#### February 2012

# **Springs Wings**

# Shelley Shenanigans - Notes from the Directors -

Man, this month is tough. It's only February and we have "cabin fever". Yes, there are lots of things that need to be done inside the house like hanging drywall in the basement, painting (we really should wait until we can open some windows, though !!),



cleaning out closets, remodel the bathroom, etc., but those don't sound like much fun. We COULD be more active outside shoveling snow and breaking up the ice that has built up in the driveway, ugh!

It is about time to start thinking about getting the bikes ready for Spring: oil change, new tires, changing the brake fluid, and don't forget about the 1800 recall if you haven't received your notice. It applies to almost all 2001 thru 2012s. If they have to replace the secondary master cylinder it takes a little over an hour. Apex says if you get it in by 9:00, they can have it out shortly after lunch and approx. 90% haven't needed replacing.

We have checked out the campgrounds around Grand Junction for this year's District Convention and talked with the campground managers. As soon as we have a chance to get all the information organized (hopefully within the next couple of days), we will be sending out the detailed information.

Butch and Linda

There are three stages of life; youth, middle age and "Gee, you look good!" Red Skelton

#### WINTER TIP DON'T EAT YELLOW SNOW —UNLESS YOU JUST POURED MOUNTAIN DEW ON A FRESH BOWL OF WHITE SNOW !

## Colorado Springs GWRRA CO-I Region F



## **Dates to Remember**

Mar 3- Chapter Meeting / Food Pantry Mar 10-Co-rider Course AFA Mar 10 & 11-Crane Festival- Kerbs Mar 10-District Spaghetti Dinner Mar 13- 40 TO PHOENIX—Joe Carlson Mar 17-St Patrick's Day- Wearin' o' the Green Mar 22-Dinner Ride/Las Palmitas Glenn & Alexis



## MARCH GOODIES

Dick & Didi Reisler

Patricia & Kevin Hales

## **QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

## What was your first motorcycle?

**Don Bush**– First Bike was a mini-bike with a 2-stroke go-cart racing motor at 12 years old,.I think that helped fuel my need for freedom and speed., but u asked for motorcycle, that was a Bridgestone 90cc at 14 years old. First street bike was a Suzuki X6 Hustler, 250cc street bike, that was back in 1968, when I was 15 and half, got my MC permit.

**Gene Krull**-Kawasaki 400, in 1977 - a medium to big size bike back then.

**Richard Millard** -My first mc was a Yamaha YG1 80 cc off road only.

Claude Lockhart-1978 Yamaha 400

**Nancy Lockhart**-First bike Nancy ever rode: 1973 Kawasaki 900 that was bored out to 1000 cc and used in drag track racing.

**George Davis**– a Vespa, in the Florida Keys...Marathon Fla

Then got a Honda 150...Marathon Fla Then a Bonneville 650...Gainesville Fla

Then a Harley Electra Glide (police officer) Gainesville Fla... that was a change..

Then a 1500 GW Colorado Springs, Co

Dean Hauser-Suzuki moped (kinda motorcycle)

**Terry Weber**-First motorcycle I actually owned was a black 1966 160cc Honda Dream purchased in the late 60's.

**Jim Wyman**-First motorcycle of my own was a 1966 red Bridgestone 90 sport. I was 12 yrs old and if I wanted to ride it, I had to fix it myself. My first ticket was at 13 for operating underage on a public street !

#### Darrel Cruzan-1943 BSA

Rod Klock-Honda CB 360T

**Laurie Schlosser**-My first motorcycle was Darrel's 1985 Aspencade. He said hey little girl do you want a ride on my motorcycle and 22 years later I am still riding! **Ralph Clayton**-Cushman Eagle (Scooter) Cost \$175.00. It had an automatic transmission, so I put in a two speed that I could shift. Cost....\$8.00

