



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

April, 2014

RED ROCKS WINGS

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LAKWOOD, COLORADO

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Greetings from your Directors

by *Fred and Linda Fisher*
Directors

I have finally gotten the bike out. Not to ride, but to at least service it and get it ready to ride. I changed oil, fuel filter, air filter and added air to the tires. I did an inspection to make sure the bike is safe; lights, brakes, fluids, etc.



By the time this is published, I hopefully, will have been out riding. My first planned longer ride is to the Wyoming Chapter B Birthday. That is usually my first "official" ride of the year.

The fact that I have not ridden does not mean I haven't been having some fun. Several of us enjoyed a fun evening at the Adams Mystery Dinner Theater. Again our very own **Mike Hottinger** was involved in the production by taking on a role as one of the characters. I believe a great time was had by all again this year.

Mike and Rhonda Hottinger also hosted our dinner ride this month. More on that later in this newsletter.

Coming on April 6th is the Chapter A Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. April also has our Dinner Ride, and a Horizon Class. Please note we have a pretty open month, so don't be surprised if Becky twists a few arms again this month to add something to our schedule.

We have a ride down to the Royal Gorge train coming in May. Mike Hottinger will have more information and a signup sheet for us at the April gathering.

Don't forget to make your plans for some of our long range future events. We have rooms blocked for both Wing Ding and the Balloon Fiesta. Currently, these rooms are limited to Chapter L people. However, if they go unused, I will probably open them to other Chapters to use. If you need any information on how to book your rooms, let me know and I can get the info to you. We also have the Region F Convention, the District Convention, and a ride to Fort Robinson on the schedule.

Don't forget too, that Chapter L also has a fundraiser coming up on June 21st. Please keep this highlighted on your calendar.

With that, I'll close for this month.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the April 7th gathering, if not before.

Until Then,Ride Safe..... Always

Upcoming Events

April 7—Chapter L
Gathering
April 16—Chapter Dinner
Ride

Spring Riding Thoughts

by **Bob King**
Assistant Director



Spring has arrived and the bikes are out. Everybody's excited about getting on the two wheels and start enjoying the feeling we get when we ride, but don't let the excitement overwhelm you, there are many things that have to be done. Check your bike out carefully for anything that could have happened to it over the winter and make sure you have good tires.

The biggest thing to check out is you, we are all old and rusty and so are our riding skills. Before you go and get that first ice cream run in go to a parking lot and get re-acquainted with your machine. Practice those slow speed turns and do some weaves and get that body to readjust to the bike. Then do it again with your co-rider. You will be happy you did.

Ride safe and remember it is spring, vicious weather can come up at any time, ice and sand are around every corner.

Double Check

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



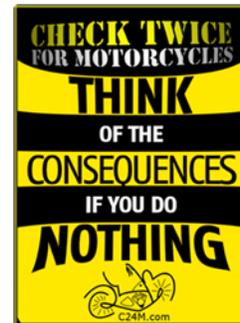
Double Check: This is the last of the three ideas that encompasses the Motorist Awareness Program.

Have you ever been so busy in your day that you have to remind yourself to breath? So distracted, with your job, you forget to eat? That you were multi-tasking your multi-tasking! Wow look at the time.....really...where did it all go? In the car, where is that list, where are my keys, where is that phone... where... Sound familiar anyone? There are times when it seems life is traveling at speeds that make your head dizzy, and all you can do is hang on and hope you don't fall off.

As motorcyclists, not only do we have to be concerned with drivers who have way to much going on, but we also have to be concerned about road obstruction like debris, potholes (Colorado), and loose gravel. Let's also not forget the wind.

Why Double Check?.....Busy, distracted, seriously multi-tasking, got to get home and make dinner for my babies kind of drivers it.

Make sure that you are driving aware.....in case they are not!



LAKWOOD, COLORADO**Duties from the “Princess” Seat! (a.k.a. Co-Rider Responsibilities)**

by *Andrew Smith*
Chapter Educator, CO-L



Before letting a passenger onto your bike, I recommend providing a briefing with them. I explain that so long as they are on my bike THEY have a say in what is happening - that if they want to slow down, or to stop, for any reason, we will do so. In other words, the rider controls the bike while the passenger provides input to the rider! I explain that it is not my intention to scare them, ever, while they are on the bike, but to help them enjoy the experience. In exchange for this there is a price: they have several jobs while riding as passenger (Co-Rider), and they must agree to get on and off the bike only with the permission of the rider.

