



Wing Words

the rest of Colorado follows COL



FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

December 2011

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Member Contributors this Issue

Fred & Linda Fisher, Directors
 Carl Williams, Rider Educator
 Gary Warner, Debbi Strauss, Ralph Spencer
 Dennis Williamson

Next Chapter Gathering

Monday, Dec 5, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m.

Folks start showing up at 6:45 p.m.

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

Gathering Refreshments & Coffee

Refreshments: **COOKIE EXCHANGE**
 Coffee: Steve & Tami Bender

Words for Gold Wings!

by Fred & Linda Fisher, Directors

Greetings from your Directors!

It seems like just yesterday that we battled snow from last year and now its winter again. It seems that as I grow older, the years pass faster and faster. However, the year 2011 is not done yet. We do have some items to take care of before the year ends. After that, we can clear the slate and start things for another great year here at Chapter L.



One of the last events for the Chapter is our annual Multi-Chapter Christmas Party taking place at the Runway Grill, Rocky Mountain Regional Airport (11705 Airport Way, Broomfield for you GPSers) on December 3rd. I hope you can all attend.

We will have our traditional December Cookie Exchange at the December 5th gathering. Please bring your cookies or other treats in bags of 1/2 dozen that also include a recipe or ingredient list for those that might have food allergies.

Anne Williamson is diligently working on our Chapter of the Year Program. She might be contacting some of you for some information on our past events. Please help her out if you can. This would have been a much easier project had your Chapter Director (Me), given this project out at the first of the year. Then we could have kept track of things as the year went along, instead of trying to go back and fill in the blanks. My Bad! We will do this right next year.

As prescribed by the National Couple and Individual of the Year Program, a committee has selected the 2012 Couple and Individual of the Year for Chapter L. The results of this selection process will be announced at the December 5th gathering.

Going into 2012, we need to get started putting together plans for the coming year. We already have some things, like the Wing Ding trip, on our ride schedule for the coming year but we will need to come up with many more. Please put some thought into some ride ideas and dates so we can get them in our 2012 Ride Guide.

Lastly, if we don't get a chance to tell you this in person, Linda and I would like to thank you, all of you, for a wonderful year here at Chapter L. Without you, the members, this Chapter does not exist. We have been able to grow with the addition of several new members this year. We need to encourage the continued participation of these

newer folks and continue to grow. I do recognize that with growth comes change, and some, set in their ways, do not like change. But to keep this Chapter alive, some change must happen or it will die on the vine.

So with that we bid 2011 a heartfelt "Good bye!" and look forward to 2012 with expectations of another great year. What else would we expect? We are, after all, Chapter L.... the *Leader*.

We will see you at our December gathering, if not before.

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

What a Year for Chapter L!

"Been Preaching to the Choir All Along"

by Carl Williams, Rider Educator



This has been yet another great year for Chapter L member's participation in the Rider Education Levels Program. We have **every** active member enrolled in the Levels Program! What a testament to our Chapter's commitment to riding safely.

When you look at our "Where Have You Been" map, you get the sense that our Chapter can be definitely labeled as a "Riding Chapter". As a Chapter, we have logged thousands and thousands of safe miles. What a credit to the experience and skill level our Chapter members possess.



Here is a quick review of Chapter L's participation (43 members total) in the Levels Program;

Level 1 – 5 members

Level 2 – 2 members

Level 3 – 18 members

Level 4 – 18 members with:

2 members at the Master Level (less than 5 years at the Master Level)

4 members at the Senior Master Level (5 years minimum)

7 members at the Grand Master Level (10 years minimum)

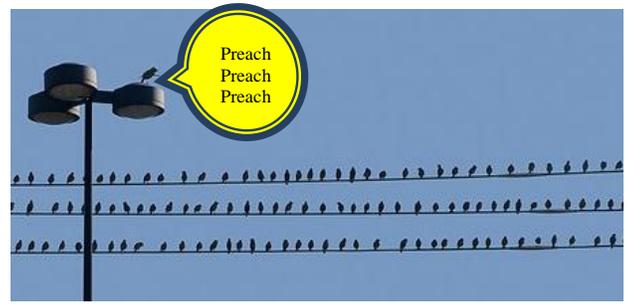
5 members at the Life Grand Master (15 years minimum)



Next year around June, most of the 18 members at Level 3 will be eligible for the Level 4 Masters Level. We just might have the most folks at the Masters Level in the entire state of Colorado by then.

