



# Red Rocks Report

## GWRRRA Chapter CO-L

### July 2018



*Friends for Fun,  
Safety and  
Knowledge*

*2013 International  
Chapter of the  
Year*

#### 2018 Chapter Officers

##### Directors

Steve & Tami Bender  
Assistant Director/Rider Ed  
Chuck Bellmyer

##### Ride Coordinator

Becky Ackerman  
Social & Membership  
Enhancement  
Mike & Becky Ackerman

##### Treasurer/Storekeeper/

Motorist Awareness  
Ralph K. Spencer III

#### 2018 Chapter Staff

Newsletter - April Hansen

Photographer – Donald Redline

Ride Book – TBA

Webmaster - Stan Smetana

2018 Couple of the Year  
Randall & Janet Drake



#### **Directors' Greeting By Steve & Tami Bender, Directors**

Well, all I can say is "The only thing that stays consistent is CHANGE."

Chapter L will be changing. , We are losing two couples (for right now) that have given a lot to the Chapter for many years -- hard work, dedication and many hours: Fred & Linda Fisher and Randall & Janet Drake. Both couples are moving to Bella Vista, AR and will truly be missed by all of Chapter L! We wish them well, happy travels and safe riding.

Ralph Spencer will be the Chapter L Treasurer and we will need a Ride Book Editor, and coffee maker. District will need a new Treasurer.

On our last odd Sunday ride, Steve and I met with Mike and Becky Ackerman for breakfast, and then Bob Blott met us for the ride. We figured we would take a quick ride before the rain. Of course, with me leading the ride, it wouldn't be a Chapter ride without missing a turn and needing a U-turn, getting Bob wet from the rain. We had a good, safe ride and all worked out.

For those going to Wing Ding 40 this year, Bryan Lape is looking for volunteers. Please check with him if you might have a couple of free hours. You won't be sorry. It is always good to help out.

Just a friendly reminder: All of the State of Colorado Motor Vehicle offices will be closed August 1st, 2nd and 3rd, and Driver's license will be closed August 3rd.

Hope to see ya at our next meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

**July Meeting Refreshments  
By Andy & Shery Smith**

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### **Assistant Director's Comments** **By Chuck Bellmyer, Assistant Director**

Hello, Chapter L!

I was told by April (our Editor) to get a newsletter article ready for this month. So, I thought about something that I read some time ago and want to share it with you from one of my mentors, George Carlin. It's a group of phrases that I've adopted into my daily life, and thought they may find their way into your lives as well. Enjoy!

- ✓ Big bats down to one five five, over cross, up the thing no.
- ✓ Nose, baseball, hieroglyphics, hopscotch, pouch.
- ✓ Inevitably two four eight, four eight. One one with a two two two, three, four five.

- ✓ Down here, mother, we're all home now; so long Jill, beep beep; hungry hungry are you?
- ✓ I couldn't stand it. Not in my house! Up yours to Don!!
- ✓ He's packin' them in. We'll all try it, fifty-fifty. Okay, but not me!

These words of wisdom have given me endless hours of thought and reflection! I hope they will do the same for you!

**Ride safe!**

*[Editor's Note: Would someone please explain these to me?]*

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### My Last Article

By Fred Fisher, Outgoing Treasurer

With what will probably be my last article for the newsletter, I wanted to recap some of my most memorable rides and events we've shared with Chapter L.

**Fort Robinson:** We did this ride several times and enjoyed it each time. The ride up and back was always beautiful and the entire setting, accommodations, and entertainment at the Fort were relaxing and top notch. This trip was always hosted by the Ackermans, some of the best trip planners you would ever want. Side Note: Don't ever pass up a chance to take a photo of the big elk; you might never get another chance.... Right, Mike?

**Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta:** Hosted by Linda and me, we also did this trip several times. As a former balloon pilot, I knew the ins and outs of the Fiesta, and enjoyed taking folks (especially rookies) to the largest balloon event in the world. To watch the rookies just stand on the field in amazement was really fun to see.

**Copper Mountain:** Another ride hosted by the Ackermans (see a pattern here?). We did this ride a couple of times, but the one year it was opened up to anyone from other Chapters who wanted to go. Word

spread quickly about the ride and was even on social media. We had riders join in from other states. I believe we had 70-80 bikes ride up to Copper Mountain and take the gondola ride to the mountain top for lunch. An amazing coordination to have leaders assigned for each of the groups, and have all the liability release forms signed and ready before the ride even left the meet point. A really memorable view of all those bikes riding up I-70 into the mountains.

