



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

July 2014

RED ROCKS WINGS

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2013 International Chapter of the Year

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Greetings from Your Directors

by *Fred and Linda Fisher*

Senior Chapter Directors

Here we are, half way through the year already. I missed the June gathering because I was out of town, but heard that **Mr. King** did a great job in my absence.

One event I missed while traveling was the Ride for Kids. I understand the money raising went well but the weather could have been better. As we all know, nothing we can do about that. Come prepared and keep riding.

I did get home in time to enjoy the Chapter G Luau on Father's Day. There was a large crowd and lots of good food. Thank you to Chapter G for a wonderful event.

Because of work, I was forced to miss the Pikes Peak ride. Too bad, I was really looking forward to it. In all the years, I've never ridden the bike up. Plus, I understand we had some out of town guests join us. More on that later in this newsletter.

We had a successful fundraiser on June 21st. We had 35 people go on the ride on 23 bikes. Everyone seemed to enjoy the ride. Thanks to everyone for your support. All of the front range Chapters were represented.

The next day, we had our annual dinner ride to the White Fence Farm hosted by **Ralph and Janet Spencer**. We finally had a winner in the chip draw. You might want to ask **Dan Kirk** if you can borrow a few bucks when you see him.

By the time you read this, many of us will be on our way to Wing Ding. It will be nice to get honored in front of all those people as the **2013 International Chapter of the Year**. We have a couple of events planned in Madison also. We should have a good time.

When we all get home, the action doesn't stop. We still have 4 or 5 events on the calendar THIS month; and the August and September calendars are just as full.

Our July gathering is still scheduled for July 7th. I understand that many of you will not be home from Wing Ding by then so it will probably be an abbreviated meeting that night.

With that, I'll close for this month. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Madison, or at the July 7th gathering.

Until Then, Ride Safe..... Always



2013 International Chapter of the Year

Another Busy Month at Chapter L

by **Bob King**
Assistant Chapter Director

This has already been a busy month with something going on every weekend. I know I have covered 3,500 miles so far this month and still counting.

Pikes Peak ride had a lot of participants. I heard that it was an awesome ride and we had a visitors from another Chapter out of state go along. Ride for Kids was a success. Chapter G's Luau had a lot of people and the food was great, if you went home hungry you did it on purpose. White Fence Farm for our dinner ride which is always good. Also, the chip bag is now empty of cash. **Dan Kirk** was the winner, now he has the task of trying to keep it because **Vicki** smells new shoes.

We had our fundraiser and we had a good turnout. The weather was perfect for riding not hot or cold. Nobody really got lost, maybe a little turned around, but that is to be expected. The only complaint I heard was about the peddle bikes everywhere. Thanks you **Fred and Linda** for putting this together. It was a blast. Already working on next year's fundraiser so stay tuned.

The final ride this month is the travel to Madison, Wisconsin for Wing Ding. This is the big show for our Chapter L. We will be recognized for the **2013 International Chapter of the Year**.

One final note good luck to **Barb and John Pons** hope they win the International Couple of the Year.
See you all on July 7 for the next Chapter Gathering.



Colorado Chapter L: 2013 International Chapter of the Year – Motorist Awareness

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



Andy and I will be leaving in a few days to travel to Madison for Wing Ding 36 to celebrate our **2013 International Chapter of the Year** win, and to support our Region Couple of the Year, **John and Barb Pons**. I know many of ☺ you are going. Please remember to be vigilant on the road and watch for those four-wheeled monsters. Remember the lug nut rule, "He who has the most lug nuts WINS."



2013 International Chapter of the Year

Is Your Head in the Clouds?

by **Andrew C. Smith**
Chapter Educator, CO-L



Chapter "L" has had a very busy month so far, we have been 'Storming' around doing a lot of different things. And that has been great. The chapter's leadership has been keeping everyone very active, and we have certainly gotten a lot of riding in. (Pike's Peak; GPS Ride; Dinner Rides; and not the least a ride to "See Ya In Madison")

Carl and Judy led us on a very successful adventure to the top of Pike's Peak. It was a lot of fun, but presented some unique situations that we don't normally think about when we ride. Carl did an outstanding job of presenting the safety brief before everyone got on the road. He let everyone know the basic plan for the ride, the stops that were planned in to the way to the peak, and what the groups would be. As usual, safety and the responsibility for every rider to "Ride His Own Ride", what channel communications would be conducted on, and as I mentioned a couple of unique condition that this ride would present.



