



Red Rocks Reporter



2013 International Chapter of the Year

December 2015

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Happy Holidays to All!

Greetings from Your Directors

Fred & Linda Fisher
Senior Directors

We had a 2016 Ride Book Meeting November 7th at the Fox Hollow Golf Course. A big THANK YOU goes out to Chuck Bellmyer for setting up this event; a beautiful venue and great food. We also put together some GREAT events for 2016.



On November 21st, we attended a Multi-Chapter planning meeting. Some great ideas were discussed and some events scheduled. A full list will be coming out soon.

I hope you have plans to join us for the Multi-Chapter Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5th, and don't forget Wing Ding 38 in Billings Montana. The rally starts on Wednesday, August 31st. The Couple of the Year selection, featuring our own Andy and Sherry Smith, will take place the day before, August 30th.

This being the December newsletter, the last of the year, this will be my last "Greetings from Your Directors" article. I will continue to contribute when I can, but it might not be on a regular basis. As Linda and I step aside as Chapter Directors after a long reign, we give our sincere thanks to everyone for all your help and input. Most all of you in Chapter L have served as part of our staff at one time or another over the years. To everyone that has served a heartfelt thank you to you for your help and service to us and the members. However, even if you were not a staff member, we thank all of the chapter members for all your input and suggestions over the years. There is not one member of Chapter L that has not stepped up and helped out when needed; and for that we are forever thankful.



I look back a bit to some of the things we did and accomplished over the years. Foremost, I guess, is our selection of 2013 International Chapter of the Year. What a fun, and trying, year that was. It was a great honor to be a part of all **YOUR** hard work



and dedication. Along with that, I think one of the most memorable events was Mike & Rhonda Hottinger's wedding. Not every Chapter has the opportunity to plan and execute a wedding. I will always remember that.



Many great rides happened over the years, too. One that really stands out to me was the Multi-Chapter Ride to Copper Mountain for lunch on the mountain top. We had a huge turnout and a beautiful ride to Copper Mountain. Perfectly planned and executed by my great friends, Mike and Becky Ackerman. You could not ask for a better view for lunch. (Side note: There is none better at planning rides than these two. If you ever need help, ask them for it.).

leadership of Steve and Tami Bender and I'm sure you will give them all the support you have shown us over the years. I'm sure they will do a great job.

Now, Chapter L moves on with the

So with that, I'll close for the last time here. Looking forward to seeing you at the December 7th gathering, if not before.

Until Then, Ride Safe..... Always

MANY, MANY THANKS TO FRED & LINDA
For their friendship to all and for
Leading Chapter CO-L for 6 GREAT YEARS!



Oh Lordy! What Have We Done Now? Or, Meet Your Chapter Directors for 2016!

by Tami Bender

We are Steve and Tami Bender, your new, as of January 2016, Chapter L directors. We are very excited and nervous. But, we know you will help us out when we call on you! So, thanks in advance for your help!

We have been married for 31 years and have two daughters, one son, and two wonderful grandsons. We both are Colorado natives. Steve has a 1992 blue Goldwing and Tami has a 2006 silver Goldwing Trike. Steve is retired and Tami works for Jefferson County Motor Vehicle. We have been with GWRRA for 6 years and have made many friends, ridden many miles (more than we ever had thought) have taken many training and safety classes and consider GWRRA friends part of our family. We are looking forward to many more years with our friends in GWRRA, the new experiences, and the challenges.



Ways to Keep Riding in Winter (for those who choose to ride)

Submitted by Andrew Smith

Rider Educator



The arrival of cold weather doesn't mean the departure of the desire to ride. Many motorcyclists in cooler climates refuse to retire their favorite motorcycle or scooter to the storage shed – and, thanks to today's broad range of gear choices, it's entirely possible to enjoy two wheels right into the winter months. Here are some tips from the experts if you – and your bike – are on the road when temperatures dip.



windproof material, such as leather or nylon. Be sure layering clothing hasn't restricted the movement you need to ride safely.

