	ljmein@msn.com	970-686-0687
Webmaster	Jim Wohlford	cogwrra@comcast.net	303-979-0196
Couple of the Year (09-10)	Bill Weiss & Lisa Capano	lisacapano@aol.com	720-890-8122
Individual of the Year (09-10)	Sue Ewing	suekewing@yahoo.com	720-283-8861

Region "F"un Staff



Region Director	Anita & JR Alkire	jralkire@cox.net	619-741-8893
Assistant Directors	Larry & Donna Pickens	res0r1sy@verizon.net	661-726-5145
Assistant Directors	Lumpy & Diane Lumpkin	lumpyazt@cox.net	520-885-5709
Assistant Directors	Joyce & Rick		
Treasurer	Pam White		505-896-3879
			Cell 505-401-1995
Educator	Ace & Penny Peterson	acenpenny@bresnan.net	970-240-9408
			Cell 970-570-5027
Assistant Educator	John & Joan Garrett	john@garrett.bz	951-679-4987
		John	Cell 951-505-5335
		Joan	Cell 951-505-6849
Medic First Aid Coordinator	Joel & Marti Winkler	jwinkler2@verizon.net	626-969-7386
		martwinkle@yahoo.com	
MAD Program Coordinators	Dave & Sandie Novitt	dnovitt@yahoo.com	520-296-7369
			Cell 520-465-1262
Rider Course Training Coord	Hank & Cheryl Herrera	heherrera@juno.com	714-547-5278
Special Events Coordinator	Jeffrey & Denise Goldin	arizonagoldin@cox.net	623-551-9947
			Cell 602-481-0894
Rally Vendor Coordinator	Lumpy & Diane Lumpkin	lumpyazt@cox.net	520-885-5709
Leadership Training	John & Sharon Simonick	johnsimonick@comcast.net	801-878-7081
Membership Enhancement	Ed & Linda Johnson	MED4U@comcast.net	276-628-5535
			Cell 276-492-5535
Region Store	Barbara Jefferies	tjeffer293@aol.com	916-682-3469
			Cell 909-224-6272
Couple & Ind of the Yr Coord	Crystal & Ralph Richardson	crystal@infinite-healing.net	858-541-1176
			Cell 619-929-6223
Couple of the Year (09-10)	John & Gail Reynolds	msdaisymae123@aol.com	915-755-2401
Individual of the Year (09-10)	Bill Leach	mudwagon@cox.net	520-747-5276
Public Relations Coordinator	Ken Freeland	kjfreeland@aol.com	818-403-6729
			Cell 818-370-3572
Public Relations Coordinator	Joann & Jim MacClean	KA6VJF@pacbell.net	661-251-5420
Webmaster	Paul & Linda Fenton	pfenton@plgassociates.com	949-597-0232
Rider Ed Webmaster	Jerry Borge	crzn2up@sonnet.com	209-694-8656