



Springs Wings

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Harder Happenings

Giving thanks this month is on most people's minds. So we wanted to share with you just a few of the things that make us thankful.

We are thankful for beautiful scenery, many days of sunshine, paved roads, rider education, helmets, group rides, CB radios, handmade raffle gifts, safety chrome, leather chaps, dinner rides, heated clothing, chapter meetings, tall windshields, camping trips, fog lights, heated seats, chapter mascots, GPS systems, district rallies, summer picnic, chapter ride/event calendar, XM radios, meeting treats, game nights, holiday party, New Year's Day ride, region rallies, out of town weekends, phone tree,

weekly reminders, Wing Ding, heated grips, add-on multi-colored lights, Ride for Kids, the feel of new tires, chapter potlucks, date nights, maintenance day at Darrel's house, Wing World magazine, e-mail, modulating headlights and the 50-50 raffle.

But most of all we are thankful to belong to an organization of Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Tom & Monica Harder
Chapter I Directors

Stocking Stumper Questions

1. How do sheep in Mexico say Merry Christmas?
2. Why was Santa's helper down in the dumps?
3. Why does Scrooge love Rudolph?
4. Where do polar bears vote?
5. What do you get when you cross an archer with a Christmas gift-wrapper?
6. What did Santa shout to his toys on Christmas Eve?
7. According to their hit song, what's always number one on Alvin the Chipmunk's Christmas list?
8. Everyone knows Rudolph comes in handy if it's foggy Christmas Eve, but what would we be flying over if it was a voggy Christmas Eve?
9. Who wrote *Christmas Bells*?
10. Can you name the holiday hit Bobby Helms is famous for?
11. Why did the elf put his bed into the fireplace?
12. How would you fire Santa?
13. What did one of Santa's elves put on the Internet?
14. What do they eat for breakfast at the North Pole?
15. What nationality is Santa?
16. What kind of motorcycle does Santa drive?
17. What does Santa call his fishing rod?
18. It is midnight. Santa is making his rounds and appears to be a little behind schedule. As his sled flies over London he looks down at Big Ben and notices that the big hand is on the 5 and the little is on the 2. What time is it?
19. You've probably been hitting the old ATM pretty heavily over the holidays but where would you be if you used the southernmost ATM in the world?
20. If Santa flew high over the world's tallest pyramid, what famous city would be in view?

Answers on page 6

DECEMBER AT GUISEPPE'S RESTAURANT

Mark your calendars!
Lend me you ear!
The holidays are soon upon us . . .
The time is drawing near.

A feast is planned,
With music and song.
Come join with your friends
And party till dawn (or thereabouts)

A dance floor's provided,
(As I'm sure some men dread).
And all of this goodness
For just \$18 per head!

Bring your check, bring your cash,
Bring whatever you've got.
Bring it to the next meeting
And we'll reserve you a spot.

Cocktails at six,
It'll be a cash bar.
Dress in your finest or
Come as you are.

Dinner's at seven
And I'll tell you this . . .
It's a great looking spread
That you won't want to miss.

The 22nd is the night to remember.
A starry starry night near the end of December.

SEE YOU SOON CHAPTER I !!



Checks should be made out to GWRRA Chapter I and can be mailed to:
Nancy Daniels
830 Pebble Creek Road
Monument, CO 80132
488-8841

Outside a single white snowflake falls... Disbelief falls on your face as another snowflake falls... Then you realize, another riding year over and it's time to put the bike away for the winter. This is the time to get in that last few riding days and put our bikes properly away for the winter so they are ready for the next riding season to start again.



This would be the wrong way to store your bike for the winter.

Well, it's that time of year again! Soon the snow will be falling and the motorcycles will be tucked away for the winter and each spring your dealer's phone will ring off the wall with customers who did not store the ol' bike properly and now wonder why it won't run. Some preparation now will ensure that you are out riding in the spring instead of waiting in the dealer's lineup.

1. Location - where are you going to put it?

One solution may be to ask your dealer if he offers a storage program. This is ideal because he will often prep, store, and have the bike ready to ride when you are ready again. If you decide to store it yourself, you will need a place that is dry and out of harm's way. When possible, choose a location away from windows. The ultraviolet light can fade paint and plastic parts. Direct sunlight can raise the ambient temperature of the storage area which will promote conden-

sation when the sun goes down, so cover plain glass with some sort of opaque material. Also, cover your bike with a specially designed bike cover not a sheet or a tarp. Why? Because a sheet absorbs moisture and hold it against metal surfaces and then rust forms. Also, damp fabric will breed mildew and this may attack the seat material. A tarp prevents moisture from getting in but it also prevents it from getting out. Moisture trapped will condense on the bike and then the rust monster is back! A specially designed motorcycle cover is made of a mildew resistant material. The material is slightly porous, so it can breathe.