You may want to explain the 'passenger twist' where they connect their helmet cord while facing the bike, then do a full turn clockwise so that the cord wraps behind them before they get on the bike. That they get on and off only while I am on the bike, which is in neutral, and have both feet down and the side stand up (this, because if the side stand is down and they plump themselves on the saddle they will compress the shocks and that will lever the bike to the right - possibly all the way over onto its side!). I nod and tell them it is OK to get on the bike when I'm ready for them. I do the same when I'm ready for them to leave the bike. Finally, I ask that when they mount and dismount the bike they try to keep their weight centered on the bike - that they not pull the bike towards them but, rather, push themselves towards the bike.

We should also explain that while we are moving they can talk to me if they want thru the intercom, and that they may use the PTT button near their left hand to talk on the CB (if the bike is so equipped), but as far as moving around, I'd prefer that they pretended to be a sack of potatoes (actually, I tell them they can move about, just let me know first before they make any adjustment, and not to move suddenly) - that they are NOT try to help me through the turns - that they not lean in anticipation or when we are in a turn, just stay in the same position on the seat.

I tell them that I have never had an accident, but that no matter what happens while we are moving, they are to keep their feet on the passenger floorboards and never, ever, try to touch the ground with their feet to try to hold up the motorcycle. I show them the saddlebag guard rails and point out that they are heavy steel, like 'roll bars', and will protect their legs only so long as their feet remain on those floorboards.

Oh, as to those 'jobs' they have:

- They are to wave at all motorcyclists approaching us in the opposite direction.
- They are to be another set of eyes for the rider, since they will see many thing the rider may not recognize.
- They should not 'over' communicate. It is ok to have a conversation, but don't communicate so much it becomes a distraction for the rider.
- They are to wave at all children that show any interest whatever.
- They are to demonstrate to the world that they are enjoying themselves, particularly at all rest stops!

Failing any of those jobs, I declare, will result in them having a new job when the ride is over – cleaning the spokes. (There are no spokes on my Wing, of course.)

(Continued on page 4)

LAKWOOD, COLORADO

(Continued from page 3, Princess Seat)

As to my own personal rules while riding with a passenger:

- The only thing I want to 'show off' is that riding a motorcycle can be safe and enjoyable.
- I wish to challenge myself with the task of trying to shift gears without the passenger being aware of the activity (no head snaps in either direction).
- I want to start and stop with the passenger never quite sure that we have started to move or that we have come to a full stop - i.e., smoothness all around.



Obviously this is the wrong way for having passengers on your bike...

There are certainly many other duties for the Co-Rider, but to get the whole story... keep your eye out for the next Co-Rider course. We get to spend about 45 minutes going over all the details. (And it is required for all Co-Riders to maintain Level 2 thru 4).

Ride Safe – Have Fun!

Greetings

by *Ralph Spencer*
Chapter L Greeter

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

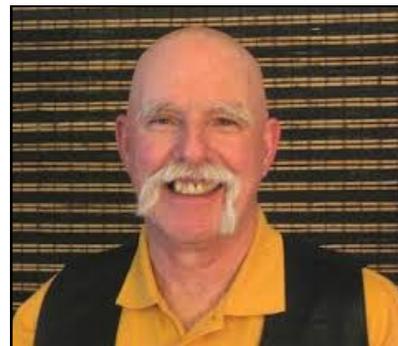
I hate to start off with negative thoughts, but I must get something off my chest. I have long believed that people in organizations do not read organizational newsletters. It doesn't matter what type of organization it is; the vast majority of folks just do not take the time nor have the inclination to read their organization's newsletters. My goal is to get everyone reading our monthly newsletter!!! I am going to do my best at changing the newsletter paradigm in Chapter L, if in fact it really exists! I am going to write about subjects each month that will surprise most of you. Carl's new look to the newsletter will also help rope some of the non-readers into the reading arena. And by the way, I may be way off base in the belief I have about organizational newsletters. Please let me know if I am. Regardless of whether I am right or wrong, I plan to write about offbeat subjects that will leave some scratching their heads and others clapping their hands. We shall see. Let me know what you think. READ ON!!!

March Birthdays – No, I'm not talking about Chapter L member's birthdays. We all know about those – they're listed in the Ride Book! I'm talking about those other birthdays, the ones that make all of us feel old but, in many cases, will bring back vivid memories of where we were when. Are you ready???????

Daniel Craig – the most recent Bond was 46 years old in March. Is he the best Bond? Of course not; that title must be reserved for the first "Shaken, not stirred," Mr. Sean Connery! Did I mention that Mr. Connery is 83 years old? Are you kidding me?!?!

Neil Sedaka – come on all you pop rockers! Who doesn't remember *Calendar Girl* or *Happy Birthday Sweet Sixteen*!!! Neil was 75 in March – GASP!!!