**Chris Ward**-1971 350CL Honda from Eddie Hill's Fun Cycle in Wichita Falls, Texas

Sandie Erskine-My first bike was some pocketsized Honda which we think was about 185cc | was enrolled in the motorcycle training class at PPCC and while my hopes were high, my brain was not cooperating. On the Saturday that we were out on the course becoming familiar with the motorcycles, braking was giving me some challenges. On one particular exercise, we were instructed speed up . . . in fact, we had to gain speeds of close to 20 mph . . . which in my mind equated speeds of race tracks and jets. Oh, and then we were supposed to come to an immediate stop when the instructor dropped his flag. It all sounded fine in theory but when I went to apply the brakes, I just kept slamming on the front brakes and consequently found myself flying over the handlebars of the bike, and landing hard on the ground feeling rather confused. Finally, after about the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> time repeating this aerial act and the bike getting quite a few dents and scratches, the very irritated instructor told me to gather my things and go home. I was mortified, humiliated and without a shred of self confidence. I cried all the way home and then poured out my story to Chris. While Chris is a man of few words, he is a man of action and he guickly whisked me into the truck and we drove down to Apex. We were going to buy me a motorcycle to practice with! I had that little 185cc power-rocket for about 4 months. . . plenty of time to adventure out along the guiet streets of our neighborhood, learn about shifting (and brakes!) and gain back the self confidence I had lost. Later that summer, I went back to PPCC for the next class - aced it and the rest, as they say, is history!

**MARK DAMSCHEN-** My first Motorcycle, if you can call it that, was a Honda Trail 90 and I believe the year was 1963

- <u>NEXT MONTH'S QUESTION</u> -WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE COLORADO ROAD? CO\_Inewsletter@yahoo.com

## **QUESTION OF THE MONTH**

Earl Edwards-I started riding in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1980. WOW !!! My first motorcycle was a Honda CBX500 Deluxe. I had it modified by adding a Vetter fairing with a cassette/radio player plus an adjustable sissy bar that doubled as a backrest. This was a spanky new motorcycle. I was hot stuff...no license or education. I was smart enough to buy a helmet. I took a class later on that year...must have learned something...still alive or lucky. Went to Germany and came back to El Paso, TX and bought a 1984 Honda Goldwing, Aspencade, blackcherry. Whoa, a man with 2 motorcycles. Sold the CBX to help pay for the Wing. Didn't know a whole lot about GWRRA at the time...wish I had known. Anyway, back to Germany and returned to Colorado Springs, CO., April 1992. Traded the 1200 Wing in for a blue, 1988, 1500 Wing. Kept that for a year and traded it for a maroon 1989. Well the 89 Wing had a CB for talking in groups, very helpful. It also had other accessories that were nice that was not on the other Wing. Then in 2005, I bought a 1800, silver Wing. Oh what joy !!!

## GOOFY



Goofy is awarded to one Chapter member who has done the goofiest thing since the last meeting. Goofy gets to spend the next month with that person. The person receiving Goofy must add or attach something that represents their "goofy" stunt.

MAINTENANCETIP

GL 1800—SPARK PLUGS ARE DUE FOR

[per owners manual

maintenance schedule]

Members, be on the look out for someone pulling a Goofy.

CHANGE EVERY 16,000 MILES

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Member of the Year (IOY) - Nancy Lockhart

Couple of the Year

Don Cruzan & Cathy Luce



Member of the Year Nancy Lockhart



## **Explanation of the GWRRA Rider Education Levels Program...**

#### Purpose

The GWRRA Rider Education Program (REP) is intended to make the motorcycle environment safer by reducing injuries and fatalities and increasing motorcyclist skills and awareness. The REP does not propose to have all the answers. However, our close-working relationship with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF), as well as additional GWRRA programs and studies, has provided a wealth of information for use in establishing a comprehensive Rider Education Program. Through Commitment, Education and Application, we can reduce our accident rate significantly. Listed below are several benefits of a fully implemented GWRRA Rider Education Program at the Chapter level: Increased rider knowledge Increased rider safety skills

Prevention of accidents

Reduced injuries

**Reduced** fatalities

Improved general public image of motorcyclists

Enhanced enjoyment of motorcycle riding

The motorcycle community is already realizing many positive benefits from the GWRRA Rider Education Program. Through the efforts of the Rider Education Officers and participation of the membership and others, we will reach our goal of establishing the safest motorcycle environment possible.



## Level I: Safety by Commitment - The first big step to success

Level I of the Rider Education Program is also referred to as Safe Miles. It represents the commitment of the Rider and/or the Co-Rider to practice safe motorcycle operation whenever they operate their motorcycle.