Pike's Peak is one of those rides that every rider has to make sure he is up for. It, as expected, has lots of great 'twistys' going both ways. One of the other parts of this ride is the great change in the riding environment as you go from the foot of the peak to the top. As we started out, it was nice and toasty temperature wise, then about the time you hit the tree line, things start to get a bit nippier. The cross winds also add to the adventure, since there were numerous times we got stuck behind a very nervous four wheelers, who wanted to do 10 MPH. So now we get to ride 'real slow' and deal with some very gusty cross winds. The concentration factor definitely steps up at this point.

Then finally you get to the top (Yeah!), and if you are not accustomed to this altitude and brisk temperature, you can easily find yourself getting a bit light headed and chilled. Not so bad for the Co-Rider's (especially those who ride with electrics – on High), however, for the Riders this could become debilitating to the point you are no longer ready to ride safely. Each rider had to evaluate his own condition. And since we were riding as a group, if any rider felt he was beginning to have an issue with the altitude and or temperature, he needed to notify the ride leader immediately. (We had a lot of opportunity to have an accident with lots of bikes, bicyclists and car's around us as we went up and down – not to mention the fact the road was basically hanging in mid-air – it sure seemed that way in a few spots)

We did get to share the fun with 2 sets of riders and co-riders from outside of our district. All of us had a great time with the new friends we got to share our adventure with, and with our great Colorado friends that rode with us.

The planning of each of the rides we participated in this month allowed us to have a great deal of fun and to accomplish it all safely.

As we see you on the road – Ride Safe & Have Fun!

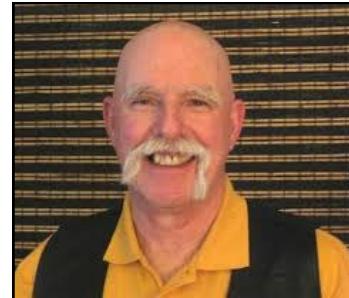
2013 International Chapter of the Year

Greetings

by **Ralph Spencer**

Chapter L Greeter

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



GREETER

Memorable Events

I know everyone is unique and what amazes one person will do little if anything for the next guy/gal. Hey, that's what makes the world go around, right?!? However, in my humble opinion, the last 30 days have been memorable for a variety of reasons, some of them worth mentioning here.



The \$50,200 raised on June 8 for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation has to be an amazing highlight for anyone who participated, and for that matter, anyone who rides a motorcycle in Colorado but could not participate. How do you set a goal of \$50,000 in 2013 and raise \$50,200 in 2014??? Congratulations to all our Colorado Ride for Kids Champions. This amazing goal could not have been achieved without your tireless efforts!

The Chapter L ride up Pikes Peak on June 14 also fell into the amazing category for yours truly. It was a first for me and I thank **Carl and Judy** for making it happen. I am proudly wearing my pin that reads, in part: "I rode the Peak – 14,110 feet!" And thanks to **Mike Ackerman**, I finally know why conservative/right hand turns are more difficult for me than liberal/left hand turns – per Mike, "It's all psychological." Perhaps if I start screaming, "Slow, Look, Press, and Roll" out loud on all my right turns I will be able to break through this psychological barrier. I will let you know!



And finally, 36 folks (plus **Baby Piper**, who made 37!) showing up on Sunday evening at the White Fence Farm for the Chapter L Mystery Dinner Ride was truly amazing!!! I believe we set the participation record for a ride of this sort in Colorado. In fact, **Dan and Vicky** gave me 200 reasons why they enjoyed this event so much! The food was excellent and the laughing, hugging, and overall camaraderie displayed by all was extremely gratifying. **Charley Wilson** and I sincerely thank all of the Chapter A, E, J, and L folks for their 'amazing' participation!

What's in a Rhyme?

I must admit that I'm a sucker for a good rhyme. I recently was the recipient of an outstanding rhyme that I must repeat for you here since it is the best I have ever heard/seen:



"There was a dad who had a daughter. Swung her. Spun her. Chased her. Caught her. Hugged her. Loved her. Praised her. Taught her. Oh, what happiness he brought her! Happy Dad's Day from that daughter."

Thank you, **Hanna**. I love you sooooooo much!!! Dad

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Greetings! Continued from page 6

And Speaking of Rhymes

Theodor Geisel, or Dr. Seuss, was the ultimate rhyme master. Although he died in Sep 1991, his mystical, magical rhymes will live on forever. If you have not started buying your grandchildren the Dr. Seuss books, perhaps the following five rhymes will motivate you to do so!