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GREETTER

LAKWOOD, COLORADO

(Continued from page 4, Greetings)

Mary Wilson – the founder of *The Supremes* is now 70 years old. All I can say is *Stop! In the Name of Love!!!*

Elton John – 67 years old in March! *I Guess That's Why They Call It the Blues.*

Aretha Franklin – 72 years old in March and still going strong. Now that deserves some *Respect!!!*

I couldn't help but overhear the following in my neighborhood Hallmark store the other day. An older couple was asked by a clerk if they needed help finding something. The woman replied, "Yes, we have some friends who are getting married . . ." and was promptly interrupted by the husband who finished his wife's sentence by saying, "and we're looking for a sympathy card."

Many of us have children who have not yet married. Consider giving them the following advice before they select their sole mate: Before you get married, you should first make them use a computer with very slow internet to see who they really are!



Finally, does GWRRA have a celebrity spokesperson? I don't believe so but, if anyone in Phoenix is interested in such an idea, I have the perfect person in mind, and I think most of you will agree! Bruce Dern has appeared in more than 80 feature films, and was recently nominated for Best Actor in the 2013 film, *Nebraska*. The white haired, bespectacled 77 year-old actor was recently quoted as saying, "You know what the greatest remedy on earth is today? It's not a pill. It's not a shot. It's a hug." Now that's my kind of guy!!!



Editor's Note

by Carl Williams
Editor

Fred & Linda Fisher
Bob King

Sherry Smith

Andy Smith

Mike Hottinger

Jim Griffin

Ralph Spencer

Mike Ackerman

Judy Williams

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

Thank You All.

LAKWOOD, COLORADO

As an avid reader of other Chapter's Newsletters, your Editor has always admired Jim Griffin's writing skills. His insight and "wordsmithing" abilities make his articles both interesting and informative. We have asked Jim from Chapter A to be a regular contributor to the Chapter L Newsletter.

Everyone is a Visitor...Once

by **Jim Griffin**

Chapter A

Membership Enhancement Coordinators

Chapter A Couple of the Year

Let me start by saying how grateful I am to be offered the opportunity to contribute an article to another Chapter's newsletter. I struggled at first with a topic that would have value to a wide audience. Then I had a remarkable brain storm, write about something that we all have in common and something that Barb and I have some experience with in our travels within the District this year especially — *everyone is a visitor... once*. Being the new Chapter A Membership Enhancement Coordinators, that subject also melds nicely with that new role.



Each one of us has been a visitor in our Chapter and at the other Chapters that we have attended! The very first time we walked through the door we took on that title. We have that common starting point. Each of us faced the unknown as we walked through the door. We had questions about will we be accepted, what to do next, where to sit, just who or what are they talking about, etc. When one thinks of all the questions and the feelings that may and sometimes do go on, it's a wonder that we go anywhere! GWRRA is an open organization that is based on being inclusive and welcoming. We are all members of all Chapters regardless of location. Think about how wonderfully fantastic that is. Still there's that initial "hump" that we must get over. Now once we have selected that "home" Chapter, we may have a tendency to forget that very first time. Let's revisit this from a recruitment and retention (R & R) perspective. We want folks back for the long haul. We shouldn't care if that's in Chapter one or Chapter two. R & R are the ways we grow and sustain our Chapters.

From our visits around the Colorado District, we have observed that our Chapters do a good job projecting that welcoming and inclusive spirit. Some have welcome tables that are clearly marked and "manned" with greeters. Others have designated greeters — "Yea, **Ralph Spencer!**" That initial warm, fuzzy feeling sets the foundation for what follows in the next hour or two. So how does a Chapter keep that warm, fuzzy going? We are inclusive. We make the visitor not feel like a visitor. We watch the jargon and inside jokes. We explain as we go or assign a "meeting mentor" to be a guide. We circulate with handshakes and hugs. We make them feel like they are one of us — because we hope they soon will be. R&R is every member's responsibility. Barb and I have visited every Colorado Chapter in this first quarter of 2014. We are proud of our District and each of its Chapters. GWRRA has some great people are doing some great things. Thanks for what Chapter L has done and the way you represent the Colorado District and GWRRA. We're committed to your success.



LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

Membership Enhancement, What is it??by *Mike Hottinger**Assistant Membership Enhancement*

We hear about Membership Enhancement but what is it exactly? What does it do for me? Let me see what I can do to help with this. What was the phrase that American Express coined? "Membership, it has it's privileges." Well does it? Lets think about this. We are all members of many things, starting with family and moving along with social groups, church and recreation, including for us GWRRA. For the most part we are a society that gathers together with others with similar interests or common friends. Membership can be unofficial or it can be a registered membership like we have with GWRRA. Some are members for just one specific benefit they are interested in and others become members to take advantage of all the benefits they can.

Now that we understand something about membership let's see what we can understand about enhancement. I opened a dictionary and here is what I found:

en·hance:

Verb used with object) en·hanced, en·hanc·ing.

