



# Springs Wings



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## THE CURRY CHRONICLES

Friends and fellow riders and co-riders;

That demanding editor of ours has just reminded me that we haven't done our share of the work for the newsletter this month. As usual, she's right.

Since we've returned from Wing Ding, things have been a bit of a blur.

George Davis led us on a dinner ride to the Flying W in July. **The same old Flying W??** Yes – and it was a bunch of fun!! They have changed the format a bit, the Wranglers seem to be mostly new, and the food was on time and warm (not a real gourmet spot, but totally edible and the coffee was hot – in those tin cups, it was scalding)! A bunch of new songs – I only knew the words to a few of them. Thanks George, for making me go again.

Then we were right into the chapter picnic. We've been doing a picnic for as long as we've been in the chapter. This is our 3rd location since we've been members, and it is a good one. Mark Damschen is able to schedule us into a really nice pavilion on the Air Force Academy grounds and I think we hit at least a recent all time high with about 80 people in attendance for this one! We had

members down from the Denver area and our usual food mongers came up from Pueblo and Canon City. Good friends and old friends came. Brand new members showed up. There was a lineup of people looking over Darrel's ice trailer. A couple or so thinking about joining also visited with us. Lots of burgers and dogs thanks to Mark, Earl, and Bob, who sweated over the grill - and the side dishes from everyone who came made it hard to decide what to try. Had a good time and didn't get rained on hardly at all. Chapter L "captured" our mascot, "Flippin' the Bird" (have to ask Casey about how he got named). We have to get a bunch of people to run up to the next "L" meeting to bring our bird back – he (she?) seems to lay eggs and come back with more little

chicks every time he/she is abducted.

Our newly appointed District Directors, Steve and Teresa Randolph, came down for the



picnic and announced Mark Damschen's appointment as the new District Educator. They also encouraged us to come to the District rally in Salida the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of September.

Cont. on page 2



Here are some Chapter and District updates:

- **Mark Damschen has accepted the position of Colorado District Rider Educator.** We are very proud that the person in this position is from our chapter. Mark is a Senior Chapter Educator, one of very few who have reached that status in our state, and we're convinced that he demonstrates by personal example the riding attributes and attitude that the rest of us should attempt to emulate. We didn't totally let him off the hook as our chapter educator; Butch Shelley has volunteered to take on our chapter educator responsibilities and will be breaking into the job with a little help from Mark for the remainder of the year. Butch will be confirmed as the Chapter Educator in January of '07.
- **OUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING WILL BE BACK AT THE HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, CORNER OF N. MURRAY AND CONSTITUTION:** We met in Gunnison in June for the CO-I/CO-B combined meeting, skipped a meeting during Wing Ding in July, and had our picnic meeting at USAFA in August. It's been a fun Summer, but getting back to the church will be like coming home after a long ride.
- The weekend after the September meeting is our Colorado gathering in Salida. **The Colorado District Rally in Salida is 8-9 September** – registration forms can be found by calling us or by going online to

<http://www.coloradogwrra.com/> We plan on riding to Salida after work on Thursday, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. We want to check into the motel and have a chance to visit with friends from around the state that evening. Salida is only 2½ hours from the Springs. For some of you, that may be a long first ride – DO IT! For those used to longer distances, suck it up – it's a place to depart from for longer rides! The old timers in the chapter will tell you it's a reason to get together with the many friends we've made from all corners of this state over the years – most of them ride Gold Wings, or bikes with the same engine, or at least the same brand and if they don't or if their ride has more wheels than yours, it doesn't matter. We all love riding on two wheels and we all are privileged to live in the most spectacular riding state in this nation. Email us your departure druthers and we'll try to coordinate groups for the ride down.

