

GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION COLORADO CHAPTER CO-Q



"THE BLACK CANYON WINGS"

January 2012

Our 19th Year

From The Chapter Director



WOW-WOW-WOW - Have you seen that Website? I can't tell you how excited I am - for the website and my new role as your Chapter Director!

So you really need to check the website out when you've a moment & if when you have - what do you think? Any suggestions, comments (good or bad), pictures, etc., send them on to me or to your editor/webmaster - Mike Vaillancourt. Emails, etc. for the Chapter staff are on the "Meet the Chapter Staff" page.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to Nick Hoppner and Ginny Spaven for being our Chapter Directors for three (3) years...I'm sure I can count on them to answer any of my questions. Although he and Ginny will be busy with their new roles as the District Motorist Awareness Coordinators, I'm sure they will be able to squeeze me into their schedule. Also BIG THANKS go out to our Supporting Dealers Davis Service Center & Venco Wings - we need their expertise to help us keep our Wings on the move!

As the email stated, changes are happening to Chapter Q... First is the gathering on January 14, this coming weekend - at our home at Noon for a Potluck. I've a list, so call me or email me with what you can bring, such as sliced tomatoes, sliced cheese, chips, beverage, soup, chili, lettuce, pickles, you know, sandwich items. The chapter will provide the sliced deli meats consisting of ham, turkey, and roast beef and the rolls.

At the gathering, we will discuss the Conventions that are coming up in the year 2012 -the 2012 District Convention in Grand Junction, the Region F Convention in St. George, Utah, and a few other items like open Chapter Positions, the Annual Staff meeting in Denver (all are welcome), and the bulletin board at Davis Service Center...

The chapter newsletters will be shorter than they have in the past because all the information in the newsletter that repeated month after month is now on the website. We will gladly take any articles from the membership as well as ideas for the newsletter and website.

Well, I could go on and on, but I'll save it for the 14th!! Our Chapter Buzz Phrase for 2012 will be.....

.....**LET'S RIDE!!!**

Dawn Vaillancourt

Chapter Director

Nobody Has More Fun Than "Q"!

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NATIONAL & COLORADO DISTRICT STAFF

Mike Stiger, Director of GWRRA
mstiger@gwrra.org 517-420-4535

Anita & JR Alkire, Region F Directors
jalkire@cox.net 619-741-8893

Dave & Dee Gormley, Region F Educators
ddfroggy@aol.com 520-749-5653

Randall & Janet Drake, Colorado District Directors
hookedondiz@aol.com 303-933-6073

Butch & Linda Shelley, CO. Asst. District Directors
butchshelley157@msn.com 719-495-5741

Mike Vaillancourt, Colorado Assistant District Director, Western Slope
editor@gwrracoloradochapterq.org 970-316-1704

Gilda & Bob McCorkle, Dist. Membership Coord.
purplegoose89@comcast.net 720-890-8122

Garry Howland, District Trainer
Scout4life@sprintmail.com 303-677-0203

Carl & Judy Williams, COY & IOY Coordinators
Cawilliams2@comcast.net 303-200-0262

Alan & Deb Gustafson, CO. District Educators
asawdust@comcast.net 303-690-3788

Ralph & Debbie Stauss, Colorado District COY's
ralphanddebbi1@comcast.net 303-862-6947

Stan Smetana, Colorado IOY
stan@denver.net 303-697-9226

COLORADO CHAPTER CO-Q STAFF

Dawn Vaillancourt, Chapter Director
director@gwrracoloradochapterq.org 970-316-1704

Assistant Chapter Director (Please Volunteer)
assistantdirector@gwrracoloradochapterq.org

Irene Means, Chapter Treasurer
trikerchickirene@gmail.com 719-246-7927

Ace "Howie" & Penny Peterson

Chapter Educators

educator@gwrracoloradochapterq.org 970-240-9408

Charles & Gaylene Grimsley

Membership Enhancement Coordinators 970-268-5008

membership@gwrracoloradochapterq.org

Sherry & Ken Howell, Chapter Photographers,

Historian & Photo Album

khowelldelta@bresnan.net 970-874-3180

Mike Vaillancourt, Newsletter Editor

editor@gwrracoloradochapterq.org 970-316-1704

Chapter Ride Coordinators (Please Volunteer)

Jim & Sue Venne
 815 Route 129
 Loudon, NH 03307
 Toll free (866) 648-3626
 NH (603) 435-5151
 FAX (603) 375-6218