1. To raise to a higher degree; intensify; magnify
2. To raise the value or price of

Related forms: en·hance·ment, noun; en·hanc·ive, adjective; self·en·hance·ment, noun; un·en·hanced, adjective

Reviewing this definition we come to understand Membership Enhancement means we will intensify, magnify and raise the value of being a member of GWRRA and more than that, as a member of Region F, Colorado District, Chapter L. I believe this means enhancement to my membership, your membership, new membership and membership yet to come.

Rhonda and I are new to GWRRA joining summer of 2012 and we were not close to any Chapter but yet we became involved and we wanted to be involved because of the people that we met. We had just met a new family, a family we did not know we had. It did not matter our position in life, our bank account or experience, we felt our membership being enhanced. It can be one person, one couple or even one Chapter that enhances us but the point is that we ARE enhanced thus bringing forth a desire to share our love and enhancement with other members. This kind of activity is infectious and we find ourselves wanting to share with others, plan activities and celebrate life's moments with our friends.

We shared so much that it was a Chapter L Ride (**Kenny Simons'**) that I asked Rhonda to marry me. It was during the Chapter L ride book meeting this was discovered and thanks to **Linda Fisher, Judy Williams** and Kenny, the plans for the wedding were hatched. While this was to be a special day for Rhonda and I, it was made so much more special because of what Chapter L did for us. A chapter member (**Ralph Spencer**) was able to secure a place for the wedding. A Chapter member (Kenny) became ordained so he could marry us. Chapter L planned the wedding and a member (Judy) was the coordinator. A lot of Chapter involvement right? Well there was more, the Maid of Honor (Judy) and Best Man (**Carl Williams**) were members. The cake was provided by members (**Vicki Kirk**) and the music was coordinated by a member (**Fred Fisher**). We were led to our wedding in a procession of members on their Goldwings and after the wedding what do Goldwing people do? The newlyweds led a ride down the front range for ice cream at Palmer Divide. Now if we did not feel enhanced at that point in our life then we must be unreasonable. What do we think? We are privileged to be members of GWRRA, Region F, Colorado District and Chapter L. We should all be so lucky to have these kind of people around us as friends that enhance us. Who have you enhanced recently? We thank all the people that make our memories great.

So, does this wrap up membership? Not even close because there are so many different benefits most people don't think about or maybe don't even know about.

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LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

(Continued from page 8, Membership Enhancement, What is it?)

You can find the complete list of benefits on the GWRRA website <http://gwrro.org/benefits.html> Here is a quick list of benefits for those that may not care to check the web site and yet still would like to see them. I have tried to include all that I found but please forgive me if you find one I missed.

Wing World Magazine, Rescue Towing and Roadside Assistance, Rescue Plus, Gold Book, Rider Education, Financial Services and Insurance, VIP Pet Insurance, Liberty Mutual Auto & Home Insurance, Long Term Insurance, Monumental Term Life Insurance, TransAmerica Medicare Supplement Insurance, Rx Discounts, LifeLine Screening: Preventative Health Screenings, Big Bike Parts, GWRRA Wireless Center, Office Max, LifeLock Identity Theft Protection, JC Motors Transport, GWRRA Official Products, GW Pin & Patch, Hotels and Travel: Red Roof Inn, Motel 6, Wyndham Hotel chains, Avis, Budget, GWRRA Vacation Center, TNT Vacations Discounts, Travel Now and of course there is always Wing Ding.

We were surprised at the size of the list of membership benefits and I thought it might be nice to review a different benefit each month and when trying to decide where to start I was decided it was easiest to just start at the top of the list.

Wing World Magazine is an automatic subscription we all get as current members of GWRRA. I find myself with the same feelings I know others have, I anxiously await the arrival of the magazine each month and was so happy to see it in the mailbox as I started this article. If you think people may not really care about this magazine just wait until there is a change in leadership and/or a change in the format. I have read comments in chat boards indicating there are many people very passionate about “their” Wing World.” Did you catch that? I said “their” Wing World on purpose, because as a member, Wing World is OUR benefit and we tend to like what we like. Becoming a member in 2012 makes me “new” but even I have seen the format change and boy do people have an opinion when someone changes the format or design of the magazine. What do I think? Change can be good to keep things fresh, but changes that happen too often can cause some dissatisfaction.