- The second ever, in the history of this organization, **"Have a Friend for Lunch Ride"** is coming up over the weekend of **Sep 30-Oct 1**. We think this might also be the chapter Color Ride. Anyway, Colorado is the only state in the Union that has an official **State Cannibal** (State flower, state motto, etc.). It seems that a friendly miner sort named Alferd Packer got stuck in the snow and munched on five or six of his traveling companions in the vicinity of Lake City, Colorado. He was convicted, sent to prison, and released on the

premise that he chewed in self-defense – only in Colorado could this be plausible! This is the first ride we ever led in the chapter, and it is time to see Lake City, Slumgullion Pass, and Creede again. We hope to organize jeep bus tours up into the high mountain mining country and squeeze in a cannibal museum tour. Part of the tradition of the ride is at the end of the day, large bottles of cheap wine come out of the motorcycle trailer and disappear overnight. Cheap T-shirts commemorating the ride may also be available. This is mandatory attendance for Cruzan/Schlosser, the Fenders, and the Reislars; we may have to bring Firebaugh/Brown out of retirement, so help us a bit with that. ....gee, we might even have to have a "Cannibal the Musical" get together over the Winter months afterward (if you haven't been there, you wouldn't understand).

The balance between our business and chapter events has always been a bit challenging for us. I know many of you who receive this newsletter also have some serious requirements on your time and can only come to chapter events when it doesn't conflict with your job and responsibilities to your family. *That's ok.* We only get to see some of you once or twice a year, but you are in our minds and are very much part of who and what this chapter is all about. We missed some of you at the picnic, so you just have to take a day off and come see us at the next meeting!

How about all those Gold Wings you see running around

## THE CURRY CHRONICLES (cont.)

Colorado Springs with riders you don't recognize? It seems to me we're missing a bunch of folks we might want to ride and socialize with. When you have time, try to follow and talk to some of those people who are deprived of the many benefits of belonging to an organization like ours. That's the reason we're here – a bunch of chapter members "captured" us when we were out riding on our own, and we've been here ever since.

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

Ron & Marsha Curry  
CO-I Chapter Directors

As my five year old son and I were headed to McDonald's one day, we passed a car accident. Usually when we see something terrible like that, we say a prayer for those who might be hurt, so I pointed and said to my son, "We should pray."

From the back seat I heard his earnest request: "Please, God, don't let those cars block the entrance to McDonald's."



## New Face



Rod Klock  
He and his family moved  
to COS from NM.

### Upcoming Rallies

**California - September 1-4 - Santa Clara, CA**

**Colorado - September 8-9 - Salida, CO**

**New Mexico - Sept. 29-Oct. 1 - Alamogorda, NM**



### Chapter I Staff

*Newsletter Editor*  
*Phone Tree Coordinator*  
*Rider Education*  
*Store and 50/50*  
*Sunshine Committee*  
*Treasurer*  
*Webmaster*  
*Couple of the Year (COY)*

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
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| <i>Asst. Director</i>         | Mark & Sue Damschen - 719-481-9263<br><a href="mailto:mdamschen@msn.com">mdamschen@msn.com</a>                                    |
| <i>Asst. Director</i>         | Tom & Monica Harder - 719-481-9044<br><a href="mailto:tmharder@adelphia.net">tmharder@adelphia.net</a>                            |
| <i>Historian</i>              | Dave & Kathy Wren - 719-591-2739<br><a href="mailto:dewglwren@adelphia.net">dewglwren@adelphia.net</a>                            |
| <i>Membership Coordinator</i> | Tom & Monica Harder - 719-481-9044<br>Linda Shelley - 719-495-5741 <a href="mailto:ishelley@animail.net">ishelley@animail.net</a> |
|                               | Mark Damschen - 719-481-9263 <a href="mailto:mdamschen@msn.com">mdamschen@msn.com</a>   |
|                               | Jeannie Bondurant - 719-599-8495  |
|                               | Bob & Jan Strath - 719-594-9685 <a href="mailto:bobstrath30@msn.com">bobstrath30@msn.com</a>                                      |
|                               | Paul & Jeannie Bondurant - 719-599-8495 <a href="mailto:wings83@worldnet.att.net">wings83@worldnet.att.net</a>                    |
|                               | Lewis & Carol Farmer - 719-481-4235 <a href="mailto:springwingsweb@yahoo.com">springwingsweb@yahoo.com</a>                        |
|                               | Darrell Cruzan & Laurie Schlosser - 719-227-9560 <a href="mailto:darcruzan@aol.com">darcruzan@aol.com</a>                         |