Safety is a state of mind which can only be attained through total commitment. Every successful accomplishment begins with a commitment to reach the intended objective. This is true of the Rider Education Program and includes a promise to learn for the sake of Rider, Co-Rider, friends and family, and others on the road. Though there is no mileage requirement to enter Level I, the commitment to safe riding is tracked by the number of accident free miles since joining GWRRA. Accident free miles are accumulated in 5,000 mile increments and may be updated at yearly intervals. Requirement: Verbal commitment to ride safely at all times. No cost to sign up. Patches available at \$6.00 per participant Receive: "Safe Miles" patch, Rider (or Co-rider) Rocker, and mileage pin.





## Level II: Safety by Education

Level II of the REP is also referred to as Tour Rider. It represents the commitment of the Rider and/or Co-Rider to be safer motorcycle riders by taking approved motorcycle riding courses at regular intervals. GWRRA has chosen several educational training programs for the Riders and Co-Riders such as the MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation) programs, the United Sidecar Association course, the CSC (Canadian Safety Council) programs, and the GWRRA's Advanced Riding courses and Parking Lot Practice programs. (See note in the Rider Education Manual on PLP.)

Completing these courses provides the foundation and skills for your quest to be a safe motorcycle rider. All recognized programs with the exception of the PLP are taught by qualified and Nationally certified instructors. PLPs use our Facilitators to administer the program. For the Co-Rider, we have provided an excellent seminar and "Two Up" programs to assist in their role in the safety aspect of motorcycle riding. Motorcycle education goes "hand in hand" with commitment. The "on bike" education by MSF, USCA, CSC and GWRRA for the Rider and Co-Rider and the "off bike" education designed specifically for the

Co-Rider, provide a very effective approach to motorcycle safety. This is when a REP participant truly begins to understand what the Level I commitment means and sees the value in the program. Requirement: Rider - a Certified Rider Course with 5,000 safe miles. Co-Rider - certified Co-rider Seminar or 2-up Rider Course. No cost to sign up. Patches available at \$5.00 per participant Receive: "Red Triangle" patch for either Rider or Co-rider signifying Level II participant.

## Level III: Safety by Preparedness

Level III of the REP is also re-Rider/Co-Rider. It represents the Co-Rider to be prepared in the and possibly save lives. This is First Aid or CPR and carrying a at all times.

It would be wonderful if we could accidents, however, we know real-



ferred to as Certified Tour commitment of the Rider and/or event of an accident to give aid done by being knowledgeable in first aid kit on their motorcycle

achieve the coveted goal of zero istically, accidents will happen.

Because of this, it is important to be fully prepared to lend aid to unfortunate accident victims. It is important to always be prepared to save a life. Level III of the Rider Education Program was developed to deal with such circumstances by recognizing and encouraging proper First Aid or CPR training. CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation), has been used to save many lives. Being trained to render CPR or First Aid is a tremendous asset to those the REP participant will come in contact with daily.

Requirement: Current in Level II and have taken either First Aid or CPR training No cost to sign up. Patches available at \$4.00 per participant Receive: "Certified Tour Rider" or "Certified Co-Rider" patch.

## Level IV: Safety By Enhanced Commitment and Preparedness

Level IV is the most prestigious of the REP levels and is referred to as Master Tour Rider/Co-Rider. It represents the highest commitment of the Rider and/or Co-Rider to safe riding and preparedness. This commitment is shown by a demonstrated history of safe miles and current certification in both First Aid and CPR.. These Master Tour Riders/ Co-Riders are the finest example to everyone of the highest commitment to safe motorcycle operation and preparedness.

Level IV of the REP, the Master Tour Rider, was designed for those special caring individuals who desire to "be all they can be" with re-

gards to motorcycle safety. The requirements are more stringent than Level III and require a greater commitment. These individuals are caring, trained and prepared with the experience to back them up. It is realized Level IV is not for everyone, but for those who desire to be of greater service to their fellow man, it is the correct prescription.

Why desire to be a Level IV Master Tour Rider? It's a worthy goal. Being prepared to save a life is a high calling indeed! These individuals are shining examples to the rest of the GWRRA membership. Others aspire to practice the same commitment as displayed by those who have attained Level IV. For that reason, because these individuals are ambassadors to the members at all levels, GWRRA provides a special gathering to celebrate the Master Tour Rider commitment each year at the District Rally, Region D Rally and Wing Ding.