**Cookie Riders:** This started with a couple of single guys (former Chapter L members Steve Randolph and Tom Weidner) wanting to go to Tucson, AZ to go to Rockies spring training, and share some home baked cookies with the kids at the San Xavier Mission School. It quickly grew into large groups going down with dozens of cookies going down for the school.

Most years went off without a hitch, but one particular year....not so much. As the group was headed home, just south of Albuquerque, NM, we got word that there was a huge rainstorm that flooded the highway in our path. We decided to head east onto the mountains and bypass the city. Keeping in mind this

*Continued on page 4*

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018

*Continued from page 3*

is the end of March. As we climbed in altitude, it got colder and colder. Soon it started to snow; then, it REALLY snowed. As the road started to get covered, we rode into the small town of Mountainair, NM. We needed to get off the road quickly and came upon the only hotel in town, a small 50's style one-level motel that truly was a dump. However, when it is now 20 degrees and several inches of snow on the road, it looked like the Hilton. As it was, we spent three nights there, stranded, as the snow and ice continued.

Finally, the roads cleared enough to head out. The morning we left it was 19 degrees and this was long before most had electric jackets. Everyone

got home safely, but this is one I'll never forget.

There were so many more; Bishops Castle, Capulin Volcano, Mt. Evans, Trail Ridge, and Poudre Canyon, to name a few.

Several events had no riding involved: The many Chapter Christmas Parties, Halloween Parties, and The Patsy DeCline Shows. All great fun and great memories.

Finally, we would like to say thank you for all the great friendships we've made over the years.

# Good bye



## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### **Motorcycling Facts and Tips – Some of Which May Surprise You By Ralph K. Spencer III, Treasurer/Motorist Awareness Coordinator**

Some of the following tips and facts may seem like common sense to 99% of you. My goal is to convince folks in the remaining 1% to get on board and start driving your motorcycle in a safe, responsible manner.

- Wear a DOT-compliant helmet and use reflective tape and gear to be more visible. NHTSA estimates helmets saved the lives of 1,772 motorcyclists in 2015.
- Never ride while impaired or distracted—it is not worth the risk of killing or injuring yourself or someone else. Plus, a DUI costs \$10,000 on average, and can lead to jail time, loss of your driver's license, and higher insurance rates.
- Always drive with a current motorcycle license. It's the law. In 2015, 27 percent of motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes were riding without valid motorcycle licenses.
- The use of DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets increased to 65.3 percent in 2016, up from 64 percent in 2015, based on the National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS).
- Helmet use among motorcyclists on expressways decreased slightly, from 71.3 percent in 2015 to 69.8 percent in 2016.
- Helmet use among motorcyclists in the Western States increased significantly to 90.9 percent in 2016, up from 74.8 percent in 2015.
- Use of noncompliant helmets among motorcyclists riding alone decreased significantly to 7.7 percent in 2016, down from 11.8 percent in 2015.
- The percentage of motorcycle riders who were intoxicated in fatal crashes (27%) was greater than the percentage of intoxicated drivers of passenger cars (21%) and light trucks (20%) in fatal crashes in 2015.
- In 2015, 27 percent of all fatally injured motorcycle riders had BAC levels of .08 or higher.
- Motorcycle riders killed in traffic crashes at night were three times more frequently found to be alcohol-impaired than those killed during the day (42% and 13%, respectively).
- Forty-two percent of motorcycle riders who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2015 had BAC levels of .08 g/dl or higher. Sixty-three percent of those killed in single-vehicle crashes on weekend nights had BACs of .08 g/dl or higher.

Please, read and heed.

**Until next time, Share the Road - Safely!!!**

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### Fisher Going-Away Party By Donald Redline, Chapter Photographer

Fred & Linda Fisher are moving to Arkansas.

Mike & Becky Ackerman gave them an awesome going-away BBQ at their home with ribs, chicken, coleslaw, and potato salad. We also had some great desserts.

There were 14 of us, if I remember correctly, and we enjoyed talking about old times and recent ones.



And then there was the neat stuff around the backyard.



And my FAV kind of tree. Oh, yeah, ... the food. Sorry, I missed a photo of the chicken.



## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### Wandering the West Coast – a 14-Day Journey By Andrew C. Smith

Our adventure took us for a total of 4178 miles over the 14-day trip. It was a blast!

Fred Fisher (our fearless leader) started our journey in Littleton and, as with many of our trips, we made sure all our maintenance was in good shape. We packed (more than we needed), loaded the trailers, did one more walk around to make sure all the lights were working, had our Co-Riders mount up, set the CB on Channel 5, and we were off.