"You have brains in your head, you have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose."

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

"Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you."

"Will you succeed? Yes! You will, indeed (98 and ¾ percent guaranteed)."

"If things start happening, don't worry. Don't stew. Just go right along. You'll start happening too."

The Groaner Corner

The Past, Present, and Future walked into a bar. It was tense!

Go to bed in your fireplace – you'll sleep like a log.

Daffy Definitions

Apartment: A place where one lives while one looks for a new apartment.

Electricity: Nothing more than organized lightning.

Truisms

Never trust an atom. They make up everything!

Life is a conversation. Make it a good one.

Now that's what I'm talkin' about!!!

Chapter L Members at Red Rocks



2013 International Chapter of the Year

Welcome Our Out of Town Guests

By Fred Fisher

If you went on the Pikes Peak ride hosted by **Carl and Judy Williams**, you were joined by some visitors on the ride up. I'd like to tell you how this all came about.

On a pretty regular basis, I visit the GWRRA bulletin board. I've been going there for many years and have developed some great friends through the board. One of the topic areas I visit is the travel section. I have found many interesting ride ideas there.

Back in January, a gentleman named **Joe Coyne** put a post on it asking for information on riding in Colorado.

He got several ride ideas including a couple from me. A couple weeks later, he emailed me to ask a couple questions about my post. Well one thing lead to another and I soon realized that he and his wife **Carol**, along with another couple we coming out to Colorado around mid June.

As we communicated more and it got closer to travel time, it worked out that they were going to be passing through our area on the way to their base camp in Breckenridge. I told him that the Chapter was doing a ride up Pikes Peak on June 14th and invited them to join us. Joe said one of the things that they wanted to do was to ride up Pikes Peak and they would see if they could time it to join us.

As it worked out, they were able to join the Chapter on the ride. The only problem was that due to a work emergency, I was unable to go on the ride and I missed meeting them.

I did get an email from Joe that evening, and wanted to share it with you all:

"Hi Fred....We made it to Breckenridge about an hour ago.

Today was an absolutely wonderful day courtesy of your Chapter L members. They are truly fun people and friendly. Between riding with them up to the top, or chatting with them at lunch & an ice cream stop, I don't know what could have been better. They even escorted us to Rocky Mountain Honda to pick up a part we ordered the other day in Oklahoma. I don't know what the rest of the week has in store for us, but I'm sure that it can't top today's fun with your chapter.

Please give them our most sincere thanks. And if any of them ever head to Vermont they are welcome to stay with Joe and Carol at their cabin. Our only regret is that we didn't get to meet you

Thanks again,

Joe & Carol Coyne (Vermont)

Earl & Lorraine Knight (Rhode Island)"

Linda and I have traveled across the country with **Randall and Janet Drake** for many miles. One of the things we like to do is attempt to join up with an out of state, or out of the country Chapter.

It's great fun to join together with different folks, be it a meeting, dinner ride or any other type event.

We were all in Ontario Canada at a gathering of Chapter ON-H from Sault Sainte Marie Ontario where we were all inducted into the secret society of "Chevalier de la hache" or Knights of the Hatchet. We were welcomed with open arms by our GWRRA friends; our extended family.

I encourage you to try it some time; you might like it.



Joe & Carol Coyne, Lorraine & Earl Knight



2013 International Chapter of the Year

All the Gear All the Time (ATGATT) - A Survivor's Story

by *Mike Ackerman*



We've all heard it said or said it ourselves many times, 'Wear All the Gear All the Time'. But do we always do that?

I must confess there have been times when I did not wear ATGATT. A quick trip to the mini-mart a mile away to top off the fuel tank before a ride. Or the quick trip down the block to show off a new piece of 'safety chrome' to your neighbor. But those days are in the past. As a survivor of a horrific motorcycle accident, I have become a devoted follower of ATGATT.

Let me set the scene. My wife **Becky** and I were on the third day of what was supposed to be a fun and relaxing fifteen day spring vacation in New Braunfels and the Texas hill country. I am riding a 2003 GL1800 pulling a Champion cargo trailer. My bike has 141,000+ miles and the trailer has been pulled in excess of 100,000 miles. Becky is riding a 2003 GL1800 Trike and pulling an Aspen camper. Her bike has 100,000+ miles and the camper has been pulled in excess of 50,000 miles. All equipment is in good repair and operating normally.

