



# Red Rocks Reporter

2013 International Chapter of the Year



February 2015

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## Greetings from Your Directors

*Fred & Linda Fisher*  
*Senior Directors*



Hope everyone's January went well. Here we are heading towards spring and into a new riding season. We have a new blank Chapter L map for 2015 that we will try to fill, except, we captured a few states on Jan 26 due to the unseasonably nice weather. I know many of you are already busy planning those long road trips for the summer. We too are planning a few trips, but unfortunately may not get too many bike miles; probably more frequent flyer miles than bike miles this year.

We do plan to check off our last state to ride in this summer when we take a cruise to Alaska. One of our ports-of-call is in Ketchikan and we have already booked our reservation for a Gold Wing rental while we are there. Not quite the same as riding up there, but riding Alaska, nonetheless. After all, we didn't ride TO Hawaii either. Maybe after I retire I'll take a nice ride through Canada to Alaska.

We will be having our annual District meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>. It will be held in the lower level of the Clements Community Center. We will start to gather at 8am and run until early afternoon. The District has asked Chapter L to help out with serving and restocking the refreshment area. The District will provide the products and supplies; they want us to keep things organized. If you are planning to attend and would be willing to help, please drop Linda a note. Email and phone numbers are in this newsletter.

The Chapter Ride Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. It will be at the Fisher's house and we will provide sandwich makings for dinner. We ask that you bring a small side dish or dessert to share. Oh, and bring your ride ideas too. I will then get all of these items to Janet Drake so she can get the Ride Guide published for the March gathering.

The Chapter L fundraiser will take place on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. We are having a spaghetti lunch and a LIVE auction. A flyer for this event is included in this newsletter. Linda will be contacting all the Chapter members to see where they can help out.

Some dates to keep on your calendar: May 22-24, Region F Convention; August 13-15, Colorado District Convention; and September 3-6, Wing Ding.

As outgoing International Chapter of the Year, Linda and I feel it is our obligation to be in attendance when the Region F and International Chapter of the Year successors are announced. We plan to be at the Region F Convention in Tucson and Wing Ding in Huntsville to represent Chapter L. You are all welcome to join us if you would like.

With that, I'll close for this month. Looking forward to seeing you at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering, if not before.

*Until Then, Ride Safe..... Always!*

*Happy Valentine's Day*

**Back in the Saddle!****Bob King***Chapter Assistant Director*

Here we go, starting month two of 2015. It is amazing how time flies at warp speed when you get older. I liked it a lot better when a day was twenty-four hours, not what seems to be around twelve hours.

I am “back in the saddle” for awhile helping out the Chapter and not lying around the house watching TV and eating everything but the refrigerator. It feels good to be talking with friends, it definitely lifts the spirits. As I said in my opening, I can’t believe how time flies, the weather is starting to warm up some and the excitement is building up to get on the bike for some long rides. But, and there is always a but, I have not been on the bike for a few months so I need to go out and practice and get my head in the right place to be on a bike. Practice the head turns and then practice them some more. So please everyone, start slow before going crazy and getting hurt.

On March 28th Chapter L will be doing something different this year for our fundraiser. So, be thinking about what you could bring for the auction. More information will follow at the February gathering.

I would like to congratulate Dan and Vicki Kirk for Chapter Couple of the Year and Mike Hottinger for Chapter Individual of the Year.

See you all at the Gathering!

**Tire Additives—Good, Bad or Ugly****Andrew C. Smith***Rider Educator*

Once upon a time tires were made of rubber - solid rubber. They worked, but they produced a dreadfully hard ride. Then, someone came up with the idea of making them pneumatic (filled with air) and tires became far better as a result, and far more comfortable to ride on.

Over the years our tires have steadily been improved by the manufacturers. From better rubber compounds to the addition of belts, better biasing techniques, radial designs and better tread designs. Tire manufacturing has become a well understood science, not an art.

And, as motorcyclists, our lives depend greatly on those tires. So, we tend to buy the best tires made. And the tire manufactures have never stopped trying to make them even better.



