



GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS, REGION F, COLORADO DISTRICT, CHAPTER L

March, 2014

RED ROCKS WINGS

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LAKWOOD, COLORADO

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Words for Gold Wingers

by Fred and Linda Fisher
Directors

Greetings from your Directors,

The days are getting a bit longer each day and that means that warmer weather is on its way...YEAH.

We have had some nice days, and I'm sure many of you have been out for a ride or two. I know a few have, because there are several colored in states on the Chapter map already. Unfortunately, I haven't made it out yet. This work thing is still getting in the way.

The fact that we are not in prime riding season, doesn't mean we can't have some fun. We did something this past month that I really enjoyed. A group of us got together and went to a movie, then on to dinner. No riding involved, but a nice day to gather with friends.

The first of the Chapter Fundraisers was held on February 15 when Chapter B in Grand Junction held a Valentine's Potluck and Auction. I must encourage your continued support for the area fundraisers, as we ask others to attend ours.

We also enjoyed our monthly dinner ride hosted by **Judy and Carl Williams**. Next month will also include more eating with a Multi Chapter trip to the Adams Mystery Dinner Theater on March 15th, or monthly dinner ride, and the annual Wyoming, Chapter B Birthday Party which is scheduled on March 29th.

More information on all of these events at our monthly meeting.

I will have some handouts for everyone at the meeting that will provide information on the accommodations that we have arranged for Wing Ding in Madison.

We have only a few things on our schedule for the balance of the cold weather months. If you have an event that you want to schedule or plan, feel free to drop me a note and I can get information sent out.

Lastly, I would like to thank the person that sent this newsletter to you; Mr. **Carl Williams**. I asked Carl to take over the newsletter after I suddenly discovered that I wasn't very good at it. He graciously accepted the challenge and will be making some changes to keep this newsletter fresh and unique. If his outstanding work on our Chapter of the Year project is any indication, I'm sure he will do a fine job.

With that, I'll close for this month.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the March 3rd gathering, if not before.

Until Then, Ride Safe..... Always



Upcoming Events

*March 3—Chapter L
Gathering*
*March 19—Chapter Dinner
Ride*

**Chapter L Home of
299 1/2 Points for
Chapter of the Year
"See ya in Madison"**

LAKWOOD, COLORADO

Thank You Volunteers

by Bob King
Assistant Director



Well it's hard to believe that March is already here. This year is going so fast I don't remember if we had a month of January. I noticed the birds are starting to sing in the morning and the sun is coming up earlier and the grass is starting to turn green, so the itch to ride is getting stronger.

I want to thank our new Chapter L volunteers for stepping up and helping out. This Chapter has been successful because we have never had a shortage of members willing to be involved in their Chapter.

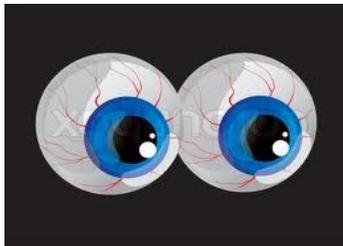
I would like to welcome our newest volunteers, **Mike and Rhonda Hottinger** for Assistant MEC, **Stan Smetana** for Assistance Ride Educator, **Carl Williams** for Newsletter Editor and **Judy Williams** for Awards Recognition. We all appreciate you stepping up to help and to prepare to be the future leaders of the Chapter. As I said in my opening com-

As They Say Familiarity Breeds Contempt...

by Sherry D. Smith
Motorist Awareness Coordinator, CO-L



Well, last month I wrote about "Conspicuity". This month let's look at "Familiarity" and how these two work together. It is



well known that the drivers of cars see and recognize other cars, but how do we make them see us? Remember, we (motorcycles) occupy only 4 feet of space in a 12 foot lane. We must make sure we consciously avoid their 'blind spots' (even when that is directly in front of them). Watch out for those 'killer' left hand turns.

As always, be seen and understand what the motorist sees.
Next month we will finish up with "Double Check"

Ride Safe & Have Fun!
"See Ya In Madison!"