Day three started out with light rain so the roads were wet, but did not have any standing water. Temperature is in the mid 60's. We put on our Frogg Togg rain suits to keep our clothes dry from road spray as much as for the light rain. The posted speed limit is 75 MPH. We don't like to ride at that speed so the cruise control was set at 65 MPH.

So there we are, cruising down the road enjoying the view of the Texas Blue Bonnets which were the most we had seen in our four trips to the Hill Country. Life is good and not a care in the world.

Suddenly my bike acted like a giant hand had come down and grabbed it and was doing the very best it could to throw me off the bike. I could tell that the cargo trailer was swaying from side to side but had no idea just how violently it was swaying. Becky said it was swaying almost 90 degrees side to side of the bike. It was only a couple of seconds and the handlebars were ripped from my grip, turned full lock to the left and the bike is pitched down on the right side.

65 MPH and being pitched down to the pavement....so much for 'Life is good and not a care in the world'. I'll confess right now.... I closed my eyes just before hitting the pavement, but stayed on the bike. I opened my eyes as I was spinning down the road and realized I was no longer on the bike and that it was sliding down the road toward me. No, my life did not suddenly flash before me, but I did have time to think 'This can't be good'. I slid across the oncoming lane of traffic and stopped on the shoulder off the road part way down into a ditch. The rear wheel of the bike stopped about six inches from my helmet. Luck was again on my side as there was no oncoming traffic that could have made this story have a much different ending.

As you so often read, there were all sorts of people who immediately stopped and offered help. One was a nurse, another a doctor and others that were just plain old fashioned good people. When the bike went down the cargo trailer broke free of the ball and safety chains and continued to roll down our lane in the road. A gentlemen who was behind Becky stopped, jumped out of his truck and pulled the cargo trailer off to the side of the road. It had not flipped or rolled but just slid right down the road.

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2013 International Chapter of the Year

All the Gear All the Time, *continued from page 7*

After deciding that I was not dead and that the voices I was hearing were from the people around me asking if I was okay I knew then that I had just used number four of my nine lives. After just a few minutes I was able to sit up and then stand...just a little unsteady.

The ambulance arrived, loaded me up and took me 22 miles to the nearest hospital. X-rays indicated a broken thumb and separated shoulder. Later we realized there was also a broken toe, but hey, who's keeping count. Both the bike and trailer have been listed a total loss. We have examined the trailer several times and have not been able to determine what caused the violent swaying. All of the damage to the trailer was the result of the swaying and making contact with the bike when it went down.

So how did I survive such a crash? ATGATT. Full Face Helmet, Long Pants, Long Sleeve Shirt, Mesh Jacket, Heavy Gloves, Boots and my beloved Frogg Togg rain suit on top of everything. The rain suit now looks like Swiss cheese as it was totally shredded. My helmet was banged and chipped and the face shield ripped completely off. My jacket has two small holes in the sleeves but nothing else. The gloves had no sign of any damage. The boots had no sign of any damage. No holes or tears in either my pants or shirt.

Keep this survivor's story in mind the next time you decide that it is not necessary to have ATGATT, is it really worth it?

Awards & Recognition

By Judy Williams

Awards & Recognition

Red Rocks Wings You are Amazing!



This award is presented to *Tami Bender* because we think that you are AMAZING! Steve and Tami had an inside, yes inside flat on their RV on the way home from the Region F Convention in St. George, Utah on May 25, 2014. This photo is Tami, yes Tami changing the tire on the RV at Eisenhower Tunnel in 38 degrees weather. And do you believe that she does roofing also? What a gal!

2013 International Chapter of the Year

The Freedom Rock

by Becky Ackerman

On a recent trip to Des Moines on I-80, **Mike** and I took a little side trip to see something he had read about and was determined to see for himself. The following is an explanation of how the Freedom Rock began. Once you see it you will agree, it is amazing and the artist is extremely talented.



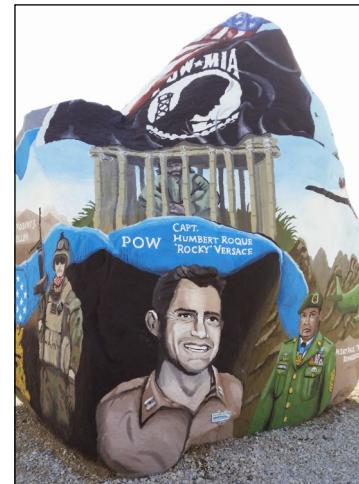
of donations.

While painting murals across the country Sorensen had the idea of spreading the message of The Freedom Rock to other small communities across Iowa. The idea in part came from the 99 county tours that both Sen. Grassley and journalist Kyle Munson took part in, and so the Freedom Rock Tour was born.