Our destination for day 1 was Vernal, UT, I-70 to Empire and the well-known Berthoud Pass, and some really disgusting “primitive” facilities at the top of the pass (just ask Linda or Sherry). If the smell had not run us off, our schedule encouraged us to move on, past Granby and up to Steamboat Springs. Of course, when you stop for a meal, there has to be some additional



shopping involved. (We are not even out of the state and we are adding “stuff” to the trailer.) So we are wandering through F.M. Light & Sons, and realize we stopped for food. We can recommend Jonny B Good’s Diner. After we finished feeding ourselves and the bikes, we were off once again. Vernal, here we come.

Day 2 is an interesting trek with a short time on a big road, heading to Ely, NV. We passed by (at a distance) our recent “Hoot in the Ute” venue going through Heber City and on to make a short stop at the Bonneville Salt Flats. (Nope, we did not venture out into the salt, which would have been messy for sure.) We continued on, via the



2-lane (where the best things to see are found) down Route 93 and into Ely, for some Mexican food and a good night’s sleep.

Up and at ‘em! We are off once again, after trying to show up a group of about 10 Indian motorcycle riders at the hotel. On to Route 50, the loneliest highway in America. (It was not quite as lonely as we expected; in fact, they had a



traffic jam in one spot.) Today (day 3), we are off to South Lake Tahoe. The trip would not be complete without a stop at the “Shoe Tree.” On past Fallon, NV, through Carson City (strike up the theme from Bonanza), and into Tahoe.

Fred was definitely correct, you could tell when you entered or left Nevada because

Continued on page 8

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018

*Continued from page 7*

that is where the casinos stopped (about two feet from the state line). Route 50 had us working our way through the El Dorado National Forest and to Sacramento (had to stop at **In & Out Burger** for Randall who was suffering in the hospital after surgery;



we had seconds just for him). Out through UC Davis and down through Napa to Windsor, our stopping place for a couple of days.

Windsor allowed us to take a couple of trips to San Francisco. The first day was a trip across the Golden Gate to the Disney Hometown Museum with one quick stop at



the home office of Industrial Light and Magic – Star Wars.

The Disney Hometown museum also had a special exhibit called “9 Old Men” that went through the stories of the nine original artists who produced the amazing films and art that we watched as we grew up.

Our next day was a boat trip to see the National Park at Alcatraz Island...

We had a great time, especially since we were just **visiting** for the day...

There were so many interesting things you have never seen or heard about, it is really worth the time to visit. (If you plan to



visit, plan ahead. You can't just show up and make it on the ferry boat to the island.)

Some of the locals are right at home on the island.



And you wouldn't want to stay the night here!



Well, we will have to sign off for this episode because there is so much more to tell you about. Guess you will have to read next month's newsletter!

More from “Fisher”man's Wharf next time.



## Red Rocks Report – July 2018

### Where is Chapter L Riding in 2018?

**Jan.** CO, WY, NE (The Ackermans opened the door.)

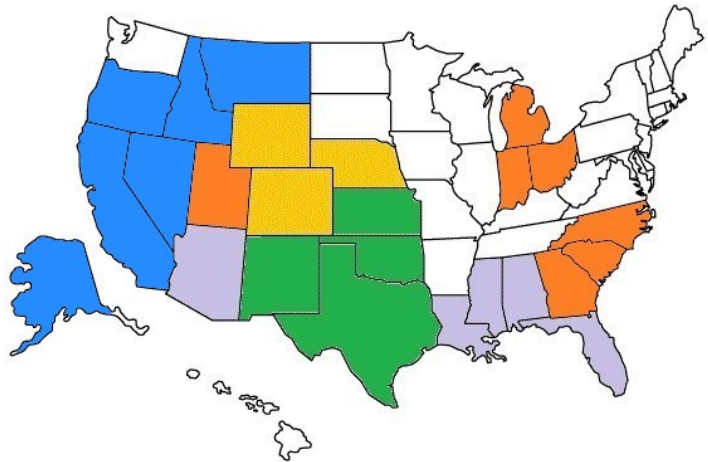
**Feb.** -----

**Mar.** KS/OK/TX/NM (Ackermans)

**Apr.** AZ/LA/MS/AL/FL (Ackermans)

**May** UT (Hoot in the Ute);  
GA/SC/NC/IN/OH/ MI  
(Ackermans)

**June** NV/CA/OR/ID (Fishers &  
Smiths); MT/AB/BC/YT/AK  
(Kepplers)



### July-August Events

July 1: Chapter L Odd Sunday Ride, 9:00 a.m.

**July 4: INDEPENDENCE DAY!**

**July 9: Chapter L Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.; refreshments by Andy & Sherry Smith

July 14: Chapter L Trail Ridge/North Park Ride hosted by Ron Evers & Laura Hudson

July 14: Chapter I Picnic

July 15: Chapter L Odd Sunday Ride, 9:00 a.m.