Trap Body Heat. Keeping your hands and head warm is crucial – most body heat escapes there. To seal the gap between jacket and gloves, invest in gauntlet-style gloves. Consider wearing a silk or microfiber layer under your gloves as well. In addition, invest in a neck warmer or balaclava to prevent cold air from entering your helmet.

Heated grips, heated seat and heated gear. Many manufacturers offer heated grips. If you don't have it, you still can google after third party products. A heated seat is even more important: it adds an upward channeling of heat to your body core and they warm the blood that's making its way to your legs. Since legs are the farthest extremities, they'll be the first to get cold. These two together with a heated jacket are going to make you feel very comfortable. Heated jackets heat from the sides and the seat is heating your core and your legs. But keep in mind: these devices can drain your battery. Do the math on what your alternator puts out to find out if it can keep up with all these warming devices.

Don't Get Foggy. Visor fogging can cause hazardous visibility problems during cold weather. Wear a half-mask inside your helmet over a wind-proof balaclava. This combo allows your breath to escape without causing condensation inside the visor. You also have to increase your visibility: you have to look further down the road and try to recognize hazards before they occur. Open the following distance. You need to be as visible as possible to other road users – wear reflective clothing, it helps other drivers to see you.

Watch the Voltage. Be sure your alternator can handle the addition of electric accessories, such as heated vests and gloves. Check your owner's manual to find out how much wattage your alternator generates and how much of that wattage is used to run lights and other electrical components. Then, subtract the wattage the electric gear needs to be sure you have the power necessary, and some to spare, when running the accessories.

Get Streamlined. Direct chilly air away from your body by adding a functional, not just cosmetic, fairing. Your height and torso length will dictate the proper height of the fairing – if a stock product doesn't dispel the airflow correctly, have a fairing custom cut.

Don't Get Fooled. Hypothermia is insidious. If you ignore early symptoms, like uncontrolled shivering and numb fingers or toes, slow reaction times or fuzzy thinking, you could get into trouble, fast. Wind chill adds to the danger, so make sure you stop frequently, enjoy a hot beverage and allow your body to warm up.

Practice Tire Smarts. If you fit sticky race-type tires in the summer, be sure to switch back to ordinary street tires during colder months. They develop grip at lower temperatures and reach effective operating temperatures much more quickly.

Watch for salt and black ice. Salt is an enemy to traction so if you see crystalized appearances on the side of the road, stay away. Save your open-road riding to the sunny days: in winter, road conditions need as much care as you can muster.

Prep the bike, Put Your Oil on a Diet & Check the Antifreeze. Using thinner oil during the cold months will improve your bike's performance, especially during start-up, but check your owner's manual for recommendations. Some manufacturers recommend only one weight of oil, no matter what the temperature. *Read the owner's manual, it will show you what you need to do.*

If you have a water-cooled machine, make sure the antifreeze is fresh and it's mixed properly.

You also want to control the air that will inevitably hit you, you most definitely need a huge windscreen, handguards and maybe even wind guards (Baker Built Wings or similar).

Have a Motorcycle-Specific Towing Service. Before you ride, make sure you have a motorcycle-specific towing service that is readily available. (i.e. RescuePlus)

Leave some essentials at work. Will you be riding to work in the winter month? Here's some good advice: leave a kit in your office because if you wear dress shoes or suit jacket on your motorcycle, at some point you're going to get soaked. Of course this depends on the type of job you do, but it's something worth considering all the same.

If it begins snowing, get home. Try to avoid riding in strong winds and keep an eye on the weather forecasts. Whether you're a winter riding newbie or a veteran, there's always new bits of kit coming out to make life easier and you can always learn new tricks. Keep in mind: with the correct equipment, the cold and wet can easily be defeated.

Rev-Up Your Insurance I.Q. Make sure your insurance policy allows for year-round riding. Many insurance premiums for motorcycles are based on an annual term that already takes into consideration the variances in use throughout the year. Accordingly, a discount for limited use off-season is already reflected in your annual costs. However, if your policy requires your bike be laid up during certain months, you may not be as protected as you think. This is not a bad idea if you are not riding, checking with your insurance company might save you some money.



