



Wing Words

the rest of Colorado follows COL



FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY, AND KNOWLEDGE

July 2013

Contents

Words for Gold Wings!..... 1
 I Never Saw the Rider!..... 2
 Partners!..... 4
 And a Good Time was had by All! 4
 Birthdays & Anniversaries..... 6
 Future Events 6
 Colorado Chapters and District Staff..... 7
 Region “F”un Staff 8

Next Chapter Gathering

Monday, July 1, 2013 @ 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: **Kenny & Lis Simons**

Coffee: **Kenny & Lis Simons**

Words for Gold Wings!

by Fred & Linda Fisher, Directors

Greetings from your Directors,

We had a pretty busy month of June for Chapter L. I also find it interesting that as we do many of the Multi-Chapter events, Chapter L almost always has a large contingent in attendance.



We had a nice crowd at the District Picnic and then the following day, we did a chapter ride to the Burlington Carousel. Now keep in mind that if you ride the shortest and fastest route from the Chapter L meeting place to the carousel, it would be a 340 mile, 5-hour round trip. Now I need to ask ride host Mike Hottinger why it took us 479 miles and 11 hours

to get to and from the same destination? It’s all about the ride!

We also managed to slip in the 10th Annual Colorado Ride-for-Kids event, along with the annual and ever popular Ralph and Janet Spencer dinner ride to the White Fence Farm.

We were scheduled to do another Multi-Chapter function in the Campout at the Royal Gorge KOA. However, the event was canceled because of the Royal Gorge fire near the campground. We’ll keep you posted if this event gets rescheduled.

We also participated in the Multi-Chapter ride to Bents’ Fort on Jun 22. There were 15 bikes and 20 participants representing five Front Range Chapters. Please keep an eye on the

Chapter L web page calendar for updates and schedule changes of other activities.

We will soon know the location of Wing Ding 36. It will be announced in a couple weeks in Greenville, SC. At that point, we will all need to decide about going there to support Barb and

John Pons in their pursuit of the International Couple of the Year crown.

With that, I will close for now. Hope to see everyone at the July 1st chapter gathering.

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

I Never Saw the Rider!

by Andrew C. Smith, Rider Educator



The police have heard these words too many times, "*But officer, I never saw him.*" The reality is that this is true, in some cases, and only we can change these times.

We as riders must do everything in our power to make the drivers of those other vehicles see us. It may be the clothing we wear, the color of bike we ride, lights we have on the bike or even reflective tape that is strategically placed. We will discuss several techniques to attempt to make ourselves seen.

Probably one of the most obvious means of being seen is to stay out of the 'other' vehicles "Blind Spot". We know where the majority of these are since we all drive 4 wheeler's as well. Be cautious about the vehicles pillars at the side and even the front windshield area. These pillars can hide a bike for just enough time that it does not register with the driver.

Do everything you can to make eye contact with the driver, watch his mirrors when passing, and look him or her in the eye when approaching an intersection. You should be able to tell if you have registered in the driver's mind, and they are not giving you the 1000 yard stare. If you are passing, PASS!, do not float in and out of the danger zones where the driver can't see you. Clear the vehicle smartly and re-establish a safety buffer around your bike.

Use the color of your bike to your advantage. Brighter colors (yellows; bright red; whites; etc), will catch the drivers eyes better than the darker colors (black's; dark burgundy or dark blue).

Reflective highlights in your clothing or on the bike or trailer will also make your presence stand out. Obnoxious might save

you from serious injury or even a fatal accident.

Use the HiViz jacket, or even those gaudy bright yellow helmets that some people in the chapter wear... (yes, I'm smiling). You must decide how visible you want to make yourself. Dark riding gear, like your leather jacket and chaps, is not your friend when it comes to being seen. Even the use of reflective tape will help

you stand out at night. When these reflective tapes or tabs are placed on your helmet, the movement when you ride will draw drivers' eyes to you, and you won't be 'invisible'.



When we ride in groups remember to use your hand signals. Just the fact that you use them may surprise other drivers and catch their attention. Do whatever it takes to make you obvious.



The strategic use of lighting can be one of the best ways to be seen. Many of us use the "Wig-Wag" brake light system to catch the attention of those who follow behind us. There are even newer products that can help make us seen if you don't use the "Wig-Wag" system. One is called the Vololight, this device uses an accelerometer to sense the vehicle's deceleration, and begins to flash its LED lights even before you actually apply the brakes. The 2 wheel "Christmas Tree" idea of having every light that any vendor has ever offered could be over-kill or even to the point of being distracting and unsafe. There really are limits to some things. And if you

don't have one of these type devices, a couple a "taps" on your brake will definitely help to signal your intentions.