Honda Gold Wing Specialists

sales@vencowings.com WEB <http://www.vencowings.com>

2012 Colorado Chapter Directors

A - Littleton, Kraig & Linda White	kraigaw@msn.com	(720) 733-2144
B - Grand Junction, David & Sandra Geer	chapb_gwrrainfi@yahoo.com	(970) 270-1508
C - Canon City, Les & Sharon Brown	esandsharon@bresnan.net	(719) 372-6498
E - Arvada, Bill Weiss & Lisa Capano	lisacapano@aol.com	(720) 890-8122
G - Ft. Collins, Dick & Frances Williamson	refmwi@gmail.com	(970) 347-8855
I - Colorado Springs, Butch & Linda Shelley	butchshelley157@msn.com	(719) 495-5741
J - Aurora, Garry Howland	Scout4life@sprintmail.com	(303) 337-2740
L - Lakewood, Fred & Linda Fisher	silverone@comcast.net	(720) 922-0789
N - Pueblo, Mike & Debbie Rose	debbierose@socolo.net	(719) 250-1988
Q - Montrose, Dawn Vaillancourt	director@gwrracoloradochapterq.org	(970) 316-1720

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday and Anniversary
to all those listed below.



Birthdays

Anniversaries

None This Month

Chapter Q Wishes You All The Best!

Remember, We can't post your Birthdays and Anniversaries if we don't know the dates. Let us know.



**Welcome to GWRRA
Chapter Rider Education**



“PLANNING”

Here it is, another new year full of opportunities, resolutions, ideas, and plans. We all got through the holidays more or less in good shape; remember, round is a shape! Decorations are being taken down, cards filed away for the next appropriate season, and we look out our windows wishing for spring. The motorcycle(s) sit in the garage gathering dust, and waiting for garage day to check out all the important items needing to be attended to before next riding season.

I just know there are folks like me who already have the maps out checking routes to Region Conventions, Wing Ding, District Rallies, daily or weekend rides over the riding season. Like me, each of you implementing this thought process are checking the calendars, and penciling in those events that are feasible to attend, and rides to be taken. My ride calendar is getting longer each time I check, get a new map, book, magazine, drive a new road, or talk to someone who has been “some place”. And this is where the title for this article comes into play!

In part of my former life, I attended many planning sessions with various agencies, working on aspects of land management within the various state and federal public lands. The one tool that has stayed with me all these years, and has worked for me in various experiences is this phrase: plan, implement, monitor, and re-plan. Okay, just what has this to do with rider safety? When I think about this subject, there are enough aspects fitting rider safety that I could write an article each month taking a different subject related to planning and rider safety. However, that would most likely get a little redundant, and boring.

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Suffice it to say, I want to spend your reading time this month on one aspect of planning and riding that does not get the attention it deserves. The subject is built around planning a ride or trip, and what should occur around and within these items.

Perhaps the first item we look at in our planning is prospective routes to our destination and return. Our plan then is to take specific routes for a variety of reasons; quickness of travel, scenic, interesting points of interest, and so on. Now that we have a route plan, perhaps we should look at mileages and how many "mileage days" or hours it may take to arrive at our destination. We now can implement by writing down routes, entering them into our GPS, marking maps, or whatever method works best for each of us. Perhaps we now realize that we cannot make the trip/ride within the time we have allotted or at our disposal. So we monitor by investigating other routes, dropping certain points of interest that were on the original itinerary. And then the final part, we re-plan the trip or ride to fit within the schedule that fits the event.

The same goes for items to pack within our carrying capacity for the trip or ride being planned. We write out a list, planning; then we implement by getting out all the items on our list; monitoring we may find there is just too much "stuff" to fit within our allotted capacity space. By re-planning, we start to narrow our list and piles of "stuff" into what fits within both our needs, and storage capacity.

Even during our trip/ride, we can use this same tool. At this point we are implementing the plan, actually being on the road with pavement rolling under the tires. While implementing, we should be monitoring; weather, road, are there construction hazards, time delays, fatigue, illness, or even equipment break down. If any of these or many more negative factors start to occur, then we are now in the re-planning stages once more. The odd thing about this part of the process is we subconsciously do this every time we ride; we just don't focus on the process.

However, when glitzes occur, it may be that we have planned, implemented, but not monitored the situation(s). Being so caught up in the travel portion of our plan, we neglect to monitor all the information that is being processed by our consciousness, missing key pieces of information that should be getting us into a re-planning mode. Every aspect, even something as simple as a lane change involves this process whether we consciously know this or not. The key ingredient is to make this plan, implement, monitor, and re-plan an integral part of our riding experience from the moment we decide to ride, to the moment we turn off the ignition back in our home garage.

