



Connecting Colorado



August 2018

"Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge"

Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Region F, Colorado District, www.coloradogwrra.com



Wing Ding 40

By Bryan & Emma Lape, District Directors

WOW, it's hard to believe that Wing Ding is just 10 days away! I know many of our Colorado members are planning on packing up the bikes and getting things ready to head out. There are several groups that will be hitting the road, so if you are looking for someone to ride with, there should be additional information listed below.

Wing Ding seems to be shaping up to be fun this year. For us, this is more like a family reunion as we get to see many of the friends that we have made throughout the past several years. We can't wait! Also, there are more vendors for those who cannot resist purchasing something new for your wheels! I know I have been saving up for a few new things. Don't forget the custom painting that is available. I also heard, while there will be training and other events to attend, there will be more time for riding, parties and, as always, plenty of food without missing out on anything.

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If you are going, take some time and enjoy that corner of Tennessee. If you are a Civil War buff, there are tons of monuments throughout that part of the country to visit.

Of course, Emma and I will be part of the International Couple of the Year Process. We believe we are ready, and hope to bring the title back to Colorado as this will be the last true International COY, at least for now! Join us for the International COY event starting on Tuesday, August 28th, at 1:00 pm.

Following are some of the groups leaving for Wing Ding. If you are interested in riding with them, reach out to them.

- Chapter B - Coordinated by Dave & Paula Campbell, leaving Saturday, August 25th, via Oklahoma City;
- Chapter G - Coordinated by, I believe, Steve & Inez Scholbrock, leaving Brighton on August 24th;
- Chapter J - Coordinated by Thom Dahler, leaving Friday, August 25th, via Little Rock, heading to the Barber Museum; and
- Chapter J - Coordinated by Chris Toomer, leaving Friday, August 25th, via Nashville.

Sunday, August 26th, Terry & Carol Moore from Chapter J, who now live just outside

of Nashville in Burns, TN, are holding a BBQ dinner and gathering for all those Wingers traveling to Wing Ding. It starts in the afternoon and ends somewhere around when the "cows go home"! Everyone is welcome to attend as Terry and Carol would love to see friends from Colorado and Missouri as they pass through. If you need details, reach out to Terry at terrencemoore1961@yahoo.com. Thanks to Joyce Elmore for reaching out to the Chapters for their travel information.

Misprint in Last Month's Newsletter

In last month's newsletter, there was a Thank You to Janet & Randall Drake for all of their contributions to the Colorado District over the years, as they were moving to Arkansas. When mentioning several of the positions that they held, it was printed that they were the Chapter Directors of Chapter L. This was in error and I apologize for the misinformation. However, if they would have been the Chapter Directors, I am sure they would have done a killer job! We wish them the absolute best in Arkansas!

Until next month, we hope that you have a wonderful and safe time out there riding the roads of our beautiful state and for those going to Wing Ding, "Be safe and have a great time!"

Build good memories and ride safe so you can ride again!



Dual Left turn Lanes

By Earl Edwards, District Rider Educator

There seem to be more dual left turn lanes as time goes on. There is a lot of traffic speeding by you as you sit at the traffic light waiting for your time to turn left.

What is the best lane to wait in to make a left turn? Do you feel safe waiting where you wait to make the turn? What about the other vehicles in the through lane, do they see you waiting there? Hopefully, they don't drift over and sideswipe you as they pass by.

Personally, I'm still trying to protect myself the best way that I can while in traffic. While sitting at the light, I'm still looking in the side view mirrors watching for traffic.

It's all about position and where you place yourself on the street to feel the safest from moving vehicles. Although I don't have a roll cage on the motorcycle, I still must protect myself from other vehicles.

So, where is the best place to be when making a left turn in a dual left turn lane? My **primary** spot is the left lane, but in the right tire track. Optimistically, I'm counting on the right lane (of the dual left turn) will fill up with other vehicles, thus protecting me from the other vehicles going through the intersection. Still, you must be vigilant even though you are just sitting to make you left turn.

Safe riding ... And remember:

**Only protect the parts of your body
that you want to use for the rest of your life.**

*... *drift over and
sideswipe you"...*



Interesting Rides

By Joyce & Rick Elmore, District Ride Coordinators

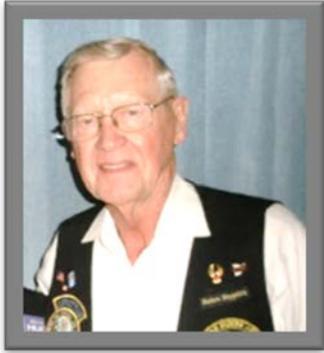
While I did not get to go to the Wyoming District Rally, I heard about a "Ride In" that they are planning for some time in September. What happens is, you plan a destination where everyone is to meet up, taking a nice ride to get there, maybe bringing a picnic lunch or something to share, and then you could even have an educational event. Does this sound like something you all would be interested in doing? It sounds like fun to me, so if you have any ideas as to where we could do this, please let me know.