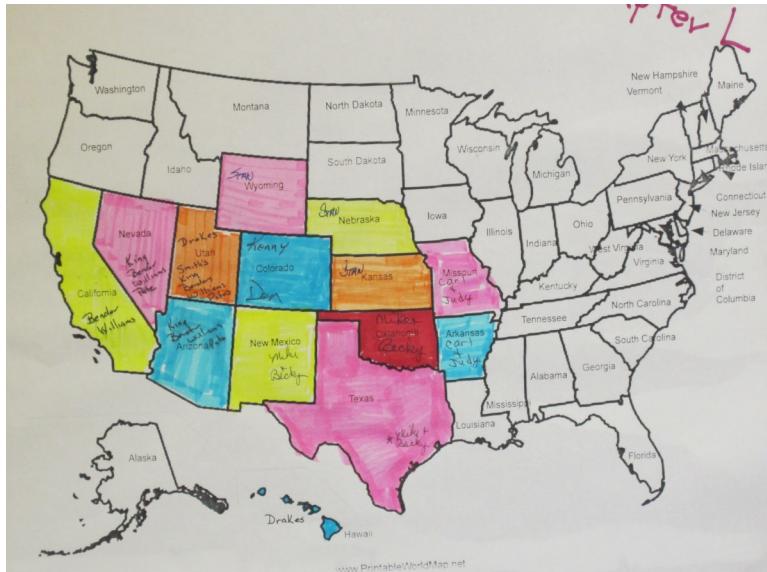
For the next few summers Sorensen and his family will travel the state of Iowa to put a (smaller and unique to their area) Freedom Rock in each county.

During the winter months Sorensen can be found painting indoor murals (or in warm climates outdoor murals) and spending time with his family.

This may be a good stop for you on your way to Wing Ding. If you are traveling I-80, take exit 86 near Greenfield and travel south on highway 25 for 1 mile. The rock is on your left with a parking area next to it and another large parking lot across the highway. Take the time to read the material under the covered area. It makes you feel pretty humble.



2013 International Chapter of the Year



"BEEN THERE FIRST IN 2014"

13 Down, 37 to Go

Stan Smetana — (3) WY, NE, KS

Kenny Simons — (1) CO

Dan Kirk — (1) CO

Randall & Janet Drake — (2) HI, UT

Mike & Becky Ackerman — (3) TX, OK, NM

Carl & Judy Williams — (6) MO, AR, CA, NV, UT, AZ

Steve & Tami Bender — (4) UT, NV, CA, AZ

Bob King — (3) NV, UT, AZ

Vernon & Deborah Pate — (3) NV, UT, AZ

Andy & Sherry Smith — (1) UT

Pikes Peak Highway Ride — June 14

Photo by Andy Smith



2013 International Chapter of the Year

Chapter L Members Having Fun

July Birthdays

None

July Anniversaries

Steve & Tami Bender	14
Randall & Janet Drake	17

50/50 Drawing



June Winners

1st — ??

2nd — Myra Childs

3rd — Mike Hollinger

Couple of the Year Drawing

Vicky's ticket was pulled, however she did not pick the winning chip.



The Chip Bag

June

1 in 2 odds



Dan Kirk

After 29 months, it all came down to just two chips; one red and one white. Although Dan won, Vicky was heard saying "Momma gets a new pair of shoes".

Who is this Chapter L Member?

Who is this high-flying, high-kicking person dressed in uniform capable of leaping over tall buildings like the one in the background?



GPS Ride and Luncheon

by Linda Fisher
Senior Chapter Director

On June 21, 2014, Chapter L hosted the 2nd GPS event. We started at Green Mountain Plaza and headed west. The ride had 6 stops. At the final stop you were greeted by **Larry T. Lion** and a number of members of the 2013 International Chapter of the Year.



Larry T. Lion

The luncheon was a great success and almost NO leftovers to get rid of. Our Thanks go out to the 35 riders and the many friends that purchased tickets for support of our Chapter.

After lunch and a lot of Fun, Friends, and Safety, everyone headed home. Some of our friends were caught in a 45 minute downpour and forced to hear some whoppers and tell a few more.

We are now in the middle of getting ready to go to Madison Wisconsin.

Larry and all the members would like to thank each and everyone for your support.