So, one has to wonder why it is that some motorcyclists completely abandon the idea that the tire manufacturers REALLY know what they're doing when they created our tires. Some motorcyclists have decided that for a few dollars they can squirt some magic compound into their tires and never have to worry about a flat tire again. They believe that this same goop even magically balances their tires for them and they no longer have to rely on a trained mechanic to mechanically do that for them. They believe that if their tires are punctured after squirting this wonder product into their expensive tires they can disregard the problem altogether because, like magic, the tire won't leak its air out through the puncture - it will seal itself automatically. And, they believe, once the stuff is squirted into their tires they don't have to tell anybody about it.

These are the same kinds of motorcyclists who are easy targets for sales pitches for such things as Slick 50, gasoline treatment additives, and instant weight loss pills.



**Tire Additives (cont'd)**

I'm not here trying to argue that all additives are useless or hype. But I am going to argue that it should take a lot more than a clever sales ad to convince you, IN ANY WAY, to deviate from the advice of professional mechanics relative to your motorcycle.

To go back to motorcycle tires - virtually all of them are now tubeless by design and are built to resist the loss of air from a puncture - without you having to add anything to them other than air. If the puncture is large, the built-in puncture sealant will not be totally effective. But, that is not a bad thing! A large puncture means that you have had significant damage to the belting of the tire. It should be *replaced*, not covered up!

There is no excuse not to have your tires mechanically balanced when mounted. No amount of internal 'balancing goop' substitutes for a properly mounted and balanced tire to begin with. \*Note\* Dyna-Beads™ and Centramatic™ balancers have been well proven to improve the life of your tires. Both of these balancing solutions dynamically balance your tires as they wear. Balancing is very important to your safety as well as tire life, the challenge with standard balancing is that your tires will change as you ride, and unless you have your tires balanced over the period of use, the balance that the tire installer put on the wheel when the tires were new will eventually cause an out of balance condition. (My 2 cents)...



So, products that are designed to be squirted into a tubeless tire, it seems to me, make very little sense. Do you think that a tire manufacturer like Dunlop would fail to make the very best and safest tire they are capable of making for use on motorcycles? Do you think they never heard of puncture sealants? Do you think that they should have to stand behind a warranty if the inside of a tire has been coated with a chemical compound that it was not designed to have to deal with?

While on the subject of putting something into your tires, if you have a tire repair kit that includes a pressurized can of gas to inflate it after the repair, you **MUST TELL YOUR SERVICE MAN THAT YOU HAVE USED IT BEFORE YOU ASK HIM TO REMOVE YOUR TIRE!** Some of those compressed gasses are flammable and can explode if the tire is exposed to a spark while their beads are being removed from the tire rims! **YOU** would be responsible if that mechanic were to be injured.

Ride Safe—Have Fun!!!

**It's a Zoo, Here!**

Linda Fisher

Chapter Director

It seems we have gathered quite a selection of Chapter mascots here at Chapter L.

Along with our very own Larry the Lion, we have Elwood the Elephant from Chapter E, Grizz the Bear from Chapter G, and the Eagle from Chapter I (he is keeping quiet about his name). We also have the ornery little girl from Chapter J; Jazzy. (Yes, Grizz is missing from the picture, but he is safe! Trust me!!!!)

You can come and rescue them at our February or March gatherings if you would like.

If we still have them at our March 28<sup>th</sup> fundraiser, we will auction them off to the highest bidder at our live auction.

It might be interesting to see what we can get for them!



## A MAD Conversation between Sherry and Sherry!??!

**Sherry Smith**

*Motorist Awareness Coordinator*



**Sherry's Head:** "sherry....Sherry.....SHERRY"

Sherry: "What!!!"

**Sherry's Head:** "What are you doing?"

Sherry: "Working on the District Officer's Meeting"

**Sherry's Head:** "Ummmm you are forgetting something."

Sherry: "Tell me what else is new...what am I forgetting?"

**Sherry's Head:** "The article"

Sherry: "What article??"

**Sherry's Head:** "Motorist Awareness article for Chapter L's newsletter."

Sherry: "Oh shoot.....when is it due?"

**Sherry's Head:** "Today!"

Sherry: "What!!!!!!....why did you wait so long to tell me?"

**Sherry's Head:** "Hey, it is a full time job just being your head.....I cannot remember everything!"

Sherry: "Point well taken...."