Tie One On For Safety

by Nick Hoppner

District Motorist Awareness

Some of the most dangerous days of the year on our nation's roadways are between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. That is why every holiday season Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) asks you to display a MADD red ribbon in a visible location to remind others to always designate a non-drinking driver.



Started in 1986, *Tie One On For Safety*® is MADD's longest running and most visible public awareness project. The name comes from the phrase "tie one on," which is slang for drinking alcohol. But at MADD the phrase is used to remind everyone that drinking and driving don't mix.

Americans take 233 billion trips in cars each year. Most of us increase both the frequency and distance of our driving during the holidays, and many of us also increase the frequency of our drinking and the amounts consumed as a part of our holiday festivities.

Every 53 minutes on average, someone is killed in a drunk driving crash (approximately 10,000 people in total) and every two minutes, someone is injured because of this entirely preventable crime.

About a third of the drunk driving problem – arrests, crashes, deaths, and injuries – comes from repeat offenders. *Even though many of these drinkers have had their drivers licenses revoked, they drive anyway!* But these repeat offenders are only 30% of the problem!

The remaining two thirds of the drunk driving problem comes from people who, before they kill or injure themselves or others, have yet to be arrested. Perhaps they've been getting away with driving "buzzed" for years. In all likelihood, they're just well-intentioned folks who delude themselves into believing "they're okay to drive." (Remember, that one of the first things to go when you've been drinking is your good judgement.)

What can you, I and our fellow drivers do to improve things this holiday season? Here are a few tips from MADD:

1. Designate a non-drinking driver BEFORE the celebration begins to ensure everyone arrives home safely. The time to decide not to drink is before you get to the party, restaurant or bar.
2. Drink moderately, early in the party, eat food as well, then stop drinking early so the body can metabolize the alcohol.
3. Being a good host may mean staying sober enough to drive a guest home safely! Providing alternate transportation or accommodations for guests who have been drinking. Some taxi companies offer low-cost or free rides as a public service.
4. Host parties responsibly by offering bottled water, "mocktails" and other non-alcoholic beverages.
5. Be a true friend. If someone in your party should not be allowed to get behind the wheel, do your utmost to take away their car keys. Friends don't let friends drive drunk.
6. Display a MADD red ribbon in a visible location on your vehicles. Red ribbons, magnets and window decals are available through MADD.org.

Have a happy, healthy and accident-free holiday season this year!

(Editor's Note: Our normal article from Sherry Smith will be back next month. Sherry is on vacation!)



Barber Motorsports Park

*Becky Ackerman
Ride Coordinator*

As many of you know, Mike and I spent a LOT of time in Alabama this past September. And, not necessarily intentionally! But before we left home, we were given a tip from Doyne Bruner of Apex Sports. He said if we find ourselves anywhere near Birmingham we absolutely must stop to visit the Barber Motorsports Park. He said he's never seen such a collection of motorcycles as he found in this museum.

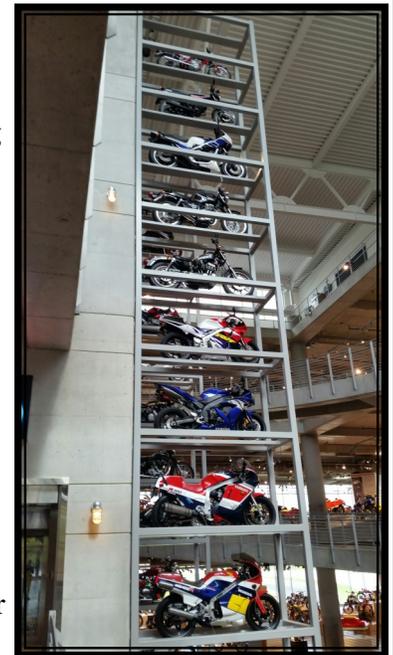


We found plenty of time on our hands as we waited for the alternator for my bike, and we were not far from Birmingham at all. So, one day we visited the museum and it was everything Doyne said and more. The Barber Motorsports Park is a 740 acre multi-purpose facility located on the eastern fringes of Birmingham, Alabama, near Leeds. It was built by George W. Barber, and includes the Barber Vintage Motorsport Museum.