Chapter of the Year Update

Chapter L's 2013 Score Sheet was presented to Colorado's new District Directors on January 11, 2014. District is expected to forward to Region the winning Chapter's Score Sheet on or of before March 1, Region to National by April 1 and National is expected to announce "as soon as possible" thereafter. Until then, we continue to say "See ya in Madison!"



LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**Speeding...***by Stan Smetana**Assistant Chapter Educator*

Andy Smith asked that I fill-in for him this month, so while the safety guy is away...

... let's talk about speeding.



Maybe it was an isolated transgression caused by a strong tail wind (*honest officer*), or a conscious decision, but I'd be surprised if each of us hasn't noticed our speedometer indicating a bit high at least once. Similarly, everyone certainly has the skill to properly manage throttle input and/or braking effort to return your vehicle to a more compliant pace. The mechanics and physics of speeding are likewise well known to each of us:



- Extra speed decreases our conspicuity
- Extra speed reduces our available options
- Extra speed adds distance traveled before we can react
- Extra speed means longer stops and longer/wider avoidance maneuvers
- Extra speed means extra energy that will be converted when our less-visible bike runs out of options with insufficient time to initiate a tight-enough swerve and impacts with some incredibly solid object.

Alleged "tail-winds" aside, speeding is most often a rider behavior or choice; even with all we know. Why then, do we choose to speed? It's difficult to say really, and writing about it is even more difficult. I'd be forced to use words like "reason" or "thought", where there may be no thinking or reasoning behind the choice. Let's just look at a few thoughts of why people choose to speed; do you find yourself here? Anyone you know?

- Higher speeds are safer – This belief may have its roots in how we perceive other vehicles. By exceeding the speed of traffic, all other vehicles approach from the front giving the illusion of "safety" by having only on-coming hazards to deal with. Additional underlying roots may extend into control or aggression issues.
- Road to machine imbalance – *UmDuh*. The capability of a Goldwing on a stretch of open road or inviting twistie pulls at the heart and quickens the pulse. The imbalance between the bike's controllable power and the inviting nature of a good road, may feel like waiting to see the dentist.
- Perception of speed – This can be less of a 'choice' and may be the only actual reason in this list. As human beings, we do not have an innate ability to accurately judge our travel speeds. Our perceptions are influenced by the environment (that tail-wind, the pitch of the engine, the whine of tires on road, etc) as well as our bio-chemistry; adrenal release (epinephrine) will attenuate our sensitivity to the passage of time. Of course, our immediate environment also includes a speedometer, so the choice is to ignore that.
- Achievement – "Mine is faster than yours, pay attention to me", "I am always in front", and "Just get outta my way" might be heard on your internal intercom. I group ego, competition, and aggression together as these behaviors are based on some internal need to demonstrate that you're superior, or that others are inferior.

(Continued on page 4)

LAKWOOD, COLORADO

(Continued from page 3, Speeding)

- Making Time – Simply stated, choosing to reach your destination more quickly, 75mph will get you to your destination faster than 65mph.

We'll talk these through at our March gathering and probably come up with a dozen more. For this newsletter, I'd like you all to understand speeding choices you may make in consideration of the following:

- In most cases, Faster is not Safer
- Enjoy the knowledge that your bike can consume the road ahead of you
- Check your speedometer – Consider leaving your bike in a lower gear for in-town riding
- While mine, is in fact, faster than yours, I have no internal need to prove it...
- Making time may seem plausible, we should talk about this sometime.

I'll see you at March's Chapter Gathering, and hopefully we can have a good conversation about speeding while Andy isn't watching.