2. Change The Oil

Tip: Just like cars a colder winter grade oil will allow your bike to start easier in colder weather. If your motorcycle runs ok with a cold winter grade oil (5w30) then changing the oil to this grade will help startup and running in spring.

Even if the oil is not due for a change, byproducts of combustion produce acids in the oil which will harm the inner metal surfaces. Warm the engine to its normal operating temperature, as warm oil drains much faster and more completely.

While you are at it, why not change the filter too? Add fresh motorcycle grade oil. Remember to dispose of the drained oil and old filter in a responsible manner. What to do with the old oil? Recycle it. Most stores you have purchased the oil from will take it back free of charge to be recycled.

3. Add Fuel Stabilizer And Drain Carbs

Tip: You only need to drain the carbs if your motorcycle will be stored more than 4 months.

Otherwise just add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, run the bike for 10 minutes so it mixes and gets into the carbs.

Fill the tank with fresh fuel, but do not overfill. The correct level is when the fuel just touches the bottom of the filler neck. This gives enough room for the fuel to expand without overflowing the tank when temperature rises.

Shut off the fuel petcock and drain the carburetors and the fuel lines. Add winterizing fuel conditioner to prevent the fuel from going stale, and help prevent moisture accumulation. Stale fuel occurs when aromatics (the lighter additives) evaporate leaving a thicker, sour smelling liquid. If left long enough, it will turn into a gum, plugging the jets and passages inside your carbs!

4. Lube the cylinder(s)

Tip: You only need to do this if your motorcycle will be stored a very long time (6 months or more)

Because gasoline is an excellent solvent and the oil scraper ring has done its job, most of the oil from the cylinder walls have been removed since the last time the engine was run. If the cylinder wall is left unprotected for a long period of time, it will rust and cause premature piston and ring wear.

Remove the spark plugs and pour a tablespoon (5 cc) of clean engine oil or spray fogging oil into each cylinder. Be sure to switch off the fuel before you crank the engine or else you may refill the drained carbs! Also, ground the ignition leads to prevent sparks igniting any fuel residue. Turn the engine over several revolutions to spread the oil around and then reinstall the plugs. Refitting the plugs before

cranking the engine could result in a hydraulic lock if too much oil was used in the cylinder.

5. Battery Storage

The battery must be removed from the motorcycle when it is in storage. Motorcycles often have a small current drain even when the ignition is switched off (dark current), and a discharged battery will sulfate and no longer be able to sustain a charge.

A conventional battery should be checked for electrolyte level. Add distilled water to any of the cells that are low and then charge the battery.

Battery charging should be performed at least every two weeks using a charger that has an output of 10% of the battery ampere hour rating. For example if the battery has an AH rating of 12 (e.g. 12N12A-4A-1 where the 12A is 12 amp hours), then the charge rate of that battery should not exceed 1.2 amps. A higher charge will cause the battery to overheat. Charge the battery away from open flame or sparks as the gas (hydrogen) given off a battery can be explosive. Elevate the battery and keep it from freezing. Exercise the proper caution appropriate to caustic substances.

6. Surface Preparation

Waxing and polishing the motorcycle might seem like a waste of time since you are putting it away and no one will see it. But applying wax is a very important part of storing a motorcycle. Wax will act as a barrier against rust and moisture. Don't forget to spray any other metal surfaces (such as the frame or engine) with a very light spray of WD-40. This will keep these areas shiny and protect from corrosion as well.

7. Exhaust and Mufflers

Exhausts/Mufflers are known to rust fast when they are not used. So making sure they are properly stored for the winter on your bike will save them from an early rusty death. Spray a light oil (such as WD40) into the muffler ends and drain holes. Lightly stick a plastic bag (shopping bag is fine) into the end of each muffler hole (to keep moisture from getting inside the exhaust). Then cover each muffler with another plastic bag to keep outside moisture off.

8. Tires

Check both front and rear tires with your air pressure gauge. Make sure each tire is properly inflated to the maximum recommend pressure. As it gets colder, air condenses in your tire so it is important to pump them up as to keep your tires healthy. Rubber is a flexible material and does not like to freeze (it cracks when it freezes). Placing 1/4"-1/2" piece of cardboard or wood board under each tire will help keep the rubber raised up from a freezing floor.

DO NOT use a tire dressing on tires (such as Armor-All or tire cleaning foam) as this will make the tires hard and slippery.

9. Service all fluids

If the brake or clutch fluids haven't been changed in the last two years or 18,000 km (11,000 miles), do it now. The fluids used in these systems are "hygroscopic" which means that they absorb moisture. The contaminated fluid will cause corrosion inside the systems which may give problems when the motorcycle is used next spring. Be sure to use the correct fluids and note the warnings and instructions in the service manual. If you don't have the experience to service these systems, contact

your dealer, he will be happy to assist you.