We had a few good Riders at our Chapter back east, however I remember thinking "Wow!" when Judy and I attended our first Colorado Experienced Rider Course in 2009. The Chapter L's high level of riding skill was so obvious. I had never seen so many riders attack the riding exercises with such gusto and confidence!

Someday, I hope to become “one with my bike” and conquer the famous Figure 8’s in a Box exercise like so many of our members do.



My hope for 2012 is that our Chapter continues to focus on riding safely by their continued participation in the Levels Program by remaining current in First Aid/CPR and rider’s courses.

It has been my privilege to have been “Preaching to the Choir”.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy December Birthday to:

Rick Elmore (Dec 18)
Anne Williamson (Dec 21)
Janet Spencer (Dec 23)
Carl Williams (Dec 23)
Greg Green (Dec 26)



Happy December Anniversary to:

Steve & Teresa Randolph (Dec 27)

Fall Color Ride

by Gary Warner

Editor’s Note: Apologies to Gary for not getting this article published in November.



The ride included the Randolph's, the Smith's, and the Warner's (Steve and Teresa each on their own Gold Wings, Bob & Joyce on their bike, and Gary & Alice leading on the 4th bike). We did a ride similar to the one the Williams led several weeks ago, up Golden Gate Canyon (fabulous colors) down to Blackhawk, across Central City Parkway viewing veins of yellow & gold spotting the



panoramic views on all sides, and on to Echo Lake Lodge for lunch.



The ride down CO-103 to Evergreen was no less impressive with beautiful vistas of the far off, golden streaked mountainsides surrounding us, and the never-ending vibrant patches of yellows and reds ushering us down the mountain. At times massive golden arches, that opened up into even more picturesque wonderlands ahead, seemed almost surreal!



A good time was had by all, and topped off with a stop at the Ice Cream Shop in Morrison to recount the day's beauty, and talk of the possibility of capturing some of the grandeur on our cameras!

Inexpensive Entertainment

by Fred Fisher

D'Evelyn Disguise, the improv group at D'Evelyn High School in Jefferson County is performing their annual Bru-ha-ha improv show on Friday and Saturday, December 9 and 10 at 7pm.

A few of us went with host Ralph Spencer to see these kids last year and I, for one, was really impressed with these kids. We were thinking this might be a fun thing to take a group to. The cost is only \$3 per person, a great value for some good fun.

We will talk about this some more at the December gathering.

Chapter Couple Moving to Greater Heights!

By Debbi Strauss

Ralph and I would like to thank Chapter L for supporting us during our 2011 Couple of the Year term. We felt very honored to represent Chapter L. It's the best!

We wish the 2012 Chapter Couple of the Year the best of luck. We will be glad to assist them at any time.

Ralph has been very busy working on the Chapter's Membership Enhancement recruiting. He has contacted several members and at this time has brought in one couple which had been members of GWRRA since 2007. Please welcome Robert Evers and Laura Hudson at our next meeting.

Ralph and I hosted the November Mystery Dinner Ride. We went to Gala Gardens and had 12 people attend. We had great food and a wonderful visit with everyone. No one drew the "red" chip!!!

No Ir de Compras!

By Ralph Spencer

Photos by Dennis Williamson

For those of you with any experience in the Spanish language, you may know that the title of this article, *No Ir de Compras*, means "No Shopping!" Those were the words I recall most from Dennis Williamson's message of Monday, November 21, 2011. Dennis's message was quite clear: Wednesday, Nov 23 was going to be a beautiful day and all were invited to join him at the Conoco station at C-470 and Morrison Road at 10:00 a.m. Gold Wings, of course, were encouraged to show up along with "cruisers, crotch rockets, V-Rods, loud pipes, and so on." However, Dennis included the following ominous phrase at the end of his message, "no shopping!"