Wing World format is very similar to any good magazine you get a letter from the editor and letter from the top dog, in this case it is the “Director's Letter”. Wing World is then broken into three main area's, Ignition, Throttle and Exhaust. So with that said, lets look deeper into Wing World a see what it can do for us. In the Ignition section you will find the “Quick Hit's” a section full of product reviews, short articles and other new little things you might like for your Gold Wing. This is also where you will find some Riders Ed and also The Red Page that has all sorts of good information from American Honda. There is a How To section that can cover many different areas such as, in the recent issue, the how to is on tips to take pictures and submit them to Wing World. One of my favorite parts of this section is the Workbench. I enjoy reading the questions from riders or problems submitted trying to discover what to do and reading the diagnosis or repair processes, I may never need to use anything I read about, but who knows, someday it may happen to me or a friend or a stranded rider I happen across and maybe I can help because I read something one time.

The section titled “Throttle” is the main body of the Wing World. In here you will find all sort of interesting articles. You may read things about new bikes or maybe riding gear. There are always interesting stories about a road trips or destinations that give the readers an opportunity to dream and plan a similar trip or at least live vicariously through others adventures on the road all over the world. You may read all about members and where they come from, what they have done and where they are going. Some of these stories are so heart warming that I find myself hoping I get to meet them face to face just to say thank you. Of course you will always see something about up coming events like Wing Ding. Wing Ding is either coming or just wrapped up but there is always information about where it is going to be, people that will be there and deals to be found.

So the third, and last section is titled, “Exhaust”. I love to browse through this and see what is for sale, and then look at the events coming up, what is on the calendars and new things from travel adventure and motorcycle goodies pages. Goodies, lots of goodies that I must get to enhance our riding experiences. The last couple pages are for the real regular people, the readers rides. Do you know anybody whose bike was shown on these pages or maybe it's been your own. I have seen a few people that I know and that is always nice when somebody is recognized as we feel like it is a little more personal. Yep, I will say it, Wing World is my magazine and I can't wait to read it and enjoy it each month. I hope others get some enjoyment out of it also.

LAKEWOOD, COLORADO**Let's Go Have Some Lunch**by *Mike Hottinger**Assistant Membership Enhancement Coordinator*

Well, here it is March and we are going to have a ride to lunch on a Saturday instead of Dinner on Wednesday. Saturday will be a great day for a ride, that is as long as you are riding in a car. Yes, the weatherman had to be correct and it was going to snow so we all came to a Chapter L

Dinner Ride in our, cars, trucks, SUV's or maybe even a rental car because all your cars are in a shop somewhere. Wonder who that could have been?

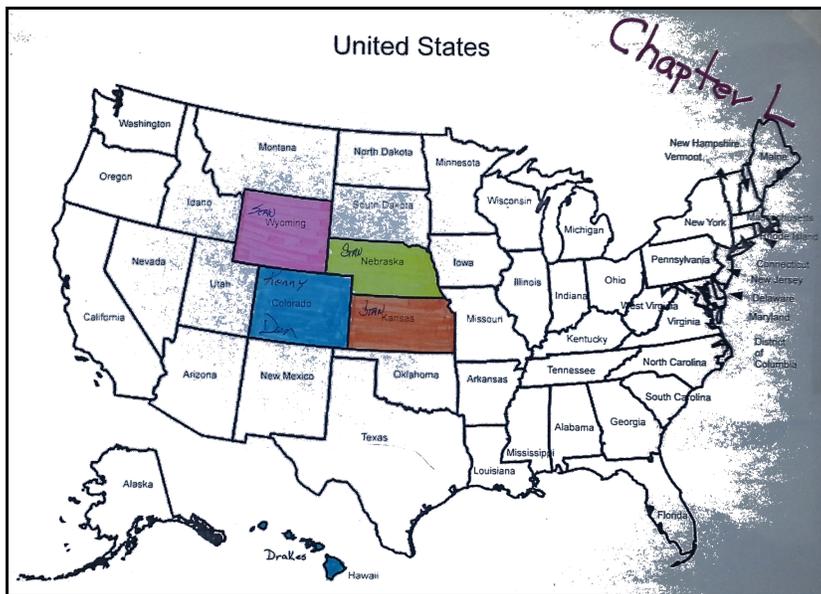


Since my Wednesday schedule was botched up **Rhonda** and I had the idea that we would move it to Saturday and do lunch. Well we lost a couple of people and gained a couple of people. **Bob** had a HOG thing and **Fred** had a gambling thing, but we picked up a few from Chapter G. We chose to take everyone to the Pepper Pod Restaurant in Hudson. We had a great turnout for a snowy Saturday. From Chapter L there was Rhonda and me, **Linda Fisher, Carl and Judy Williams, Mike and Becky Ackerman, Andy and Sherry Smith and Randall and Janet Drake**. We brought my son **Austin** along as this was his last weekend as a civilian. Chapter G had three people make it, **Joyce Elmore, Jim Castell** and his wife **Dawn Winter** giving us 15 people.