July 21: Chapter J Hummer of a Summer

July 25: Chapter L Dinner Ride

July 28: Chapter G All-Chapter Howl at the Moon

Aug. 2: Chapter A Picnic

Aug. 5: Chapter L Odd Sunday Ride, 9:00 a.m.

Aug. 6: **Chapter L Meeting**, 7:00 p.m.; refreshments by Mike & Becky Ackerman

Aug. 11-12: Burlington/St. Francis, KS Ride hosted by Mike & Becky Ackerman

Aug. 15: Chapter L Dinner Ride hosted by Mike & Becky Ackerman

Aug. 18: Chapter Q Fundraiser Ride hosted by Randall & Janet Drake

Aug. 19: Chapter L Odd Sunday Ride, 9:00 a.m.

Aug. 28 – Sept. 1: Wing Ding, Knoxville, TN

## Red Rocks Report – July 2018



### Anniversaries

14 – Steve & Tami Bender  
17 – Randall & Janet Drake

### Colorado District Officers & Staff

<b>Directors</b>	<b>Bryan &amp; Emma Lape (CO-J)</b>
<b>Assistant Directors</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Olga Wyman (CO-I)</b>
<b>Rider Education</b>	<b>Earl Edwards (CO-I)</b>
<b>Ride Coordinator</b>	<b>Joyce &amp; Rick Elmore (CO-G)</b>
<b>University Training</b>	<b>Inez Scholbrock (CO-G)</b>
<b>Membership Enhancement</b>	<b>Paula Campbell (CO-B)</b>
<b>Motorist Awareness</b>	<b>Peter Keppler (CO-L)</b>
<b>Treasurers</b>	<b>Randall &amp; Janet Drake (CO-L)</b>
<b>COY &amp; IOY Coordinators</b>	<b>Andy &amp; Sherry Smith (CO-L)</b>
<b>Webmasters</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Janet Wohlford (CO-A)</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>April Hansen-Keppler (CO-L)</b>
<b>Photographer</b>	<b>Donald Redline (CO-L)</b>
<b>2017-2018 COY</b>	<b>Dave &amp; Paula Campbell (CO-B)</b>
<b>2017-2018 IOY</b>	<b>Jacques Perron (CO-A)</b>

### Colorado Chapter Directors

<b>Chapter A – Littleton</b>	<b>Ron &amp; Deann Fagler</b>	<b>wingfagler@comcast.net</b>
<b>Chapter B – Grand Junction</b>	<b>Dave &amp; Paula Campbell</b>	<b>cdchapterb@aol.com</b>
<b>Chapter G – Fort Collins</b>	<b>Steve &amp; Inez Scholbrock</b>	<b>director@gwrranortherncolorado.org</b>
<b>Chapter I – Colorado Springs</b>	<b>Steve &amp; Jacque Callicott</b>	<b>directors@springswings.org</b>
<b>Chapter J – Aurora</b>	<b>Chris Toomer</b>	<b>cd@gwrraco-j.org</b>
<b>Chapter L – Lakewood</b>	<b>Tami &amp; Steve Bender</b>	<b>bndrspndr@aol.com</b>
<b>Chapter Q – Montrose</b>	<b>Bill &amp; Nancy Pierce</b>	<b>director@gwrracoloradochapterq.org</b>
<b>Wyoming B – Cheyenne</b>	<b>Larry &amp; Barbara Kuzma</b>	<b>kuz001@aol.com</b>



# Colorado Chapter-I

## Annual Picnic

## & Chapter Meeting

Come one, come all



Mark your calendars and plan to join us!!

John Venezia Community Park

at the "Barn"

3555 Briargate Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Marbles

50/50

Raffle?

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs

and all that makes for a

Great Picnic

July 14th, 2018  
10:00AM Start Time

Games

For more information, please contact  
Steve or Jacque at 719-481-6082





## GWRRA CO-G ANNUAL MULTI-CHAPTER RIDE



# HOWL AT THE MOON



**July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Dinner:**

Each chapter is encouraged to have dinner together at a place of their choosing.

**Meet: 8:45 pm**

We will meet in the NE corner of the Estes Park Town Hall parking lot.

**Kickstands up: 9:00 pm**

For our ride into RMNP, (admission is free after 9PM), up Trail Ridge Road to the Alpine Visitor Center where we will enjoy fun and games as well as howl at the moon!

**Questions - contact:**

[director@gwrranortherncolorado.org](mailto:director@gwrranortherncolorado.org)



**You may purchase a  
'HOWL AT THE MOON'  
pin and year hanger at  
the event.**