Another area where we can use light is at the front of the bike. We can make ourselves much more visible if we just ride during the day with our high beams on. But, check local laws before riding with high beams on all the time. For example, Colorado law requires you to dim them when within 500 feet of an oncoming vehicle or when following a vehicle within 200 feet, without regard to daytime or nighttime driving. We can also take advantage of the newer HID (High Intensity Discharge) technology, and/or the use of headlight Modulator's that make the headlights 'pulse' is an extremely effective method. (by the way Modulator's are legal in all 50 states as long as they comply with the Federal regulations).

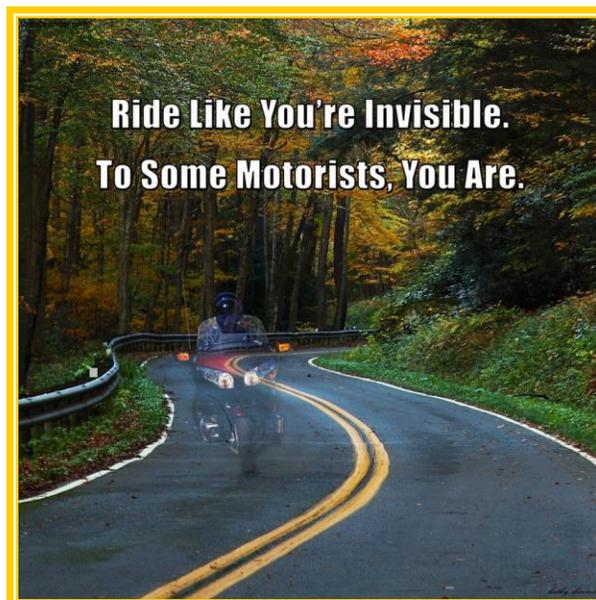
Running or 'Fog' lamps are also a great method to use to be visible. It is well documented that a Triangular pattern of light will draw the eyes to the vehicle. It also helps with depth perception for the other driver.

As a last resort, self-preservation being key here, let the other driver know that you are there by the use of your horn.



Don't let it be said of you... "I never saw him..."

Ride Safe - Have Fun!



Partners!*by Sherry Smith, MAD Chapter Coordinator*

Partnership is the state of having shared interests or efforts. Yep, that is how I would describe what is going on with the Jefferson County Sheriff's office.



Here are some interesting facts from the Jefferson County website about Motorcycle Safety:

Since January 2011, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has responded to 44 serious injury, or fatal, motorcycle crashes. Of those:

- 98% were rider error
- 75% occurred in the foothills
- 70% were caused by excessive speed or failing to negotiate a turn
- 40% of all fatal motorcycle accidents involved unendorsed riders
- 14% were DUI related

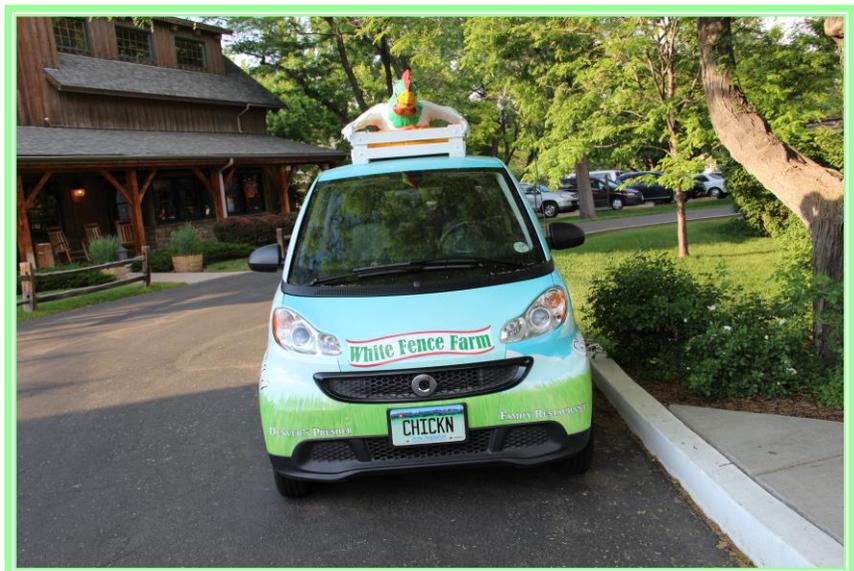
Wet roads, canyons curves, sand, and gravel can be difficult to negotiate; are you driving smart, or are you part of the 98%?