Greetings

By Ralph Spencer

Chapter L Greeter

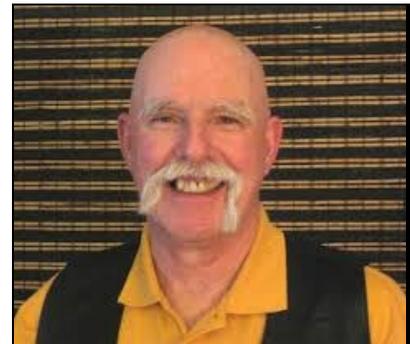
Greeter: One who greets with some form of salutation or welcome; one who meets or receives.

Our new Chapter L Newsletter Editor, **Carl Williams**, has wasted no time in recruiting new blood for his monthly issues. If I didn't know better, I would say that **Judith Crea** voluntold me for this task except that Carl, Master Tactician that he is, actually asked me if I wouldn't mind submitting a monthly article written from the standpoint of the Chapter Greeter. How could I say no???

As some of you may have noticed, I take my Greeter position very seriously. As Dale Carnegie wrote in his 1936 trend setting book, *How to Win Friends and Influence People*, "a person's name is to that person the sweetest and most important sound in any language." With that cardinal rule in mind, I make a positive effort to greet every person who attends our meetings, and people I see every day, by their name! I believe it is a sincere form of respect to greet someone by name whenever possible. While some may liken such an effort to death by a thousand cuts, I remain steadfast in my resolve to be the Ultimate Greeter and continually utter "the sweetest and most important sound in any language" to every person I see every day, and especially on the first Monday evening of every month!

Allow me to publicly apologize for a greeting faux pas I committed at the February 2014 meeting. I did introduce **Jim and Barbara Griffin** from Chapter A, and I did bestow kudos upon Jim for multiple articles he authored in a recent Chapter A Newsletter. He is truly a gifted writer! However, and there is always a however in life, I failed to mention that Jim and Barb are also Chapter A's Couple of the Year AND Chapter Membership Enhancement Coordinators. They have taken these two roles to heart and are visiting Chapters right and left and then writing about their visits in the Chapter A Newsletter. For those of us who cannot make all the Colorado District Chapter meetings, Jim's articles makes you feel like you were there! What great role models these folks are for other Couples of the Year and GWRRA members in general. Keep up the great work, Jim and Barb, and allow me to bow at the altar of the almighty Griffin for everything you two have taken on this year!!!

(Continued on page 5)



GREETER

(Continued from page 4)

Books or Money?

And now, a bit of diversity. The following is not GWRRA specific, but it is human specific, which is why I feel compelled to share it with all of you. Anne Herbert is an American writer who gave us the well-known, feel-good quotation, “Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty.” Another lesser-known passage by Ms. Herbert is, “Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.”



VS



This latter citation came to mind the other day as I was reading my routine email from the Tattered Cover Book Store, which contained a list of advantages of being a book lover. Please take a moment to read the following advantages I have purloined from the Tattered Cover list and share them with your family and friends, regardless of their age. Who knows, you might just convince someone to consider becoming a book lover!!!

1. You are never bored. Public transportation? Grab a book. Doctor’s waiting room? Grab a book. No cable or Internet? No problem. You were planning on reading tonight anyway.
2. While everyone else is stuck living just one life, you get to experience hundreds of lives, and explore the consciousness of hundreds of people. It’s like telepathy, only better.
3. You have the perfect quote for every situation. Like right now: “Books are a uniquely portable magic.” – Stephen King, *On Writing*.
4. You know the perfect word to describe every situation. Your vocabulary is stellar!
5. You are the easiest person in the world for whom to buy gifts.
6. Better readers are better writers.
7. You are in possession of an endless wealth of conversation starters.
8. You read so many books that you’re able to endow your own life with excitement and drama.
9. The varying perspectives offered by characters from books is basically free therapy; you receive good advice about living well on a regular basis.
10. Finally, according to a recent study, reading enhances your brain’s connectivity. That’s right—there is scientific proof that reading makes you smarter!

Books or money? Give me a book every time - and happy reading to all! You have the entire planet at your fingertips – just visit your local library to start your journey!!!