Since the world's best and largest car collections had already been established, Barber heeded some wise advice in 1988. His longtime friend Dave Hooper—a motorcycle enthusiast as well as the person who ran Barber's delivery fleet for 27 years—suggested that Barber shift his focus from cars to motorcycles. Being a man of big dreams, Barber seized the opportunity to accomplish what no one else had done...build the world's "best and largest" motorcycle museum.

In 1991 to help jumpstart Barber's collection, Hooper suggested a trio of Honda V-Fours. He then gifted Barber with two of his own motorcycles. One of these bikes—a rare, exquisitely detailed 1952 Victoria Bergmeister—instantly won Barber's affection. The quest for more was on.

In 1994 that superb gift—the Bergmeister—inspired Barber. Marveling at the Bergmeister's beauty, he appreciated motorcycles for much more than just fast machines. They were also works of art.



Along the way, Barber's love for speed was not forgotten. The Barber staff excelled in conserving or restoring motorcycles to running condition, and, in some cases, to competition-ready shape. Having launched a race program to promote the collection, Barber also demonstrated to the world that this was a "living museum."

The Barber Racing Team first competed in the American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association (AHRMA) series in 1992 in Daytona. The previously unknown team won premier races and created a buzz in the vintage motorcycle community. The team continued competing in the U.S. and Europe until 1998, bringing seven national championships back home to Birmingham.

In 1997, a call from New York's Guggenheim Museum was a defining moment for the Barber Museum. Sending 21 bikes to exhibit at the original New York show, "The Art of the Motorcycle," Barber continued to make the connection between motorsports and art. "The Art of the Motorcycle" exhibit also traveled to Chicago and Bilbao, Spain.

Barber Motorsports Park

*Becky Ackerman
Ride Coordinator*



In 1999 the thrill of the New York exhibit sparked a much bigger dream for Barber. “We can do this in Birmingham!” he maintained. Barber set out to create a one-of-a-kind, world-class facility. Going even further, he imagined a road course as well where the “living museum” quality of the collection could be demonstrated.

A sprawling Birmingham landscape was required to accommodate the large scale of Barber’s dream. Consulting with world champion racers John Surtees and Dan Gurney, uncommon precision drove the design of the complex. In September 2003 the 830-acre park, with its world-class 16-turn, 2.38 mile racetrack, opened to the public.

Today with its creative architecture and great attention to detail, the museum is home to over 1,400 motorcycles that span over 100 years of production. More than 650 bikes can be seen on any given day, and 200 different manufacturers from 20 countries are represented in the collection—from Harley-Davidson, Honda, and Indian—to Showa, DSK, and Cagiva.

In his passion for motorcycles, George Barber’s love of cars has remained powerful. The museum features the world’s most extensive Lotus collection, anchored by the Lotus 21. The museum also displays rare racecars, including the 1964 Ferrari F-158, in which John Surtees Won the 1964 Formula 1 Driver’s World Championship.

The museum drew 270,000 visitors last year, including more than 3,000 visitors from other countries. In April 2014, Barber was officially recognized by Guinness World Records as being the world’s largest motorcycle collection.

As the collection continues to grow, the museum’s story continues as well. In its commitment to preserving the history of motorsports, the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum is excited about the future. Barber says he wants “to use the museum as a tool to help bring more people to Birmingham.” Being dedicated to interpreting and exhibiting motorcycles and vintage vehicles, the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum is a destination that is truly amazing.



(Editor’s Note: Becky has been a regular contributor to our Chapter Newsletter this year. Many thanks for her interesting articles and support of our activities.)