July 20th is the next seminar; come and join the partnership.

And a Good Time was had by All!*by Ralph Spence, Chapter Greeter*

Did you ever wonder where that popular phrase came from??? Me, too, but more on that later!

Twenty-five Gold Wings enjoyed a fantastic meal in the North Gardens room of the White Fence Farm during Chapter L's June 19 Mystery Dinner Ride. This June tradition began 4 years ago when yours truly was looking for a way to pay tribute to Charlie Wilson, owner of the



Farm and a philanthropist extraordinaire. Charlie had four children, all of whom graduated from D'Evelyn Jr/Sr High School, the same school my daughter attended for grades 7 through 12.



Charlie's oldest son, Jamin, graduated from D'Evelyn in 1999 and from Harvard in 2003. He also received a commission as a 2LT in the U.S. Air Force in 2003 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Unfortunately, on Dec 14, 2006, Jamin was killed in a tragic automobile accident while commuting to his Air Force job in Germany. Not long after Jamin's death, Charlie contacted me (we did not know each other!) and asked if I would be interested in helping him coordinate an *Excellence in Education* awards program at D'Evelyn in Jamin's honor.

Two \$1,500 awards were created to reward outstanding D'Evelyn community members each year who had a positive impact on the academic lives of D'Evelyn students. After 3 years and \$9,000 in awards,

Charlie insisted that the awards be increased to \$2,000 each. May 2013 marked the sixth year of these E in E Awards; \$21,000 has been awarded over this time with over \$50,000 remaining in a special *Excellence in Education* fund established by Charlie, his family, friends, and many others.

This year I asked Charlie if he would consider donating to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation as part of the GWRRA's Ride for Kids. He promptly sent Pat Andrews a check for \$150!!! I decided to try to increase the number of

folks attending our "traditional" June Dinner Ride and encouraged members from the various Denver GWRRA Chapters to join Chapter L at the White Fence Farm. Not only did 12 Chapter L members attend this special dinner, but 13 folks from other Denver Chapters joined us as well (see attached pictures). I would like to create a June Multi-Chapter Dinner Ride in June 2014 and at least double the number of Gold Wingers attending this magnificent restaurant! We always have reserved parking at the "Farm" and Chuck is the golf-cart-driving security guard who loves to keep a close eye on our stunning bikes while we enjoy a superlative meal inside, which of course includes all the corn fritters you can possibly eat!!!

Now, what about that popular phrase I used as my title? *A Good Time Was Had by All* was the title of a book of poems by a Miss Stevie Smith in 1937. According to *A Dictionary of Catch Phrases*, Miss Smith's book popularized the phrase, but Smith herself had taken it from parish magazines, where reports of church picnics would end with that phrase. And now we all know the derivation of this popular phrase! Don't forget to dazzle your friends with this trivia tidbit at every opportunity!!!

Birthdays and Anniversaries**Happy July Birthday to:**

None to report!

**Happy July Anniversary to:**

Steve & Tami Bender (14th)
 Randall & Janet Drake (17th)

Future Events**Jul 2013**Mon, 1st

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

Refreshments – Kenny & Lis SimonsSat, 6th

Multi-Chapter All-American Car Show

Sat, 13th

Multi-Chapter Copper Mountain Ride sponsored by Chapter L

Sat, 20thChapter L Dinner Ride, Time TBD – **Andy & Sherry Smith**Fri-Sun, 19th-21st

Multi-Chapter Western Slope Ride sponsored by Chapter I

Sat, 27th

Chapter J “Hummer of a Summer” Fund Raiser in Estes Park

Fri-Sun, 26th-28th

Utah District Convention, Price, UT

Various

Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2013 Ride Guide

Aug 2013Sat, 3rd

Chapter Q Fundraiser

Mon, 5th

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

Refreshments – Mike & Becky Ackerman**Thu-Sat, 15th-17th****Colorado District Convention, Granby, Colorado**Sat, 24thChapter L Dinner Ride, Time TBD – **Mike & Becky Ackerman**Sun, 25th

Multi-Chapter Ride Poudre Canyon Ride, Chapter G

Leave Johnson’s Corner @ 9:00a.m.