Editor’s Note

by Carl Williams
Editor

Fred & Linda Fisher

Bob King

Sherry Smith

Stan Smetana

Ralph Spencer

Mike Ackerman

Judy Williams

I want to thank all the contributing writers who helped publish this Chapter L March 2014 Newsletter!

Thank You All.

LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**March Dinner Ride***By Carl Williams**Member of the Year***Who Saw the Elephant in the Room?**

No grey or pink for that matter, elephants were found wandering around at the March Dinner Ride location, The Elephant Bar in Lakewood.

Thirteen Chapter L members gathered around for the usual “friends for fun and food”. With two waitresses, the group was served just about the same time and the usual hush happened. Later, conversations could be heard about future rides in hopes that the weather would co-operate. The group anxiously waited for the

“Chip Bag” fun to start. **Rhonda Hottinger** won the right to find the Red chip among the five White chips. You would think with 1 in 6 odds Rhonda would finally be the lucky person after all these months. You could hear **Mike Hottinger** moan when Rhonda picked one of the White Chips. Maybe next time.

**Tracking Mileage and States Traveled In**

As a reminder, **Becky Ackerman** has agreed to keep track of your yearly mileage, but she needs you to email her bikerbla@msn.com with your 2014 starting mileage. She will perform all the “mathematics” for us and track our Chapter’s progress. Please take the time now to go out in the garage, figure out your starting mileage and email Becky. We currently keep track of all the states the Chapter traveling in. Wouldn’t it be interesting to see just how many miles our Chapter accumulates?



Stan Smetana plans on including the states we have traveled in on our Chapter web site so we can watch the progress not only at the Gatherings with our map, but also on the web site.

Newsletter Feedback Requested

Since the Newsletter is published in PDF format, we are able to insert clickable **LINKS** to sources located on the Internet, particularly for information that is created by others rather than risk repeating outdated information in Chapter L’s Newsletter. Also, you might notice that you can click on **BLUE** email addresses to quickly email others without having to look up their address. Please let me

cawilliams2@comcast.net know if this is useful or helpful to you.



Please email me with any and all suggestions for Newsletter improvements that potential will make the Newsletter a better tool to communicate with you, easier to read or information that is missing or not needed.

LAKWOOD, COLORADO**Ft. Robinson, Nebraska****Chapter 'L' Ride August 30 – September 1, 2014**

by Mike Ackerman

Our Chapter L Labor Day Weekend ride to Ft. Robison Nebraska will be packed with some really exciting activities all three days of the ride.

Day 1 will take us from our usual starting location at the Loaf 'n Jug located at Union and Cedar Streets in Lakewood. The departure time will be somewhere between 7 – 8 AM with the exact time being announced later.

The beginning of the day we will be riding north on I-25, I know 'Oh my, how very exciting'. Once we pass Cheyenne and Wheatland we will turn East on US 26 with Guernsey Wyoming as our next destination.

WOW, Guernsey Wyoming, I can hardly wait!

Enough already..... For those of you who have never been to Guernsey, or perhaps you have and didn't know, there are two very exciting historical sites located just outside of Guernsey.

The first historical site we will be stopping at is the 'Oregon Trail Wagon Ruts' location. Here you will be able to walk a portion of the Oregon Trail and see where the horses, wagons, and people crossed over a sandstone ridge and literally wore deeps ruts in the sandstone. You will want to be sure you have your camera ready.

Just a few miles east of the Oregon Trail Wagon Ruts location is another famous historical site known as 'Register Cliff'. This site was an over stopping location for the wagon trails headed West on the Oregon Trail.

During their stop, many of the travelers carved their names and the date in the soft sandstone cliff. Along with the carvings on the sandstone cliff there is an old cemetery where many of those same travelers were buried.