**Sherry's Head:** "Motorist Awareness is very important"

Sherry: "Yes, I agree.....we just need to remind everyone to be aware"

**Sherry's Head:** "Ok let me get back to.....squirrel!"



## What Was That Name?

**Mike Hottinger**

*Individual of the Year*

What was that???? Who.... What name did they just say??? Mike... that's me! There has to be a mistake. How did that happen? Did I miss something? What did I do? What will I do? Gosh so many questions. I was just crowned the Colorado Chapter L Individual of the Year and I did not even know I was being considered. Well, crowned may not be the correct word and to quote the famous Grinch, "and the child mentioned a check." What, no check either? Well I did get a patch, a medal and the honor to represent our chapter in 2015. I have only been a GWRRR member since May 2012 and was surprised that this honor was bestowed on me. It has been a whirlwind and I have been surrounded by so many friends through these 3 years and am looking forward to many years of enjoying my Gold Wing and GWRRR. I don't have a lot of accomplishments within GWRRR other than getting married and having fun with friends.



Thank you for the honor to be the Individual of the Year for Chapter L! I am looking forward to 2015 and the opportunities it brings.

**Riding Season Anticipation****Becky Ackerman***Ride Coordinator*

This time of year we have some cold, dreary days when we think the riding season can't get here fast enough. Then out of the blue we have a nice warm day and we jump at the chance to get on the bikes and enjoy that fantastic feeling you get riding your bike.

I have a suggestion for those days when you can't possibly get out. Start working on plans for your summer vacation whether it is on 4 wheels, 3, or 2. Over the years, Mike and I have learned that so much more fun can be had on a vacation with proper planning and preparation. And more often than not, half the enjoyment comes from the planning.

Once you've decided on a destination, get out your map or Atlas and read the tiny red print along the highway. It is amazing the amount of monuments or museums or geographical spots you see on the map of which you were totally unaware. And if that doesn't show you much, just pick a city and google it online. No matter how insignificant the town may be, most of the time you can find something worth taking a look at.

Something else we learned from age and experience...there's more to vacation than riding, riding, riding. Cutting back on miles to take time to



stop along the way and enjoy a museum or park or even a restored court house will make your trip more memorable. Plus, you won't be so tired at the end of the day and you'll have even more memories

for the rocking chair years.

Here's an example of something I stumbled on this week. We plan to spend a week near Yellowstone and a 2<sup>nd</sup> week in the Black Hills. I googled Thermopolis, WY to see what they had to offer. We plan to camp so first I chose a campground. At the campground website I looked at local attractions. I found where you can rent inner tubes right at the campground and for a fee they will take you up the road where you can float back to the campground on the Big Horn River. They offer 2 hour or 5 hour float trips. What a hoot! With the museum, the float trip and other options, we plan to spend a couple days right there and get the most out of our visit.

Hopefully, this little tip will get you headed in the right direction. We all work hard for our vacation time and we need to make the most of it. Just try this and see if it doesn't make your trip more enjoyable.

**GWRRA Valentine....Will you be mine?****Rhonda Hottinger***MEC Coordinator*

Wow! We are already 1/12 the way through 2015 and we are having Gold Wing withdrawals. It has been cold and snowing FOREVER, or so it feels like it. February brings us to the very special time, it's called Valentine's Day. It is a special time for the greeting card and flower people as we have all enjoyed it to some level for decades.

It is estimated that over one billion valentines are shared each year around the world from school age kids and up. Who here is thinking of their real valentine, their love, their mistress of the road? Yes, I am talking about your motorcycle. The weather is getting better and we are seeing bikes out on the road. Have you given your bike the love it deserves with a complete cleaning and inspection? Give your 2-wheel Valentine a T-CLOCS review in February. You don't want to be caught off guard when the road is clear and weather is good and you get the phone call asking if you want to go for a ride, but your love is not ready for a day out. Better yet, why not call a friend, call a buddy, call a member and take your loved ones for a day out? Oh! And you can bring your significant other, also.