I realize that perhaps this sounds a lot like over tasking! As stated however, it can and is an integral part our process whether or not we wish to admit it. Also as stated, when we make this process a key ingredient of our riding experience by acknowledging the process, we make the process a simple mantra of



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our motorcycling life. This mantra then sharpens the thought process wherein we utilize this tool increasingly to enhance our preparation, and also the travel experience, increasing safety by reducing risks in all aspects of motorcycling. This includes packing, T-Cloc's, loading, maintenance, riding gear, plus interacting with others we may be riding with at the time. Plan, implement, monitor, re-plan is a tool, and as with any tool, if not used, our riding, and our trips become more or less "ad hoc" excursions where most

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everything encountered is a surprise. Myself, I am not a big fan of surprises, other than birthdays or Christmas. I just as soon would not have something surprise me during a ride or trip. I guess it is kind of like one definition of adventure; if you are having an adventure, most likely you are doing something wrong!

One other little reminder; remember reading in the newsletter in Rider Education about getting all that maintenance done including perhaps tires? Now is the time!

And as always, RIDE WITH PRIDE AND CONFIDENCE!

Ace H. (Howie) Peterson

Chapter Q Educator

www.educator@gwrracoloradochapterq.org

Gold Wing Road Riders Association



Colorado Chapter Q
"Black Canyon Wings"
Montrose, Colorado

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2012 Chapter CO-Q Ride Schedule (Tentative)

- 1/14 Monthly Chapter Gathering. Pot Luck 6 PM at the Vaillancourt's. We will be discussing the upcoming ride schedule and filling Chapter Positions for 2012.
- 2/11 Monthly Chapter Gathering. 6PM. Location to Follow
- 3/10 Colorado District Spaghetti Dinner 5 PM at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 7755 Vance Drive, Arvada, Colorado. Proceeds to benefit the Colorado COY and IOY Programs. See Flyer on the Website at www.gwrracoloradochapterq.org .
- 3/10 Monthly Chapter Gathering. 6 PM. Location to Follow
- 4/14 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9 AM. Going to Summer Hours. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO. Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Ride after the Gathering.
- 5/12 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9 AM. Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO. Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Ride after the Gathering.
- 5/25-
5/27 Region F Rally/Convention, St. George, Utah. Group from Montrose leaving from "Humdingers" at 7:30 AM on Thursday the 24th. This is an 8 hour ride by I-70 and I-15. See Flyer on the website at www.gwrracoloradochapterq.org .
- 6/15-
6/16 GWRRA Colorado All Chapter Camp-Out. Buena Vista KOA Kampground. See Flyer on the website at www.gwrracoloradochapterq.org .
- 6/9 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9AM. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO Breakfast at 8:30. Ride after the Gathering.
- 7/4-
7/7 Wing Ding XXXIV (34) Fort Wayne Indiana. See Wing Ding info at www.wing-ding.org .
- 7/14 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9AM. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Ride after the Gathering.
- 8/16-
8/18 GWRRA Colorado District Rally/Convention, "Two Rivers Rendezvous", Grand Junction, Colorado. See Flyer on the website at www.gwrracoloradochapterq.org .
- 8/11 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9AM. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Ride after the Gathering.
- 9/8 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9AM. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Ride after the Gathering.
- 10/13 Monthly Chapter Gathering at 9AM. Location at the Red Barn Restaurant, East Main Street, Montrose, CO Breakfast at 8:30 in the Bar. Color Ride after the Gathering.

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11/10 Monthly Chapter Gathering. Going to Winter Schedule. Dinner at 6PM at a Restaurant to be determined.

12/1 Monthly Chapter Gathering. Montrose Christmas Parade, with dinner following the parade at Fiesta Guadalajara, West Main Street, Montrose, CO.

Those of you that want to get together for a ride on any Saturday not on the ride schedule, meet at Humdingers at 9AM and you can decide amongst yourselves where you want to go. Group should leave by 9:15 AM.

Also, those of you that want to go for a short afternoon ride after Church on Sunday, Meet at Humdingers at 1 PM and you can decide amongst yourselves where you want to go. Group should leave by 1:15PM.

Any questions concerning any published ride, you can contact Dawn Vaillancourt at director@qwrracoloradochapterq.org, or on Dawn's cell at 970-316-1720, or Mike Vaillancourt at editor@qwrracoloradochapterq.org, or Mike's Cell at 970-316-1704.

Chapter Q gathers on the 2nd Saturday of the month from April to October at the **Red Barn Restaurant**, 1413 East Main Street, Montrose, Colorado. Breakfast is at 8:30 AM with the meeting starting at 9:00 AM with a ride to follow. When arriving, turn right into the bar.



From November to March, Chapter Q will gather on the 2nd Saturday evening of the month at 6PM at various area restaurants. Check the above ride schedule for the location of the gathering. Check out the link below for **The Red Barn's** online menu.

<http://redbarnmontrose.com/montrose-co-online-menu.htm>

**Thanks to owner Chuck Presby
for his support!**

Let's Ride!

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