2013 International Chapter of the Year

Up Coming Chapter L Events for June

Monday 7th — Chapter Gathering

Refreshment by **Mike & Rhonda Hottinger**

Sunday 13th — Picnic Ride

Hosted by **Bob & Christine King**

Wednesday 16th — Dinner Ride

Hosted by **Ron Evers & Laura Hudson**

Sat &Sun 19th & 20th — Camping Weekend

Hosted by **Mike and Becky Ackerman**

Other Events in Colorado for June

Saturday 26th— Chapter J “Hummer of a Summer”

Estes Park, CO

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>.

Schedule of Nearby District, Region and National Conventions

July 10 - 12, 2014

Montana District Convention
Big Sky, MT

July 25 - 26, 2014

Utah District Convention
Logan, UT

August 7 - 9, 2014

Region I Convention
Lewiston, ID

August 21 - 23, 2014

Colorado District Convention
Breckenridge, CO

Sept 12 – 14, 2014

Kansas District Convention
Abilene, KS

Sept 26 - 27, 2014

Iowa District Convention
Storm Lake, IA

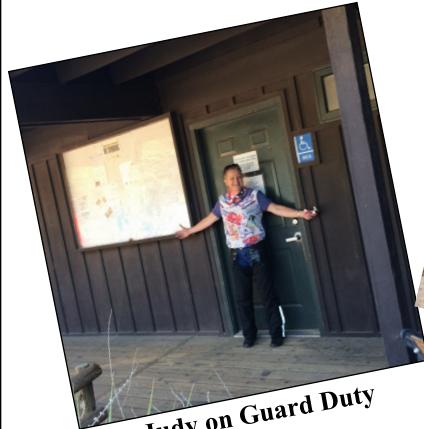
Sept 25 – 27, 2014

New Mexico District Convention
Carlsbad, NM

Sept 25 – 27, 2014

Oklahoma District Convention
Shawnee, OK

Chapter L Members at Play



Staging Area for Chapter L GPS FUNdraiser



2013 International Chapter of the Year

Chapter L Officers and Staff

Senior Chapter Director	Fred & Linda Fisher	Email	720-922-0789
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Chapter Educator	Andrew Smith	Email	303-923-8342
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Treasurer	Tami & Steve Bender	Email	303-972-8420
Motorist Awareness Coordinator	Sherry Smith	Email	303-923-8342
Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Kenny & Lis Simons	Email	720-685-0188
Assistant Membership Enhancement Coordinator	Mike & Rhonda Hottinger	Email	970-580-4439
Chapter Couple of the Year	Andrew & Sherry Smith	Email	303-923-8342
Chapter Member of the Year	Carl Williams	Email	303-200-0262
Awards & Recognition	Judy Williams	Email	303-200-0262
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Editor's Note

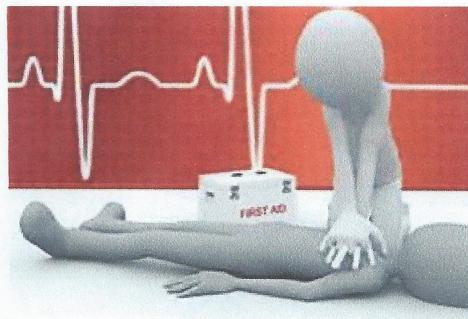
by Carl Williams
Newsletter Editor

*Fred & Linda Fisher
Bob King Sherry Smith Andy Smith
Becky Ackerman Ralph Spencer Judy Williams Mike Ackerman*

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

Thank You All

2013 International Chapter of the Year



MFA/CPR Course

Sponsored by CO-District

**When: Saturday, August 23
8am – 1pm**

**Where: District Convention/ Rally
Beaver Run Resort
Breckenridge, CO**

Cost: \$10 for Colorado GWRRA Members

Here are the guidelines for taking the Medic First Aid/ CPR Classes to receive the special \$10.00 fee.

1. Your membership must be current and assigned to a Colorado Chapter
2. Members must be enrolled in the Levels Program
 - If Level I, show your intention to be level three within a short period.
3. Your current Medic First Aid/CPR expiration should be within 90 days, or already expired
 - Remember that Level II requires an ERC course for the rider or Co-Rider Seminar for the co-rider. Level III Requires Medic First Aid/CPR.
 - If you have any questions about where you are in the Levels program, please feel free to call or ask your Chapter Educator
 - Non-members, and any other GWRRA members who do not meet the above guidelines, will be assessed a \$20 fee.

**Reserve your seat ahead of the convention
Michael and Dorie Werner
goldwinger2@hotmail.com
Home phone # 303-795-6059**