Sat-Mon, 31st-Sep 2nd

Multi-Chapter Black Hills Ride, Chapter E

Various

Other GWRRA Gatherings. Please refer to your 2013 Ride Guide



Chapter L Officers and Staff

Directors	Fred & Linda Fisher	silverone@comcast.net	720-922-0789
Assistant Directors	Bob & Christine King	bayoubobo@msn.com	303-463-4548
Rider Educator	Andrew Smith	redrockseducator@comcast.net	757-617-0734
Motorist Awareness Coordinator	Sherry Smith	savedby1too@verizon.net	303-923-8342
Treasurer	Tami & Steve Bender	bnrspndr@aol.com	303-972-8420
Membership Enhancement	Kenny & Lis Simons	kenneths419@gmail.com	720-685-0188
Chapter of the Year Coordinator	Carl & Judy Williams	cawilliams2@comcast.net	303-200-0262
Couple of the Year (COY)	Steve & Tami Bender	bnrspndr@aol.com	303-972-8420
Individual of the Year (IOY)	Ralph Spencer	ralph.spencer@onrr.gov	303-888-2705
Awards & Recognition			
Storekeeper	Dan & Vicky Kirk	redrider1951@comcast.net	303-358-6249
Ride Coordinator	Becky Ackerman	bikerbla@msn.com	303-988-0413
Newsletter & Ride Book Editor	Randall & Janet Drake	HookdOnDiz@aol.com	303-933-6073

Colorado Chapters and District Staff



Colorado Chapter Directors

Chapter A	Kraig & Linda White	kraigaw@msn.com	303-877-5709
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Chapter N	Diana & Dave Bradley	dndbradley@comcast.net	719-671-6235
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Wyoming B (Northern CO)	Jim & Paulette Lysne	jameschynn3@aol.com	307-634-9176

Colorado District Staff

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			303-406-8102
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Webmaster	Jim & Janet Wohlford	cogwrra@comcast.net	303-979-0196
Photographer	Kenny & Lis Simons	kenneths419@gmail.com	720-685-0188
Motorist Awareness-East	Kraig & Linda White	kraigaw@msn.com	303-877-5709
Motorist Awareness-West	Nick & Ginny Hoppner	ginnynornick@bresnan.net	970-964-4379
Couple of the Year (2012-13)	John & Barb Pons	john@ponsjandb.com	303-396-5520
		barb@ponsjandb.com	303-406-8102

**Region "F"un Staff**

Region Director	Anita & JR Alkire	jralkire@cox.net	619-741-8893
Assistant Directors	Garry & Kerry Woo	gwoo225@comcast.net	520-883-7155
Assistant Directors	Joyce & Rick Elmore	jelmore16@gmail.com	J cell 303-803-3748
		relmore2@gmail.com	R cell 303-803-5378
Assistant Directors	Cathy & George Diaz	geocatdiaz@sbcglobal.net	949-302-8664
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		Crystal.richardson@san.rr.com	Cell 619-929-6223
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Assistant Educator	Mike & Ruth Burke	mburke24@sbcglobal.net	209-536-5653
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		martwinkle@yahoo.com	
Assist Educator-Motorist Awareness	Mike & Barri Critzman	itsawingthing@hotmail.com	760-486-3405
Leadership Trainer	Ray & Sandi Garris	raygarris@gmail.com	602-404-6875
		wingedcoyotes@q.net	Cell 602-469-5440
Membership Enhancement	Lisa Capano & Bill Weiss	lisacapano@aol.com	720-890-8122
		Flyingace@qwestoffice.net	
Region Store	Gay & David Redline	gredline@me.com	303-549-0506
Couple & Ind of the Yr Coord	JoAnn & Jim MacLean	ka6vjf@pacbell.net	661-251-5420
			Cell 619-929-6223
Couple & Ind Yr Asst Coord	Rich Mason		561-315-5213
Convention Vendor Coord	Larry & Donna Pickens	res0r1sy@verizon.net	661-547-3166
		djpick5@verizon.net	661-547-2733
Couple of the Year (13-14)	John & Barb Pons	john@ponsjandb.com	303-396-5520
		barb@ponsjandb.com	303-406-8102
Individual of the Year (13-14)	Robert Bray	robertbray2@aol.com	614-563-8722
Webmaster	Tom & Lisa Evans	evans@att.net	575-652-3144