Oh, Right! This is Why We Do This!*Andy & Sherry Smith**Colorado District Directors*

The other day we were driving home from a GWRRA function. We were a little tired, (it had been a long week) and still had a meeting to attend before we could go home. Grumbling some that our lives had turned in to a GWRRA events, functions, meetings, phone calls and emails. *"Let's try not to stay too long at the meeting,"* we both said. Well, more than two hours later, as we were driving home still laughing because our meeting morphed in to more fellowship than business, we remembered why we love this organization. It's the people of "Friends for Fun, Safety, and Knowledge" that keeps us going when we are tired. These people, this like-mindedness, are why we are still here, and why we stay.



If you are traveling for the holidays, be safe. Happy Thanksgiving, to our amazing Chapters:

A (Jim & Barb Griffin, Chapter Directors)

B (Charles & Gaylene Grimsley, Chapter Directors)

E (Bob & Jan Wills, Chapter Directors)

G (Anita & Mike Benavidez, Chapter Directors)

I (Don Cruzan & Cathy Luce, Chapter Directors)

J (Bryan & Emma Lape, Chapter Directors)

L (Fred & Linda Fisher, Chapter Directors)

N (Diana & David Bradley, Chapter Directors) &

Q (Rich & Linda Fuller, Chapter Directors)

And Each of their Chapter Teams and Members. Without all of you, the District does not function.

Sherry & I hope that your lives be full of family, fun, and laughter.

Don't forget the Multi-Chapter Christmas Party on December 5th.



Once Again, Colorado has had an amazing year in 2015, and we are looking forward to next year to have even more fun with our FRIENDS! (and we really mean it from our hearts)

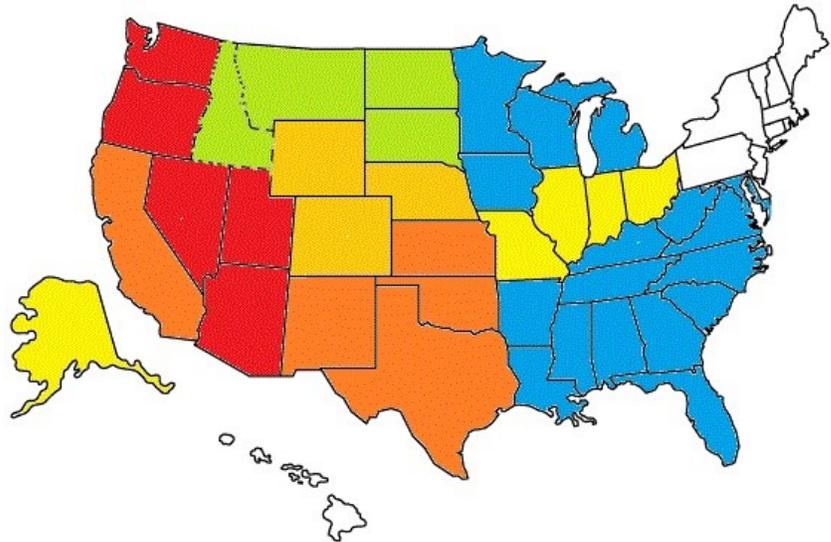


Where has Chapter L Ridden in 2015??

Our members have had a great traveling year!

We have added the following States to our Chapter's 2015 Travel List:

- Jan CO, NE, WY
- Feb CA, KS, NM, OK, TX
- Mar WHAT? NO STATES?
- Apr Rainy Month!
- May AZ, NV, OR, UT, WA
- Jun AK, IN, IL, MO, OH
- Jul ID, MT, ND, SD
- Aug *So sad!*
- Sep AL, AR, FL, GA, IA, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WI, WV
- Oct Rocky Mountain National Park?
- Nov Wrappin' it up!
- Dec *We done pretty darn good this year! 39 States Total!*



