

2013 International Chapter of the Year



January 2015

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Greetings from Your Directors

Fred & Linda Fisher
Senior Directors

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. We had a wonderful time with all my beautiful girls in attendance; Linda, daughters Vicki and Julie, along with granddaughters Hali, Hannah, and Raven. Life is good.



What a wonderful time we had at the Multi-Chapter Christmas Party. Emma Lape and Judy Kile from Chapter J did an outstanding job putting this event together. We had a good turn out from Chapter L members. It's surprising how well many of us look when we clean up. Some of us look different when we're not wearing Kevlar jackets, chaps, and helmet hair. Good time with good friends!



At the party all chapters were asked to introduce their Couples and Individuals of the Year. Since we had not announced our selectees at December gathering, we decided to them announce the party. at Congratulations to our new Couple of the Year, Dan and Vicky Kirk, and our Individual of the Year, Mike Hottinger. It is a well-deserved honor for all three.



I'm going to closely watch the weather reports in regards to our planned January 1st ride. Currently the forecast is for clear skies, but morning temperatures could be in the teens. Not good safe riding weather in my mind. I'll keep everyone posted as the date gets closer.

Chapter L has scheduled our fundraiser for the year. This will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2015. We are going to try something different this year. Many more details will be coming soon, and we will discuss this much more at our January gathering.

Remember, the Annual District Conference is on January 31st. It will be held in the lower level of the Clements Community Center. If you would like to join us, let me know and I'll put you on my list.

Some dates to keep on your calendar: March 28, Chapter L Fundraiser; May 22-24, Region F Convention; August 13-15, Colorado District Convention; and, September 3-6, Wing Ding. There are many more things on our calendar and we will get all of these out to you soon. With that, I'll close for this month. Looking forward to seeing you at the January 5th gathering, if not before.

Until Then, Ride Safe Always!

Moving Camouflage

Submitted By: Andrew C. Smith

Rider Educator

Greetings in the New Year!

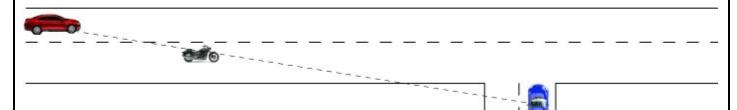
Well, it won't be too long before we begin to dust off the Wing, start looking to find a new adventure, and new destinations to ride. The Motorist Awareness Division is always reminding us about how others see us. Well it is true, we are nearly invisible to most motorists. I found this article about "Moving Camouflage" and found it interesting. (www.msgroup.org gets the credit)



An article in the March 2005 issue of the British magazine *Bike* describes a study indicating one reason why it just might be true that when someone claims not to have seen a motorcycle before a collision, they may well be telling the truth. The study identified a phenomenon known as Moving Camouflage and an ancillary concept called the Looming Effect.

When an object approaches you along the same line of sight as a background point of interest, there is very little in the way of visible change of that approaching object and as a result you may not notice it. Let's look at a concrete example of this phenomenon.

If the motorcycle has remained in the same sight line between the red car behind him and the observing driver in the blue car, there is a very real chance that the blue car will make a right turn thinking it is safe to do so.



Though the background point of interest is usually stationary, such as a building, you can see that even another moving vehicle can be enough.

Looming Effect

An approaching object always appears to get larger the closer it gets. But the difference in size (the amount of size change) is very small when an object moves from 1000 ft. to 900 ft. as compared to when it moves from 200 ft. to 100 ft. In the latter case the change is dramatic - it can be said to be coming into view as a looming threat. When that happens, the moving camouflage phenomenon ceases to exist. In the diagram above the motorcycle would be at approximately the place where the looming effect would overwhelm the moving camouflage phenomenon and suddenly appear to the driver of the blue car.

The best way to overcome the moving camouflage phenomenon is to vary your lane position as you approach a threatening vehicle to become visible because of a change in your behavior. We also know that our Brake Light and Headlight Modulators are very effective in helping others see us. And don't forget that Hi-Viz jacket or Helmet.

Be Seen! Be Safe!

I'm not 'MAD' I'm Thankful for You

by Sherry Smith

Motorist Awareness Coordinator



With the holidays right around the corner, and the winter season upon us; motorcycle awareness can sometimes not be a high priority. As you spent Thanksgiving with family and friends; hopefully you remembered to give thanks to the lives saved by GWRRA's Motorist Awareness Program. Please remember to keep those thoughts throughout the remainder of the season and all next year.



Happy Holidays from your MAD Coordinator!

New Year and New Rides

by Becky Ackerman

Ride Coordinator



Yes, it's that time of year again to come up with some new ideas for rides in 2015. Did I really say that? 2015? It doesn't seem possible.