I wondered to myself how he could possibly prevent Anne from stopping in a few little shops along the way, which we all know is something she really enjoys. Heck, come to think of it, most of the ladies in Chapter L have been known to stop in the off-the-wall establishments encountered on our many rides. Most of the men realize that the shopping gene is something unique about the fairer sex and there really isn't much any of us can do about it,

especially on a casual motorcycle ride at the end of Nov with the temperature in the mid 60's!

So how was Dennis going to accomplish his *No Ir de Compras* mission? I could not wait to see him in action! I was hoping that sparks would not be flying between the men and the women due to the proverbial gauntlet that had been put down by our fearless leader. Would anyone care to take a guess as to how Dennis's mandate was upheld throughout the entire trip to Rudy's Country Store and Barbecue restaurant in Colorado Springs and back? How did he and the rest of the riders (Al Plumhoff, Bob Smith, Steve Randolph and myself – w/daughter Hanna) prevent their better halves from taking control of this marvelous ride (CO 105 on the way down and CO 67 on the way back) and hitting just of few of the one-of-a-kind stores we saw on this trip? After all, we were very close to Colorado City, a notorious shopping Mecca, as we headed west to Rudy's on CO 24 from I-25; how



did he stop the ladies from doing what comes naturally to so many of them? Aha, some of you figured it out, didn't you? You determined that the only way Dennis could enforce his *No Ir de Compras* mandate was to leave the ladies at home (or at work - in the case of a few)! Besides thinking rationally, one of the clues to figuring out this conundrum should have been Dennis's invitation to all the bikes that normally do not receive such an invite on a typical Chapter L ride.

This ride was meant for retired old men (Al and myself being the noticeable exceptions) who love to ride and whose wives (those who were not working, at least) wanted no part of this free for all. Please don't take this explanation the wrong way; Dennis led a great ride, just as he always does. He was on familiar terrain so he really did not need Anne! By the way, Hanna fit in great, enjoyed the ride, had no interest in shopping, and is now back to her first love, studying for a neurophysiology test at CU next week! I'm sure Dennis will be leading similar rides this winter, especially when the weather is just too good to resist. And when you see his *No Ir de Compras* catch phrase in his ride invitation, you will understand the method to his madness! Many thanks for the great ride, Dennis. As Hanna said, it was the Bomb, which is the highest praise you could possibly get from a college senior!!!

PS: For those of you wondering why I named this article as I did, consider this: Would you have been enticed to read an article entitled, No Shopping?

Hasta luego, mis amigos!

Future Events

December 2011

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sat, 3 rd | Multi-Chapter Christmas Party (see flyer) |
| Mon, 5 th | Chapter L Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Clements Community Center
Cookie Exchange! |
| Wed, 21 st | Chapter L Dinner Ride, 6:30 p.m. – None this Month |
| Sun, 25 th | Merry Christmas! |
| Various | Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2011 Ride Guide |

January 2012

- Sun, 1st *HAPPY NEW YEAR!*
- Mon, 9th Chapter L Gathering, 7:00 p.m., Clements Community Center
Refreshments – Dan & Vicky Kirk
- Wed, 18th Chapter L Dinner Ride, 6:30 p.m. – *No One Signed Up* 
- Sat, 28th **Colorado District Officer Conference, Clements Community Center, Main Floor
(Regular Gathering Location for Chapter L)
8:00a.m.-Light Breakfast Refreshments
9:00a.m.-1:30ish p.m. –Conference
RSVP to Chapter Director if you are attending!**
- Various Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2011 Ride Guide



Chapter L Officers and Staff

Directors	Fred & Linda Fisher	silverone@comcast.net	720-922-0789
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Chapter Album	Position Available		



Colorado Chapters and District Staff

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Individual of the Year (2011-12)	Stan Smetana	stan@denver.net	303-903-4887



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Convention Vendor Coord	Bud & Dot Kapp	hekapp@k2g.com	623-434-6560
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