Requirement: Current in Level III for one year and have taken both First Aid and CPR training. Have 25,000 Safe Miles and must be committed to riding with "Proper Riding Gear" at all times.



Cost: \$35.00 for each participant (Black and Gold patch is available for another \$8.00) Receive: "Special Triangular" patch with dark blue border and your individual Master number embroidered on it.

Note: all Level Program Patches are also available in "Black and Gold" at a charge of \$1.00 extra per level for levels I, II, and III.

So there you have the program structure:

Level I Safety by Commitment

Level II Safety by Education

Level III Safety by Preparedness

Level IV Safety by Enhanced Commitment and Preparedness

The GWRRA is proud to present the Rider Education Program. We encourage you to think seriously about motorcycle safety and be a participant in the GWRRA Rider Education Program. You should also remember the old cliche, "an ounce of prevention IS worth a pound of cure." Always wear protective rid-ing apparel!



Link to First Aid kits http://www.first-aid-product.com/industrial/vehicle-first-aid-kit.htm

## **RIDE OPPORTUNITIES / OTHER EVENTS**

<u>**CRANE FESTIVAL</u>**- This is for the upcoming Crane Festival in Alamosa, CO the 10th and 11th of March. Anyone who is interested in going needs to let me know so I can reserve a bus for the Sat. evening tour and the Sunday morning tour.</u>

You can go to <u>Cranefest.com</u> and read all about the tours and everything else being offered over the weekend. I will have the information at this Sat. meeting also. I have reserved a block of rooms at the Super 8 in Alamosa. Please see the attached info below and call by Feb. 28th to make your reservation.

You need to call this number and use the confirmation number when reserving your room.

Participants need to phone 877-361-2508 and mention confirmation 56723066 any time before February 28.

We will also be going to dinner Sat. night, I will let you know as soon as I have an estimate of how many might be attending. There are 2 steak houses up there that I know of and I will be making reservations soon.
Bonnie Kerbs

<u>KOA CAMPING</u> - Got notice about buy one, get one free at several KOA's in CO. It's for the weekend of May 12th if anyone is interested in going. The one I was looking at is for the one in Buena Vista, it's over Mother's Day weekend.

**Bonnie Kerbs** 

## 40 TO PHOENIX

Plan is to meet the "Group" in Moriarty, NM on the afternoon of March 13th. We will leave Monument, Colorado at 0800 hrs with a planned arrival time in Moriarty, NM of 1500 hrs. Pat Stafferi (Honda Interstate 1986) and I (Gold Wing 2012) will be staying at the Motel 6 in Moriarty - 505-832-4451 skype\_ and the Motel 6 in Phoenix 602-993-2353 skype\_ (14 and 15 March) - plans flexible for after the 15th Would like to get a nice group together to go to Phoenix. Let me know if you would like to join in and we will "Go For It" <u>icarlsonretired@aol.com</u> 719-488-1902 skype

## LAUGHLIN, NV

Group (so far there are five of us) leaving Monument, CO April 22, 1000hrs for Laughlin, NV - arrive in Laughlin, NV the afternoon of April 27th - spend Friday and Saturday at the Laughlin River Run and then head back to Colorado Springs to arrive Monday night - May 1st. Route out is variable depending on the weather - looks like we will head due south and then go across the southern parts of New Mexico and Arizona then North from Yuma. Return should be Interstate 40 for the most part - again weather dependent. Let me know if you would like to join us and we can work out more of the details. Joe Carlson aka Deer Slayer 719-488-1902 405-326-2588 skype



Join us for a delicious all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner prepared and served by the District Staff. Proceeds will go toward expenses incurred by our District Couple and Individual of the Year as they travel around the Region and prepare for the Region F Selection Process in Utah 2012.



# Springs Wings



Chapter I meeting

WHEN 1st Saturday 8:30 coffee, 9:00 meeting

LOCATION Holy Cross Lutheran Church 4125 Constitution Ave.

Visit us at

www.springswings.org

## **Newsletter Editor Note**

Thanks for the encouragement and input from all. SPECIAL THANKS TO LINDA SHELLEY for the help, patience & encouragement with getting the Newsletter put together. I could not have done it without her!