***THE BARRACKS***

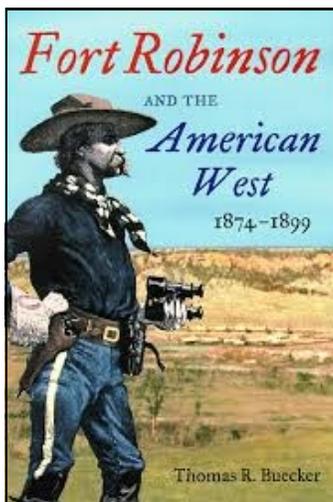
After visiting Register Cliff we will once again continue East on US26 to our next destination of ???

Sorry, you'll have to read next months' newsletter to find out where we will be stopping next.

Just a reminder, if you have not already do so, please contact Ft. Robinson and make your room reservation. As of yesterday, there were only 11 rooms available.

Visit the following link for more information on the Oregon Trail Wagon Ruts and Register Cliff.

http://www.octa-trails.org/learn/virtual_trail/virtual_tour/guernsey/



LAKWOOD, COLORADO

Chapter L Members Having FUN

March Birthdays

Christine King	2
Steve Bender	27

March Anniversaries

Kenny & Lis Simons	15
Andy & Sherry Smith	18

50/50

Drawing



FEBRUARY WINNERS

Donald Redline
Fred Fisher
Jim Griffin

The Chip Bag

March

1 in 6 odds



Rhonda Hottinger

Did NOT Find the RED Chip!

Awards & Recognition for February

by Judy Williams

Awards & Recognition



This award is presented to Sherry Smith. During the "299 1/2" Party on Dec. 14, 2013 Linda asked Sherry to tell the group that she was serving cake. Instead of just telling the group, Sherry yelled VERY loudly that "they're cutting the cake" and shocked us all. Congrats Sherry for the BIG change!

SHERRY SMITH

Where Has LARRY Been?

By Linda Fisher

Director



Five years ago, **Larry T. Lion** came to live with the GREAT Chapter "L". He has been loved and coveted by many in our extended GWRRA family. He was the first of many new mascots to come and live with Chapters in the area.

In February he was stolen by Chapter A and went to live with **Dorie and Mike Werner** until the meeting on Feb. 6th where he stayed until 6 of his family came to his rescue. He seems to travel a lot. We never know where he'll go next.

In July we hope to take him to Madison Wisconsin as part of the International Chapter of the Year celebration.



Larry and His Pals

LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

Up Coming Chapter L Events for March

Monday 3th—Chapter Gathering
 Refreshment by **Ralph & Janet Spencer**
 Wednesday 19th—Chapter Dinner Ride
 Hosted by **Mike and Rhonda Hottinger**

Other Events in Colorado for March

Saturday 15th—Multi-Chapter Adams Mystery Play-house
 Saturday 29th—Chapter WY-B Birthday Party

Colorado Chapter Gatherings Dates, Times and Locations

All of this information can be found on the District web site at <http://www.coloradogwrra.com/Chapter/ChapterMeetings.htm>. Click on the blue [LINK](#) to connect.

Schedule of Nearby District, Region and National Conventions

April 3 –5, 2014

Region H Convention
 Marshall, TX

May 5—8, 2014

Texas District Convention
 Tyler, TX

May 23—26, 2014

Region F Convention
 St. George, UT

June 26—28, 2014

Wyoming District Convention
 Cheyenne, WY

July 2 –5, 2014

Wing Ding
 Madison, WI

July 25—26, 2014

Utah District Convention
 Logan, UT

August 21-23, 2014

Colorado District Convention
 Breckenridge, CO

Sept 12 –14, 2014

Kansas District Convention
 Abilene, KS

Sept 25 –27, 2014

New Mexico District Convention
 Carlsbad, NM

Sept 25 –27, 2014

Oklahoma District Convention
 Shawnee, OK

Chapter L Members at Play



LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

Chapter Officers and Staff

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Colorado District Staff



Here is a [LINK](#) for you convenience.

Region F Staff



Here is a [LINK](#) for your convenience.

GWRRA National Staff



Here is a [LINK](#) for your convenience.

Colorado Chapter L Web Site



Here is a [LINK](#) for your convenience.