**GWRRA Valentine (cont'd)**

As the year moves on I am seeing more and more motorcycles on the road and I am wondering who even has thought about the maintenance needs and tire condition on their rides? Today, while driving to work, the radio announced two accidents that involved motorcycles, one a fatality. One involved alcohol and the other involved high speed on Iliff, not on a highway. While Rhonda and I talked about how nice it is warming up and how many bikes are out she mentioned that since it is early in the year, cars will not be looking for motorcycles. Great point Rhonda! So go out and ask your motorcycle to be your valentine and give it a sweet little T-CLOCS and wash; and, be very aware of the cars on the road, they are not expecting you, and watch your speed. The road conditions are poor coming out of winter with lots of sand, salt and mag chloride that was sprayed in ABUNDANCE to battle the ice we have had on the road this winter. Corners and curves could be unforgiving and nobody wants to test their PPE.

Share the Passion and Hug Someone!

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

**First Dinner Ride of 2015**

Becky Ackerman

Wednesday, January 21st, was a cold, snowy day. At our house it snowed off-and-on all day but by evening we only had a couple inches of snow. Our drive to the HuHot Mongolian Grill at 7450



W. 52nd Ave. in Arvada was uneventful until we reached the Wadsworth exit on I-70 where the exiting traffic was backed up the ramp to I-76. Seeing so many tail lights sitting still we began to think there must have been an accident. Eventually we were able to move up far enough to squeeze by in the right lane in preparation for the right turn onto Wadsworth heading north. Surprisingly enough, the backup was all the traffic trying to go south on Wadsworth which is normally not the case at all.

Eventually our group arrived but it seems everyone else had a far worse drive, taking anywhere from 1½ - 2 hours to get there. It turns out many streets were a sheet of ice and the normal rush hour traffic couldn't get off the streets fast enough, making it a difficult drive for our group. Thank goodness we found a place "in the middle" rather than choosing something way up north.

When we offered to take over the ride for Bob King we were under the impression he would not be

available to do it. So we asked him if he had something in mind and he told us about HuHot. It turned out to be a fantastic choice and Bob was even able to join us.

We had 15 in all, including our granddaughter, Alana. She picked Grandpa's ticket for the chip bag so he allowed her to draw the chip. Her prize was to be the Super Bee! I guess the pressure was too much for her because she failed.

Even though we had people arriving at all times, eventually everyone was able to enjoy their dinner. Unlike most restaurants, this time you took a bowl and filled it with frozen raw meat, noodles, vegetables, fruit and your choice of sauce. Then you handed it to a chef and he threw it out on a huge, round grill while you stood by and watched him cook it. Then he scraped it onto a plate and you could add various toppings if you chose to do so. At the table we were given bowls of rice along with a salad or soup to accompany our meal. What a treat!



This was an "all you can eat" meal so some made multiple trips back to start a new bowl. The variety was amazing and the combinations were endless. It was something unusual for our group but it looked like everyone enjoyed their meal and the company. Thanks to all for coming out on a nasty, winter night.

**Where has Chapter L Ridden in 2015??**

Well, we are OFF TO A GOOD START! In tracking our travels for 2015, three states have been reported to me for Chapter L travels! Please remember, when you are on your motorcycles in 2015, be sure to report your travels to Fred and Randall.

**We added the following States to our 2015 Travel List:**

**Jan CO, NE, WY**

**Feb Where this month?**

- Mar
- Apr
- May
- Jun
- Jul
- Aug
- Sep
- Oct
- Nov
- Dec



**January Celebrations**

**Birthdays**

Linda Fisher	12
Janet Drake	25
Tami Bender	26

**Anniversaries**

David & Gay Redline	20
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**Upcoming February 2015 Events**

- Mon 2 Chapter Gathering  
Refreshments by the Benders
  
- Wed 18 Dinner Ride  
Hosted by the Benders

**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	<b>Fred &amp; Linda Fisher</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	720-922-0789
Assistant Chapter Director	<b>Bob &amp; Christine King</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-463-4548
Chapter Educator	<b>Andrew Smith</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-923-8342
Treasurer	<b>Tami &amp; Steve Bender</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-972-8420
Motorist Awareness Coordinator	<b>Sherry Smith</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-923-8342
Coffee Maker Extraordinaire	<b>Kenny &amp; Lis Simons</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	720-685-0188
Membership Enhancement Coordinators	<b>Mike &amp; Rhonda Hottinger</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-524-5656
Chapter Couple of the Year	<b>Dan &amp; Vicky Kirk</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-358-6249
Chapter Individual of the Year	<b>Mike Hottinger</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-524-5656
Ride Coordinator	<b>Becky Ackerman</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-988-0413
Greeter	<b>Ralph Spencer</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-888-2705
Storekeeper	<b>Dan &amp; Vicky Kirk</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-358-6249
Ride Book Editor	<b>Janet Drake</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	303-933-6073
Newsletter Editor	<b>Randall Drake</b>	<a href="#">Email</a>	720-480-2800

