

THE CURRY CHRONICLES

We had a terrific March meeting!!

Marsha was in Houston, visiting her sisters, so I called Tom & Monica and asked them if they'd run the meeting. They agreed, and I had the opportunity to visit, drink lots of coffee, and eat a bunch of the goodies. *I think I like this!*

Laurie Schlosser (*our chapter crochet-a-holic*) brought all kinds of things she'd made to sell to help put a little money in the chapter coffers. Can't tell you how much we appreciate Laurie and those like her who do things like this to help the chapter out any way they can.

For you newer chapter members, there are no dues at the chapter level. The only dues you are required to pay to belong to our chapter are those required to keep up your national GWRRA membership. We exist on fundraisers, 50-50 drawings, and the like. This chapter has evolved over the past several years from having major fundraisers to learning that we do ok with the 50-50 drawings and things like Laurie is doing to have just enough money to do the things we feel necessary. Chapter I is currently on more of a pay-as-you go philosophy. If we want to have a fancy, expensive event, that's ok – those who want to come pay to come. Most of the things we do are simply a reason to get together to see our friends, and it usually doesn't cost a bunch to do that.

There seems to be a transition going on within this District (State of Colorado). All the chapters used to have major fundraisers, and there was an implied obligation to travel to those chapters for those events because they would do the same for us. We still think it is fun and worth the trip to get to as many chapter fundraisers as we can – most of those things are entertaining and a great reason to get back together with the friends we've made over the years. But we feel that it is our responsibility within our own chapter to raise the funds we need to do the things that are important to our chapter members – we shouldn't count on our friends from the rest of the District to support those goals. We don't have a fundraiser on our calendar this year on purpose. We'll do quite well with people like Laurie doing things like she does - we welcome any spontaneous fund raising ideas the rest

of you might want to come up with.

Having said that, we really want to get out to the other chapters, have a bunch of fun with them and enjoy their companionship and share in the emotional bond of being Gold Wing Riders and Co-Riders. In my opinion, the best fundraiser in Colorado is Chapter J's Hummer of a Summer – pretty simple event, but you have to ride to get there! That's the whole idea behind our combined Chapter I and Chapter B meeting in Gunnison in June. It isn't a fundraiser – just a reason to **RIDE** a bit to get together with our friends from the other side of the ridge.

Enough philosophizing. Tom did a fantastic job running the Chapter meeting. Very efficient, didn't insult too many people, and was done in record time without boring anyone. ... and there was coffee left over after the meeting!

We had a fun time at Sandy Swing's for the February game night. Our next game night is March 18th at the Harder's – watch for an e-mail.

The phone tree will be updated fairly soon – we'll get it out and ask for corrections and

THE CURRY CHRONICLES (cont.)

additions once it has been revised.

Garry Durfey has an April 15th Experienced Rider Course set aside for the chapter. Give him a call if you're interested in attending.

We're really getting pretty close to our first major rally of the year – the Region F rally in Elko, Nevada in May. You can get on the Colorado GWRRA web site and link to Region F for information. Marsha and I are definitely going and registered (rally and motels) early. Think about coming along for the ride with us!

Dave Wren is still the point of contact for those wanting to camp in Gunnison overnight before the June Chapter I/B meeting – you can find the Gunnison KOA pretty easily by searching the Internet. Call Dave if you have any questions 719-591-2739.

A bunch of us are traveling to Wing Ding. We intend to be there to cheer Wayne and Dena Davis (our pervious Colorado / current Region F Couple of the Year) on as they compete at the International level. As we get closer to departure we'll coordinate groups riding together on different days and routes. There is an International "Chapter I get-together" on the 4th of July in Nashville - all the different Chapters with the "I" designation are getting together Tuesday July 4th for Breakfast -

Leaving Nashville at 7:30 a.m. location to be announced at a later date

Cost is \$10.69 (includes tax, drink and tip) RSVP to clara@pcpartner.net by June 15th (or let us know you want to go and we'll RSVP as a

We can't express adequately how much all of you in Chapter I mean to us. You are all so very different and have so many opinions and ideas that we would never think of on our own. That is why we have such a great chapter. The diversity of our membership is what makes this such a great experience for us, and we hope for you, too. Find other members who share your interests they are the ones you will enjoy riding and sharing time with the most. Let's work hard at *riding together* – all of us - a bit more this year.