"...We all howled at the moon..."

We had a District ride at the end of July; Chapter G put on their annual Howl at the Moon ride. The weather was a little iffy down at the start, but it cleared up as they went up the Big Thompson Canyon and was really nice just before they all headed up into the Park. They had 12 bikes, 2 cars and 26 people for the ride up to the Alpine Visitors Center with Chapter J bringing 5 bikes. Up at the top, it was a bit windy and chilly. Some folks didn't even take off their helmets! We all howled at the moon and there were all kinds of cookies to eat, and even some things to eat that weren't cookies. Chapter G will put this ride on again next year, so when they pick a date, mark your calendars and plan to go and participate in the fun.

If your Chapter has a ride you'd like to offer up to the District, please let me know and we'll get it out to everyone.

Hope to see you at Wing Ding; just stop by the Store and say, "Hi." Rick and I will be working there all through Wing Ding.



Situation Control and Awareness

By Peter Keppler, District Motorist Awareness Officer

How can we control our situation in traffic? The most common problem for motorcyclists is being seen among all the other vehicles on the road. Most drivers involved in an accident with a motorcycle state, "I never saw him." Drivers don't see motorcycles because they aren't looking for motorcycles; they are watching for other cars and trucks. Even if a driver "sees" the motorcycle, it may not register since our brains are trained to look for cars and other larger vehicles.

"People see what they expect to see." Approximately one-half of drivers fail to see a motorcycle in traffic. The other half is usually those who ride or have a friend or family member who rides. This makes it even more important for us to be aware of our position in traffic while riding. Through rider education and experience, we know we have to ride defensively and be very aware of our situation whenever riding, especially in heavy traffic.

What can we do to better control our situation? Obviously, to improve our visibility to other motorists we can wear bright colored clothing and helmet, have our lights on bright, use our horn, ride in a lane position where we're seen and not in drivers' blind spots, etc. Sometimes we may want to speed up to avoid a collision, but most of the time we should slow down so we have more time to react.

The best way to control the situation is to take charge:

"...one-half of drivers fail to see a motorcycle in traffic..."

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- If you have someone tailgating your bike, flash your brake light and, if necessary, pull over and let them pass.
- Ride in the lane position where you are visible; avoid other drivers' blind spots, especially truckers.
- On the freeways, ride **with** the traffic flow, giving yourself an adequate space cushion to have an escape route if something happens in front of you or a vehicle comes up fast behind you.
- Watch out for aggressive drivers (and riders); never try to keep up with them or try to force them to slow down. This just results in road rage and usually ends badly.
- Always be aware of your situation in traffic and adjust accordingly. This may mean getting off the highway at the next exit and having a cup of coffee while the traffic "clears out."
- And always look and think ahead as far as possible to give yourself as much time as you can to react to developing problems or situations.

The objective of the GWRRR Motorists Awareness Program is to make drivers more aware of motorcycles and "share the road" in a respectful manner. We all have a responsibility to ride (and drive) in a manner that respects the rights of all users and helps keep our roads safe for all of us.

Being aware and taking control of the situation goes a long way toward riding safely and responsibly. Set a good example and talk Motorist Awareness every chance you get!

Ride Like Your Life Depends on It!



2018 District Officers

Directors

Bryan & Emma Lape (CO-J)

Assistant Directors

Jim & Olga Wyman (CO-I)

Rider Education

Earl Edwards (CO-I)

Ride Coordinators

Joyce & Rick Elmore (CO-G)

Motorist Awareness Program

Peter Keppler (CO-L)

University Training

Inez Scholbrock (CO-G)

Membership Enhancement

Paula Campbell (CO-B)

Treasurer

TBA

2018 District Staff

COY/IOY Coordinators

Andy & Sherry Smith (CO-L)

Webmasters

Jim & Janet Wohlford (CO-A)

Newsletter Editor

April Hansen-Keppler (CO-L)

Photographer

Donald Redline (CO-L)

2017-2018 Couple of the Year

Dave & Paula Campbell (CO-B)

2017-2018 Individual of the Year

Jacques Perron (CO-A)

2018 District Calendar

Oct. 13: Chapter L Fundraiser

Nov. 3: Chapter G Turkey Bingo

2018 Rallies

Aug. 28-Sept. 1: Wing Ding

Oct. 26-28: Arizona District Rally

Colorado Chapter Directors

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

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