I was looking at a little history on this nice little eatery and I got a little information of the place from the web page. The Pepper Pod is currently celebrating over 100 years in business. The Pepper Pod was built in 1913 by the Peppers family. It began as a modest cafe on old Main Street in Hudson. Soon however, flourishing business necessitated a larger building, so one was built next to Highway 6 where business thrived, making it a landmark on the plains northeast of Denver. In 1956, the present building was constructed near the new interstate 80 (now I-76). I had no idea it was this old of a restaurant, I new it has been around a while as I remembered eating there as a kid when we would travel to the big city once or twice a year.

We all had a great time, good conversation and left with full stomachs. What else do you need? What's that you say? Money?!?!?! What Money??? Oh, that's right, the chip draw. Well after all the Chapter L people bought their tickets there was \$172 literally up for grabs. Who would get the chance to take home the prize and buy everyone's lunch? OK you are right, if the money is won I am sure the lunches were not going to be paid by the lucky winner but stranger thing may have happened. So lets get to the meat of the thing... wait I cant do that cause **Austin** ate them all, all the ribs from that large rack of ribs he ordered. What I mean is lets get to the winna, winna, chicken dinna... wait that was sort of Rhonda with the "chicken" fried steak. Well I could keep this up with the fish, burgers, salads and the huge variety of food we all had but since I don't exactly remember what everyone ate I will stop here and just say Rhonda, being the person that earned the right to draw the chip last month reached in an drew out the ticket of the lucky lady that would get to reach into the B-E-A-U-tiful purple bag for the red chip. Let's recap what is in the bag. What is great is now it can be figured out using just one hand. That is right, there is a 1 in 5 chance to get the red chip. Who would get the chance? That would end up being **Judy Williams**. Judy reached in the bag, felt around, mumbled some magical words to ward off the bad mojo stuff **Mike Ackerman** was sending her way and you know in the end it worked. For Mike that is, Judy pulled out a white chip and showed us that there is a person with tougher luck that Rhonda.

So just a heads up to all you Chapter L gamblers, you might as well skip the dinner ride for next month as you will loose also because it is MY turn to try for a chip. Well come if you must but you are warned that when you draw a white chip on a 1 in 4 chance to win \$172+, we will all make fun of your bad luck also. Thank you all that came out to Dinner Ride and we look forward to what will happen in April.



“BEEN THERE FIRST IN 2014”
5 Down, 45 to Go

Stan Smetana— (3) WY, NE, KS

Kenny Simons— (1) CO

Dan Kirk—(1) CO

Randall & Janet Drake—(1) HI

Let’s go Camping

Chapter L Camping Weekend

July 18th – 20th, 2014

by **Mike Ackerman**

Chapter L camping weekend is scheduled for July 18th – 20th, at the Lakeside KOA, Ft Collins, CO.

This is a fantastic KOA with a whole lot of things to keep you busy for the weekend. Or if keeping busy is not your thing, then set back and relax beside the lake and watch the ducks.

You’ll find plenty of amenities there to please the entire family. Enjoy the 9-acre catch-and-release fishing lake, large playground, mini-golf course, bumper boats, Jumping Pillow, fitness trail, swimming pool, basketball court, Hill-Billy golf and even bicycles to ride. They even have a pizza shack on the weekends.

Prior to the 2014 camping season, most of the activities were fee based and cost \$22 per person per day. Starting May 1, 2014, all activities at the KOA are FREE TO REGISTERED GUESTS. What a deal!

Don’t have an RV or travel trailer? No problem, the KOA has both tent sites and cabins to rent.

If you want to stay in one of the lakeside tent sites or the lakeside KOA cabins, you should contact the KOA as soon as possible as these units are very popular and fill up quickly. Don’t wait until we have the RV reserved to make your reservation for either the tent site or cabin.

There will be a sign up sheet at the April meeting for you to indicate if you plan to go and what type of accommodation you will be using, RV site, tent site or cabin. Once it has been determined how many will need a RV site, I will contact the KOA and see if we can get all the RV sites together in a group. If I can get a group of sites together, I will let you know and then you can contact the KOA and request one of the group sites. More on that process after we determine how many RV sites will be needed.

Remember, if you plan to use either a tent site or one of the KOA cabins, it is important that you contact the KOA (800-562-9168) directly as soon as possible to reserve your unit.

Check out the KOA website at: <http://koa.com/campgrounds/fort-collins-lakeside/>.



Ft. Robinson, Nebraska**Chapter 'L' Ride August 30 – September 1, 2014*****Day 2 of the Ride***by **Mike Ackerman**

After stopping at the Oregon Trail wagon ruts and Register Cliff we will continue our journey to Ft. Robinson going East on US 26.



After a short ride we will arrive in the town of Fort Laramie, Wyoming. Going southwest of Fort Laramie just a few miles, we will stop at the ***Fort Laramie National Historic Site***.