[Chapter L Web Site](#)



[Colorado District Staff](#)



[Region F Staff](#)



[GWRRA National Staff](#)



## Check out the following Conventions!

May 22-24, 2015	<a href="#">Region F Convention in Tucson, Arizona</a>
Jul 10-12, 2015	<a href="#">Wyoming District Convention in Buffalo, Wyoming</a>
Jul 17-18, 2015	<a href="#">Utah District Convention in Cedar City, Utah</a>
Aug 13-15, 2015	<a href="#">Colorado District Convention in Montrose, Colorado</a>
Sep 3-6, 2015	<a href="#">GWRRA Wing Ding in Huntsville, Alabama Registration Form</a>
Sep 18-19, 2015	<a href="#">Kansas District Convention in Wichita, Kansas</a>
Oct 1-3, 2015	New Mexico District Convention in Taos, New Mexico (Link not yet available, only the date and location)
Oct 15-17, 2015	<a href="#">Oklahoma District Convention in Hulbert, Oklahoma</a>



## **Chapter CO-L Fundraiser**

# **Spaghetti Lunch**

**and**

# **Live Auction**



**Saturday, March 28, 2015**

**12-3pm**

**Clement Community Center**

**1580 Yarrow St.**

**Lakewood, CO**

**\$10 Presale \$13 Door Price**





## **RIDER/CO-RIDER TRAINING MORNING**

- **Motorist Awareness Seminar**
- **Co-Rider Seminar**

**When: Saturday, February 14, 2015**  
**9am – 11am**

**Where: Stetson Hills Division Police Department**  
**Community Room**  
**4110 Tutt Boulevard**  
**Colorado Springs, CO**