<p><u>December Celebrations</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays</u> Janet Spencer 23</p> <p><u>Anniversaries</u> Slow month for weddings!</p>	<p><u>Upcoming December 2015 Events</u></p> <p>Sat 5 Multi-Chapter Christmas Party Mon 7 Chapter Meeting Pot-Luck Refreshments</p> <p>Wed 16 Dinner Ride-Ackermans</p> <p><u>December Christmas Party</u> Sat 5 Ciancios @ Hyland Hills 9650 Sheridan Blvd, Westminster</p>
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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	Email	720-922-0789
Assistant Chapter Director	Bob & Christine King	Email	303-463-4548
Chapter Educator	Andrew Smith	Email	303-923-8342
Treasurer	Tami & Steve Bender	Email	303-972-8420
Motorist Awareness Coordinator	Sherry Smith	Email	303-923-8342
Coffee Maker Extraordinaire	Kenny & Lis Simons	Email	720-685-0188
Membership Enhancement Coordinators	Vacant		
Chapter Couple of the Year	Dan & Vicky Kirk	Email	303-358-6249
Chapter Individual of the Year	Mike Hottinger	Email	303-524-5656
Ride Coordinator	Becky Ackerman	Email	303-988-0413
Greeter	Ralph Spencer	Email	303-888-2705
Storekeeper	Dan & Vicky Kirk	Email	303-358-6249
Ride Book Editor	Janet Drake	Email	303-933-6073
Newsletter Editor	Randall Drake	Email	720-480-2800

[Chapter L Web Site](#)



[Colorado District Staff](#)



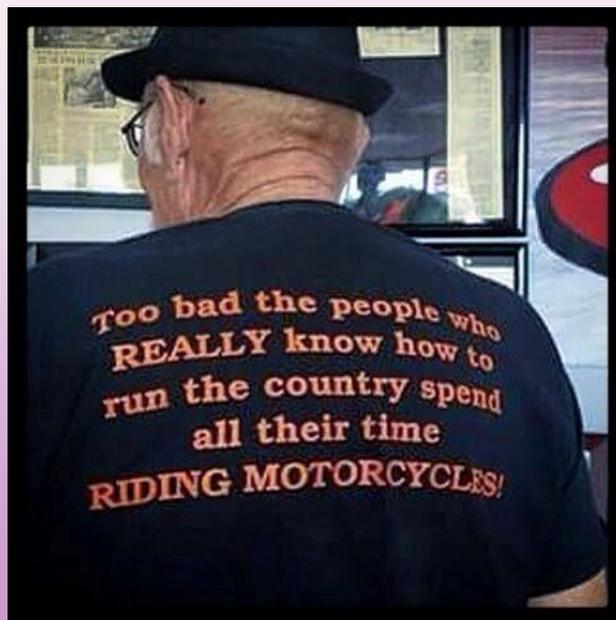
[Region F Staff](#)



[GWRRA National Staff](#)



Who Should Run the Country?





**Iron Buffalo & GWRRA continuing charity
operation**

“30/30”

Take a class and save \$30

Together we will then donate \$30

To Ride For Kids

**Every time you take an experienced rider
course with Iron Buffalo, \$30 will be donated
to our mutual charity. Simple as that!**

Take the course at your convenience.

Any date that we offer!

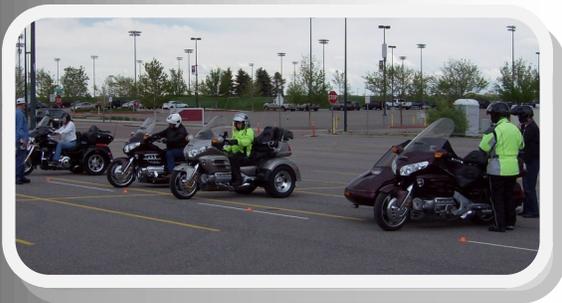
**Most Thursdays & Saturdays. (3 Wheel riders
need to contact the office for the next
available course date).**

Email Iron Buffalo at:

GWRRA@ironbuff.org

**Tell us when you would like to take a
class and we will provide you with the
promotional code to use when you
register and you’ll save \$30.**

**Once you complete the class Iron
Buffalo will donate \$30 to Ride For
Kids in both our names
(GWRRA & Iron Buffalo).**



IRON BUFFALO
MOTORCYCLE TRAINING
303-751-3741