We hope to see all of you soon, and often.

Ron & Marsha Curry **CO-I** Chapter Directors



 \bigstar Turn left onto Leather Chaps dr. Turn right onto Kitchener Way

Here Turn right onto Saber creek Dr.

End at 154 Saber Creek Dr.





group).

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Safety and Helmets

This person came out of this mishap just fine, thanks to his full-face helmet. No facial reconstruction was needed. In fact he was wearing full protective gear and was able to ride home! What would've happened had he been wearing a threequarter helmet or, worse yet, a "shorty?" Be smart in the selection and use of Personal Protective Equipment.



Darrell Cruzan & Laurie Scholsser







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'Skill' is often no more than CONFIDENCE

Some time ago I was riding with a group down a back-country road when our group leader decided that we needed to perform our 'mandatory' U-turn. The road had two lanes (one in each direction) and there was no oncoming traffic.

With only one exception everybody made a 'threepoint' maneuver. That is, we turned across the road and stopped when we could not keep going without running off the pavement, then backed up after turning the front wheel, stopped and turned the front wheel again and proceeded to complete the maneuver.

There was, as I said, one exception. This rider was on a relatively new Gold Wing and he was carrying a passenger. Further, he is a BIG man - well over 6' tall and well over 300 pounds.

This man simply aggressively leaned his bike over and drove his bike through the entire 180 degree turn without needing to stop or running out of pavement.

The chatter on the CB was filled with compliments relative to his profound skill with his bike. Those compliments started again at our next rest stop. They were well deserved compliments. But they were misdirected.

That is, what should have been complimented, in my opinion, was the rider's CONFIDENCE rather than his skill.

Don't get me wrong - the man demonstrated lot's of skill. He had demonstrated a mastery of his clutch, his throttle, and his HEAD!

With even modest skill almost anyone can lean a bike far enough in a slow-speed turn to drag a peg but very few of us want to or would even try to get close to that big a lean because we do not KNOW that we can do it successfully. Why? Because we lack confidence in either our machine or ourselves. So, we compromise and do what we KNOW we can do - we make a three-point U-turn on a narrow road.

And how is it that this BIG man developed the confidence to make that slow-speed hard lean needed to complete his smooth U-turn? He had lot's of experience. Experience gained from lot's of practice. Whether you call it skill or confidence, this man handles his bike very well indeed. He deserves recognition and regard, and he certainly gets both from me. Further, his U-turn maneuver took substantially less time than mine did. In other words, he was at risk for far less time than I was. THAT aspect of the value of experience never occurred to me before confidence can reduce time at risk.

So, schedule some time on a regular basis and go out and practice, practice, practice. Earn the respect and regard of your friends by increasing your confidence/skills. Potentially reduce your at-risk time while on the road.

Practice increases confidence. Confidence shows as 'skill.' Over-confidence, however, can kill. The difference between the two, of course, is that being confident means you <u>know</u> you can do something, being over-confident means you <u>think</u> you can.

Making a U-turn like my friend did may not be the most important thing you will ever have to do, but failing to negotiate a curve at high speed because you lack confidence enough to lean the bike just a bit more is simply unacceptable motorcycling.

PRACTICE, PRACTICE PRACTICE

Article provided by Mark Damschen





Upcoming Rallies

Region F / Nevada - May 25-27 - Elko, NV Utah - June 9-11 - Cedar City, UT WING DING - July 3-6 - Nashville, TN California - September 1-4 - Santa Clara, CA Colorado - September 7-9 - Cortez, CO New Mexico - Sept. 29–Oct. 1 - Alamogorda, NM Region I Rally - August 2006 - Powell, Wyoming

Linda & Butch Shelley 15605 Archer Terrace Elbert, CO 80106

Mailing Label Goes Here