Anyway, please take the time to give some serious thought to where you might like to ride or what activities you might enjoy. In 2014 we had some pretty neat rides but participation wasn't what we had hoped for. If you've ever gone to the trouble of putting a ride together you understand how disappointing it is when, after all that work, you end up canceling it for lack of participation. I understand some rides require taking time off work and not everyone is retired

YET, but let's try harder this next year to support those who put in the time and effort to organize a ride for our enjoyment.

Once you have an idea for a destination, you need to think of when you'd like to schedule it. Please keep in mind weather conditions crossing the mountains in May or even October. We want our ideas to be safe for all.

Let's plan to set a date for a ride book meeting at our January gathering so we can nail this down sooner rather than later. Janet Drake is trying to complete the Ride Book for our February Gathering so things have to come together real soon!



How Many Miles Do You Ride?



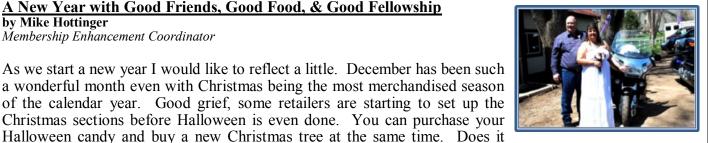
On another note, let's talk mileage. If you have any type of maintenance records that would help you calculate your mileage for 2014, please send it to me. I've only heard from a few people so far. If you can't work on 2014 send me your starting mileage for 2015 and we'll start a new chart for Chapter L.

Looking out my window at the snow right now, it's hard to imagine taking a New Year's Day ride, but stranger things have happened. Just keep the faith!

A New Year with Good Friends, Good Food, & Good Fellowship by Mike Hottinger

Membership Enhancement Coordinator

As we start a new year I would like to reflect a little. December has been such a wonderful month even with Christmas being the most merchandised season of the calendar year. Good grief, some retailers are starting to set up the Christmas sections before Halloween is even done. You can purchase your



suck you in? I find myself losing the Christmas spirit when encountering this kind of merchandising. The Black Friday and Cyber Monday push may find people spending money they do not have on things that they really don't need just to get the deal.

What does all this commercialization do? It desensitizes the public towards the seasons and pushes us all towards the habit of overspending and doing or buying for the wrong reasons. Now I know that not all people reading this article believe in the basis of the season. However, this season is represented by many different reasons for celebrating. We have Christmas, Hanukkah, Boxing Day, and Kwanzaa to name a few. But the point is, they are not about selfish want and buying, they are about giving, believing, and unity. Along with this basis for the holidays we find family traditions at the root of it but how many people only reflect on the old family traditions and think back on the happiness and the fellowship shared by the traditions. If we do not have these traditions currently, what do you think has caused them to fade away? Are we too busy? Have we lost focus? Have we lost someone dear to us that may have been the focal point or maybe the matriarch or patriarch of the family that drove the traditional practices? Maybe there was a lean time caused by the economy and being a little out of the spirit you became a little humbug. A friend of my son just lost his father to a heart attack on Christmas Eve. I pray for that family and hope they do not lose the love for Christmas but rather find a way to make it a special time to honor and remember their dad on Christmas's going forward.



It can happen to anyone. Let's reflect on the Charles Dickens story of Scrooge. The Cratchet family had it rough with a meager home, little in the pantry and a sick little boy, but what did they do? They celebrated! They celebrated what they had and even when there was discontent with Bob's employer, the infamous Ebenezer Scrooge, they still paused to pay their thanks and pray for Ebenezer. Can you do that? Can you forgive a person and let bygones go and start over? I hope the people I have wronged in the past have taken the chance to forgive me. I find myself making changes in my life this season. Let forgiveness grow.

As this is being read, Christmas will be past and it is a perfect time to sit back and reflect about your holiday season. Was it about you or was it about tradition and your beliefs? We are thankful for our families and friends that stand behind us and beside us and even the few that may carry us when we are down. I personally want to bring back some tradition into our new year and bring more happiness to people I meet. With our kids dispersed around the country the chances of having them back at the same time for the holiday's is very slim so we will find a way to share tradition even for those that cannot be with us in Colorado. Rhonda and I have enjoyed GWRRA in 2014 and the people involved as you all have become a large part of our family and we are looking forward to giving more back. Maybe others that are reading this will make 2015 the best year ever and share it with other members, family, friends or just people in need. Go forward and make this year the best ever for someone else and it will become a great one for you too.

Share the Passion and Hug Someone.

It's all about the Friends, Fun, and Food!

Christmas Party 2014

The Multi-Chapter Christmas Party was a huge success. The venue was a touch of the old world. We met at the Wilshire Inn. The place was

jumping with a rocking band and great food and service. We had all 25 active members of Chapter L in attendance. There were well over 100 members and guests in total.



The highlight of the evening for Chapter L was naming our 2015 Couple of the Year, Dan and Vicky Kirk, and Individual of the Year, Mike Hottinger.

A great big thanks to Chapter J's Emma Lape and Judy Kile, and all the other elves involved with all the fun and awards handed out.