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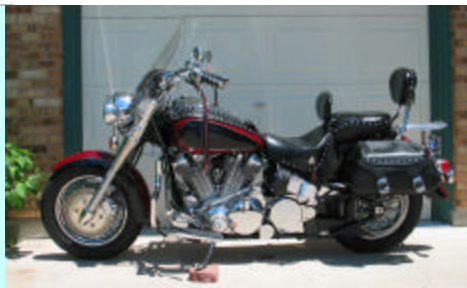
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# PAYING ATTENTION IS NOT

THE SAME AS BEING ALERT/AWAY

Yesterday I saw two motorcycle incidents that, thankfully, involved no accidents - but could have. One was funny, the other was an invitation to a disaster.

In the first instance I saw a motorcycle pull up to a red light and stop. There was a police car immediately behind him. The motorcyclist decided after about ten seconds that the light was stuck (I guess) and casually took off and crossed the street. I was right next to the police car and both occupants looked at each other and shook their heads. They took off after the motorcycle, lights flashing. The rider was not trying to get away - he saw the flashing lights and pulled over to get his ticket. He obviously had not noticed the police car behind him. I suspect most people would argue that he was not paying attention.

In the second instance I was walking my dog and as we got near the end of the block there is a stop sign because there is a busy side-street crossing there. A motorcycle rode up to the stop sign and stopped. He apparently looked both ways and saw that the only traffic was a city bus approaching from the left. But that bus had its blinkers on and was slowing to a stop at the bus stop on my left. Seeing that the bus was actually stopping the motorcyclist decided it was clear to enter the intersection and took off. ONE HALF SECOND later he grabbed a handful of brake and panic stopped as the car that had been to the left of the bus (and had, thus, been invisible to him) screeched its tires and did a panic stop trying to avoid hitting the motorcycle. They were both successful in stopping in time but the motorcyclist could reach out with his left hand and touch the car's hood at that time. Close! Some would argue that the motorcyclist was not paying attention.

In both cases I would argue that the mo-

torcyclist WAS paying attention - too much of it - and was not alert or aware of his surroundings. It is simply not true that paying attention means alert or aware. It means, because we have a limited amount of attention to 'spend', that you are focused on something, not scanning and not particularly sensitive to other potential problems.

The first rider paid attention to the red light. He completely missed the fact that a police car was behind him. He also failed the patience test as ten seconds seemed like a long time to him, again I'm guessing. That lapse of awareness cost him a ticket but it could just as easily have cost him his life. Entering an intersection on a red light is a bet your life decision.

The second rider was paying attention - to the bus. He obviously failed to do anything like a 'What if there's a car hidden by that bus?' kind of self-preservation inner dialog. Instead, with all his attention on the bus, and seeing that it was not a threat to him, he concluded that there were no other vehicles and took off from the stop sign - right into the path of that hidden car.

Paying attention is usually the wrong thing to do when you are riding. Being alert and aware of your surroundings (situational awareness' is what pilots call it) is life saving accident avoidance mental activity.

You pay attention AFTER you recognize a threat in order to assess what you should do about it. You do NOT pay attention before that so that you can detect threats.

Provided by Mark Damschen

### *The Lawn Mower*

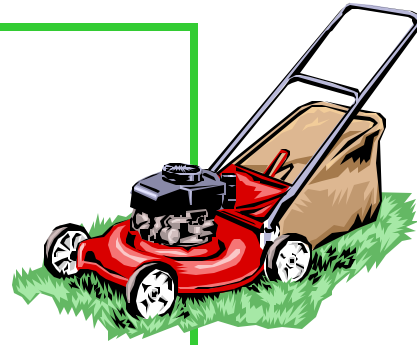
When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the truck, the car, and fishing, always something more important to me.

Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors.

I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a few minutes. When I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. "When you finish cutting the grass," I said, "you might as well sweep the sidewalk."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp. Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is a husband.