**Cost: FREE**

**Sponsored by CO-I Springs Wings**

**Questions: Contact Earl Edwards**

**[Edwards\\_1500@hotmail.com](mailto:Edwards_1500@hotmail.com)**

**719-637-0908 (h)**

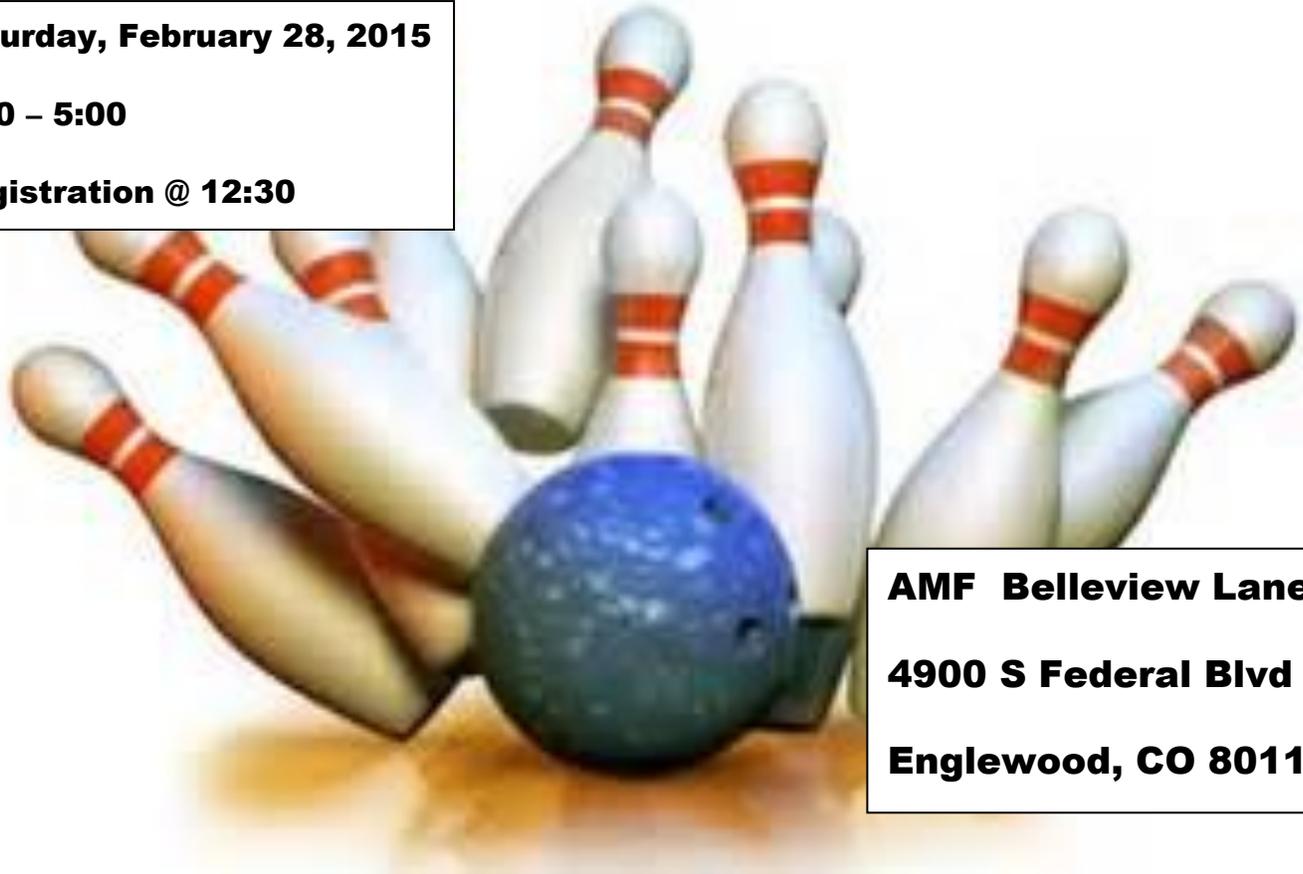
**719-459-2426 (c)**

**ALL**  **GWRRA**  
**BOWLING FUN DAY**

**Saturday, February 28, 2015**

**1:00 – 5:00**

**Registration @ 12:30**



**AMF Belleview Lanes**  
**4900 S Federal Blvd**  
**Englewood, CO 80110**

**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](mailto:silvertwo@comcast.net)**

**OR Mike & Dorie Werner (CO-A) [goldwinger2@hotmail.com](mailto:goldwinger2@hotmail.com)**



# **GWRRRA Colorado Chapter A**



**Great Breakfast!**

**Games!**

**Friends!**

**Fun!**

# **Breakfast Fundraiser**

**Silent Auction!**

Sunday, April 12, 2015

9:00-11:30 AM

Littleton Seventh-day Adventist Church

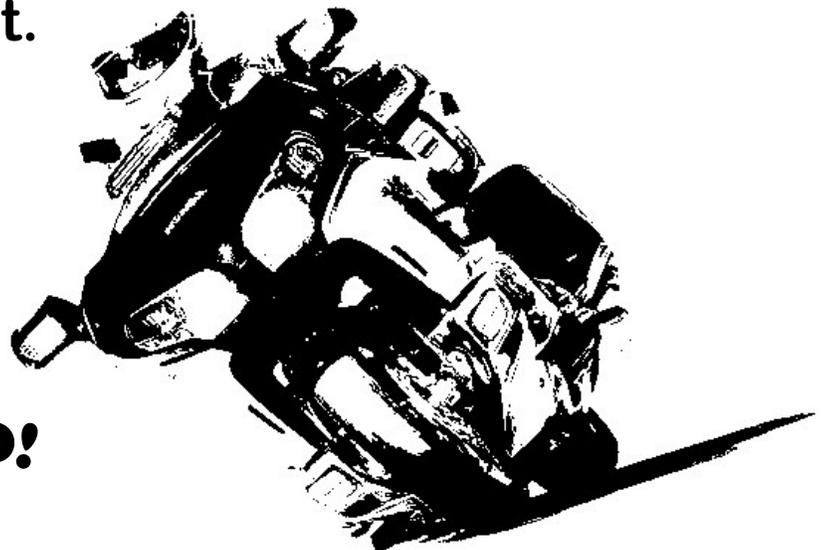
7400 S. Windermere St.

Littleton, CO 80120

Tickets:

\$10-Advanced Sales

\$13-Door



**50-50!**