Last Dinner Ride of 2014

On Wednesday December 17th we met at Philly's for dinner. It was the last time we were able to say "hello and goodbye" to a good friend of CHAPTER L's. Larry was forced to close his doors on December 31st.



We had 19 members of the GWRRA family in attendance. Ralph Spencer was the lucky person to draw for the winning chip. But, it was to no avail. He pulled a white loser chip. The RED chip still lies in the bag.

Thank you for a great year of wonderful and unusual places to dine.

February 28, 2015 Read more about it on the attached flyer! Come on out for the FUN!

Going There in 2015??

For several years now, we have been tracking the States, Provinces, and Territories through which our members have ridden their motorcycles. In 2014, we rode in 25 States and one Canadian Province. In past years, we rode in more and some years, less. Regardless, it has been fun to track our travels and report them to our members. So, when you are on your motorcycles in 2015, be sure to report your travels to Fred and Randall.

Who will be FIRST in 2015 to ride?





January Celebrations

Birthdays

Ron Evers 3 Bob King 21 Randall Drake 26

Anniversaries

Ralph & Janet Spencer 16

Upcoming Events

Mon 5 Chapter Gathering
Refreshments by the Drakes

Wed 21 Dinner Ride Hosted by the Kings

Sat 31 District Officer Conference
All invited-advise Fred if you are attending

Colorado Chapter Gatherings

For information regarding Who, When, and Where, check your ride book OR go to the District Website at:

http://www.coloradogwrra.com/Chapter/ChapterMeetings.htm

Chapter L Officers and Staff 2015

Senior Chapter Director Fred &	Linda Fisher	<u>Email</u>	720-922-0789
Assistant Chapter Director Bob & C	Christine King	<u>Email</u>	303-463-4548
Chapter Educator And	rew Smith	<u>Email</u>	303-923-8342
Treasurer Tami &	Steve Bender	Email	303-972-8420
Motorist Awareness Coordinator She	rry Smith	Email	303-923-8342
Coffee Maker Extraordinaire Kenny	& Lis Simons	<u>Email</u>	720-685-0188
Membership Enhancement Coordinators Mike & RI	honda Hottinger	Email	TBA
Chapter Couple of the Year Dan &	Vicky Kirk	<u>Email</u>	303-358-6249
Chapter Individual of the Year Mike	Hottinger	<u>Email</u>	TBA
Ride Coordinator Becky	Ackerman	<u>Email</u>	303-988-0413
Greeter Ralp	h Spencer	<u>Email</u>	303-888-2705
Storekeeper Dan &	Vicky Kirk	Email	303-358-6249
Ride Book Editor Jan	et Drake	<u>Email</u>	303-933-6073
Newsletter Editor Rand	dall Drake	Email	720-480-2800









Check out the following Conventions!

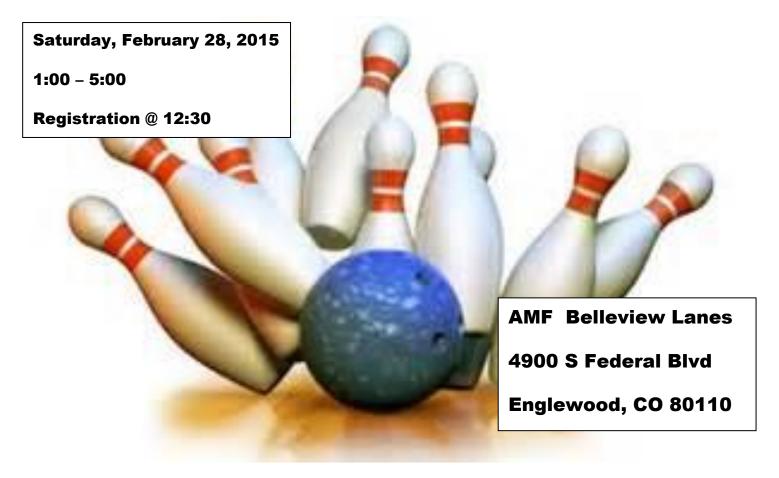
May 22-24, 2015 Region F Convention in Tucson, Arizona

Aug 13-15, 2015 <u>Colorado District Convention in Montrose, Colorado</u>

Sep 3-6, 2015 <u>GWRRA Wing Ding in Huntsville, Alabama Registration Form</u>

Links to other conventions will be posted here as information becomes available.

ALL COLORADO GWRRA BOWLING FUN DAY



Three games bowling with colored pins for Lottery Tickets

Optional Fun Games:

- √ Strike Pot
- √ Poker Card Game
- √ 50/25/25

Price \$15/person

Food & Beverage available for purchase at Bowling Alley

RSVP to:

Linda & Fred Fisher (CO-L) silvertwo@comcast.net

OR Mike & Dorie Werner (CO-A) goldwinger2@hotmail.com