For more than 50 years, the forces of Manifest Destiny swept past the doors of the fort on the Laramie. Indians, trappers, traders, gold seekers, overland pioneers, soldiers, and Pony Express riders, each in their turn, found within its borders an outpost of white civilization in the midst of ancestral hunting grounds of the Plains Indians.

The cottonwood log stockade fort, built in 1834 by fur trade entrepreneur William Sublette, was the first permanent society of white men on the Great Plains. From Fort William, Sublette sent runners to the Sioux and Cheyenne to tell them of his willingness to trade for buffalo robes.

However, it was not until the fort was sold to the American Fur Company in 1836, that it became a major fur trade center. In 1841, the old log fort was replaced by a larger adobe structure, one mile up the Laramie River. It was named Fort John, but was always known simply as Fort Laramie.

The promise of free land in Oregon and lure of gold in California drew thousands of emigrants up the Platte River valley by the 1840s. To protect these Argonauts and emigrants from increasingly frequent conflicts with the Indians, the US Army built a string of outposts along the Oregon Trail.

The location of Fort John near the confluence of the North Platte and Laramie rivers assured the army command of not only the east-west route, but also trails leading south along the Front Range of the Rockies, north into Sioux country around the Black Hills, and northwest into Montana. Purchased by the army for \$4,000, the old fur trade post soon stood at the edge of a growing complex of new military buildings.

Fort the next 40 years Fort Laramie was the staging point from which troops were sent into the Indians' last strongholds, and twice was where Indian and soldier came to make peace.

In the end, this post, which for so long had aided travel to the west, was bypassed by the nation it helped expand. With the end of the Indian Wars in 1890, the post was abandoned and sold at public auction to the homesteads it had made possible.

Come join us as you, too, can quench your thirst at the Enlisted Men's Bar with a cool glass of root beer, apple cider or sarsaparilla.



LAKWOOD, COLORADO

Chapter L Members Having FUN

April Birthdays

Ralph Spencer	14
Dan Kirk	19
Judy Williams	25

April Anniversaries

None.

Awards & Recognition

by *Judy Williams*
Awards & Recognition

**Come to the April Gathering
for a
Major Award Announcement!**



50/50
&
Couple of Year
Drawing



March Winners

Janet Spencer	Rhonda Hottinger
Dan Kirk	Kenny Simons

The Chip Bag

March
1 in 5 odds



Judy Williams

Did NOT find the RED Chip!

LARRY Travels North This Month

by *Linda Fisher*
Director

On March 3rd, Chapter G swarmed our Chapter Gathering and captured Larry. Where they took him bag and baggage you ask, to the Chapter G lair at Johnson's Corners! Six of Larry's closest family members arrived at the lair ready to do battle to re-claim our beloved Lion. After the usual great meal, Larry's captures waved good-bye to Larry and his people vowing to take him home.



Larry T. Lion

We wonder where Larry will travel in the future! Where ever he goes he will always have his people to come to his rescue.

Larry was very glad to see Elwood from Chapter E had come for a visit and sleepover. Larry reportedly said "It is always nice to have friends to visit with."

**Chapter L
Home of
299 1/2 Points
Earned for
2013 International
Chapter of the Year
Award
"See ya' in Madison"**

LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

APRIL 2014 WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Created by *Judy Williams*
Awards & Recognition

G P T D X N C A J R D T N V C
 C G A M T H H A O R X H O W C
 S D D U P Y I S D E M G S A Y
 I Z O N H X P B A D B I I D O
 S X P U S E B S R I H N D N I
 G S R J B F A P O R X E A O E
 L H E U J L G G L O A M M H G
 A G P C W S E I O C W A N R N
 R M P A N Y L C C P Z G I D I
 R T E W Y I O E H D H L A N W
 Y E P W N X R M V E S L Y A D
 Q A X L Y X R P I E C L E E L
 Q M I L E A G E A N L K E K O
 U Q L B P I A N G W G J S I G
 S A F E T Y R G T N X B D M X

CHIPBAG
 COLORADO
 CORIDER
 DOUBLECHECK
 GAMENIGHT
 GOLDWING
 LARRY
 LEVELS
 MIKEANDRHONDA
 MILEAGE
 PEPPERPOD
 PRINCESS
 SAFETY
 SEEYAINMADISON
 WYOMINGB

Who is this Chapter L Member?

We had 10 members at “Game Night” following our trip to Wyoming Chapter B’s Birthday Party where they celebrated 28 years as a GWRRA Chapter. According to Colorado District Director, **Barb Pons**, Colorado had 70 members who braved the cold temperatures to be part of the festivities. Chapter L had 13 members in attendance.