Mary Poppins was traveling home, but due to worsening weather, she decided to stop at a hotel. She approached the receptionist and asked for a room for the night.

"Certainly, madam," he replied courteously.

"Is the restaurant open?" inquired Mary.

"Sorry, no," came the reply, "but room service is available all night. Would you care to select something from this menu?"

Mary smiled and took the menu and perused it. "Hmm, I would like cauliflower cheese, please," said Mary. "Certainly, madam," he replied.

"And may I have breakfast in bed?" asked Mary politely. The receptionist nodded and smiled.

"In that case, I would love a couple of poached eggs, please," Mary mused.

After confirming the order, Mary signed in and went up to her room. The night passed uneventfully. The next morning, Mary came down early to check out. The same guy was still at the desk.

"Morning, madam. Sleep well?"

"Yes, thank you," Mary replied.

"Food to your liking?"

"Well, I have to say the cauliflower cheese was exceptional -- I don't think I have had better. Shame about the eggs, though; they really weren't that nice at all," replied Mary truthfully.

"Oh. Well, perhaps you could contribute these thoughts to our guest comments book. We are always looking to improve our service and would value your opinion," said the receptionist.

"Ok, I will. Thanks!" replied Mary. She then checked out, paused awhile, and scribbled a comment into the book. Waving, she left to continue her journey.

Curious, the receptionist picked up the book to see the comment Mary had written. Here it is: "Supercauliflowercheesebuteggswerequiteatrocious!"





# Note of Thanks

1 Oakland Drive  
 Boyce, Louisiana 71409  
 Email: mitchgepat@cebridge.net

August 3, 2006

GWRRA, INC.  
 P. O. Box 42450  
 Phoenix, AZ 85080-2450

Attention: Editor

Dear Editor:

Since joining GWRRA we have read many letters in Wing World about the help that Gold Wings provide but never expected to experience it first hand. During a long awaited vacation to Colorado during the last part of June, we were awed by the beauty of the Rocky Mountains and were enjoying the first vacation we had taken in several years (and our first long trip on our Goldwing trike). However, on the third day of our trip we experienced brake problems while descending steep, curving roads and knew we had to get help fast!!

We visited a local Honda shop and were told it could be two or three days to get us going if they had to order parts. Our hearts sank as this seemed like a death toll to the rest of our nine day vacation. We had our Gold Book out, thumbing through the pages, getting ready to start calling some of the members of the Colorado Springs chapter to see if there was any way to salvage the rest of our trip, when Mike Manthieu of Colorado Springs Chapter I (who had just gotten off a 13 hour shift at work), pulled up beside us in front of the Honda dealership. Noticing our Louisiana license plate, he started talking with us and once he learned of our dilemma, made a phone call and then personally took us out to the home of Darrel Cruzan and Laurie Schlosser. Darrel is a member of Chapter I who works on Gold Wings in his spare time.

To make a long story short, minutes after we arrived, George Davis and Bob "Ducky" Nyquist, two other Gold Wing members, came by to pitch in and the brake problem was fixed in no time. What was really amazing is that we weren't charged anything! We never expected such generosity and could not say "thank you" enough. Excited to have the trike ready to hit the road again, another surprise came when George Davis, one of the helpers, told us he would lead us back across town and to the destination where the rest of our traveling companions were sightseeing, several miles out of his way. Needless to say, we have developed a genuine appreciation for the "hearts of gold" of those Wingers.

We would like to use this forum as a way to say a special "thank you" to Mike Manthieu, Darrel Cruzan, Laurie Schlosser, George Davis and Bob "Ducky" Nyquist for treating us so well and saving our vacation and to let Chapter I in Colorado Springs know what great members these folks are.

Sincerely,

George & Pat Mitchell  
 Central Louisiana Chapter "E"





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**Chapter I meeting  
information:**

**WHEN**

**First Saturday of the month, 8:30  
coffee, 9:00 meeting**

**WHERE**

**Holy Cross-Lutheran Church  
4125 Constitution Ave.**

Linda & Butch Shelley  
15605 Archer Terrace  
Elbert, CO 80106

Mailing Label Goes Here