Back to the “Game Night” thoughts. As we were sitting around the table, new ideas for the Chapter L Newsletter were suggested. The group zeroed in on the idea of displaying a photo of one of our members to see if any other member could figure out “*Who is this Chapter L Member?*”.

As a hint, the caption for this photo is “**Ms. Can-Am**” as in Canadian-American, not the Williams’ Can-Am Spyder. The plan is to reveal the identity during the “Awards and Recognition” portion of the next Gathering.



LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

Up Coming Chapter L Events for April

Monday 7th — Chapter Gathering
 Refreshment by **Steve & Tami Bender**
 Wednesday 16th — Chapter Dinner Ride
 Hosted by **Kenny & Lis Simons**

Other Events in Colorado for April

Sunday 6th — Chapter A Fundraiser
 Saturday 12th — Chapter J Aurora Honda Open House
 Saturday 19th — District Road Captain, Co-Rider & PLP
 Saturday 26th — District Horizon Training

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 L Officers and Staff

Chapter Director	Fred & Linda Fisher	silverone@comcast.net	720-922-0789
Assistant Chapter Director	Bob & Christine King	bayoubob@msn.com	303-463-4548
Chapter Educator	Andrew Smith	redrockseducator@comcast.net	303-923-8342
Assistant Chapter Educator	Stan Smetana	stan@denver.net	303-697-9226
Treasurer	Tami & Steve Bender	bndrspndr@aol.com	303-972-8420
Motorist Awareness Coordinator	Sherry Smith	savedby1too@verizon.com	303-923-8342
Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Kenny & Lis Simons	kenneths419@gmail.com	720-685-0188
Assistant Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Mike & Rhonda Hottinger	mrhottinger@gmail.com	970-580-4439
Chapter Couple of the Year	Andrew & Sherry Smith	savedby1too@verizon.com	303-923-8342
Chapter Member of the Year	Carl Williams	cawilliams2@comcast.net	303-200-0262
Awards & Recognition	Judy Williams	jcwilliams5@comcast.net	303-200-0262
Ride Coordinator	Becky Ackerman	bikerbla@msn.com	303-988-0413
Greeter	Ralph Spencer	ralph.spencer@onrr.gov	303-888-2705
Storekeeper	Dan & Vicky Kirk	redrider1951@comcast.net	303-358-6249
Ride Book Editor	Janet Drake	jdrake1111@aol.com	303-933-6073
Newsletter Editor	Carl Williams	cawilliams2@comcast.net	303-200-0262

[Chapter L Web Site](#)



[Colorado District Staff](#)



[Region F Staff](#)



[GWRRR National Staff](#)



Colorado Chapter L



COLORADO DISTRICT HORIZON TRAINING

APRIL 26TH 2014 – 8:00 AM TO 5:00

Why Should I Attend Horizon Training?

The Horizon Program is a 1 day fast track overview of the core LTP curriculum with "hands on" training of practical applications, and an excellent class for potential CDs and staff. Horizon is designed to be a team building exercise.

Horizon is a great class for the general membership to learn more about teamwork, self-awareness, interpersonal communication, and building better chapters. So Come One – Come All!

Members learn about how to have FUN in GWRRA in a challenging day course filled with lots of surprises. It is an interactive program - the more everyone participates, the more everyone learns (No 'Wall Flowers')!



PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED



What is on Your Horizon?

Only 50 seats will be available – so register quickly!

This is for ALL Members – not just Chapter Directors!

RSVP, to Andrew Smith, by April 20th to hold a seat.
add@coloradogwrri.com

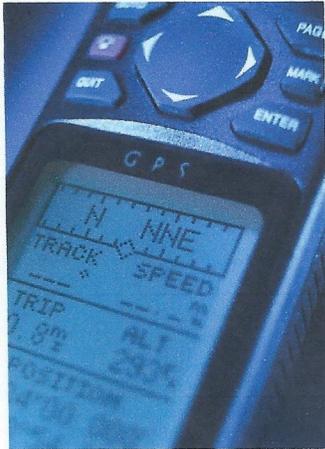
Cost: Only \$5.00 per Person (we will provide Pizza for lunch)

**TRAINING FACILITY
FAY MEYERS
MOTORCYCLE WORLD**

9700 E Arapahoe Road
Greenwood Village, CO
80112

Phone 303.539.5072

As an added bonus, Anita Alkire, Western Region Deputy Director will be teaching!



Wildlife, Frozen in Time

Join us on June 21, 2014 for Chapter L's

GPS FUN raiser.

**Starting at 9am from Green Mountain
Plaza Shopping Center.**

**12354 West Alameda Parkway, Lakewood
or: 39.70387, -105.138208**

\$10 per person includes lunch.
(if you can find us)