If your motorcycle is liquid cooled, the coolant requires changing every two years or 24,000 kms (15,000 miles). Make sure that the engine is cool enough to rest your hand on it before draining the system and please dispose of the coolant responsibly. Coolant/antifreeze is available from your dealer and has been developed to provide the correct protection for your motorcycle engine. Mixed 50/50 with distilled water will ensure a clean system for the next two years or 24,000 kms (15,000 miles).

10. Cover it

Now you can cover the bike with the cycle cover and look forward to the first warm day of spring.

Back On The Road

Before you head out onto the highway, there are a couple of things to do. First, remove the cover and put it where you can find it again. Talking of finding things, locate the (charged) battery and reinstall it connecting the positive (+) cable (red) before the (-) negative and covering the terminals with the plastic covers. Recheck all fluid levels and turn on the fuel. Check for anything wrong on the motorcycle (cracked tires, broken parts/plastic, leaking oil). Set the tire pressures back to riding specs and you are ready to fire up.

As you don your riding gear, remember that your riding skills will be a little rusty and the road surfaces will have changed a bit since the last ride, so go carefully. Sand/salt deposits on the edge of the road and especially at corners may be hazardous.

Winter Fun Trip—January 11-12, 2008

After a quick and adventurous trip to Grand Lake on Saturday, ten Chapter I members have made reservations for the January trip and there are 11 additional rooms for you to choose from at:

Western Riviera Hotel in Grand Lake Colorado (Phone 970-627-3580) on January 11th and 12th. The first night is full price with the second night's lodging at half price.



Available rooms: (Mention Chapter I to get the discount on the second night. Please make room reservations as soon as possible as the motel will not be holding them for long):

- 2 with one queen and one double bed - \$95.00 first night/\$47.50 second night
- 2 Suites - \$125.00 first night/\$62.50 second night
- 2 with a King bed - \$80.00 first night/\$40.00 second night
- 4 with 2 double beds - \$90.00 first night/\$45.00 second night
- 1 with one queen bed - \$70.00 first night/\$35.00 second night

(Cliff and Myra Childs have rented the one bedroom apartment so the group will have access to a refrigerator, stove, and plenty of room for gathering)

Snowmobiling: The snowmobile operator is not open yet but we are working on discounts.

Other Activities: Within the next month, we'll have firm prices and arrangements for sledding, sleigh rides, hot springs pool and anything else the area has to offer.

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS or call Cliff/Myra Childs at 266-0258

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Ride safe

by Jerry Palladino (MOTORMAN)

Page 6

A couple of weeks ago, I was at a bike gathering at a local Harley Dealer when I struck up a conversation with a guy who was taking delivery of a new Anniversary Edition Ultra. The guy was into his mid to late 40's and he tells me he's been riding for 20 years and this was his 4th new Harley. He said he had an 02 Ultra, but some clown turned left in front of him and he had to "lay her down". The bike was totaled and he had a broken leg which he said was now in good enough shape that he could start riding again. I then asked him if he had ever taken any rider training courses. He looked at me like I was crazy and said, "I've been riding 20 years, that's enough training for me". I then watched him as he duck-walked his bike around a U-Turn a Greyhound bus could have easily made, and then saw him drag his feet about 100 yards through the parking lot and out onto the highway.

It made me think of something an MSF Instructor recently told me. He said he teaches the MSF Experienced Rider course and that he sees a lot of people who think they are good riders because they've been riding 20 or 30 years. The instructor said what they really have is one years experience 20 or 30 times.

That made a lot of sense. In other words, a rider gets to a certain level and then, never improves any further, but instead, keeps repeating the same mistakes over and over again. Now, if you're driving a car, you can get away with a lot of mis-

takes for a lot of years before it catches up with you. But, on a bike, there's usually no such thing as a little fender bender. In almost every crash on a motorcycle, you're going to get hurt or even killed and your bike is going to be a mess, if not a total wreck. The point is, don't fool yourself into thinking you know what you're doing just because you've been riding for a lot of years. Look at it this way. If experience was all you need to be a good driver, then that 80 year old guy blocking the left lane of the highway with 60 years of driving under his belt, should be able to easily win the Daytona 500 should he choose to since he has far more experience than most of those young whipper-snappers in NASCAR, right? Of course not!

Those young experienced NASCAR drivers have received the best training available and constantly practice and improve their skills. Now, the old guy with all the experience, like you, the experienced rider, can cruise on down the road just fine, until something unexpected happens. Then, all he and you can do is jam on the brakes and hope for the best. The highly trained driver or rider can rely on his skills and training and probably can avoid the crash altogether instead of "laying her down", (in other words, to avoid the crash). Now, it's true, you can't avoid every crash, but it sure would be nice to avoid most of them.

Story comes from this web site:

<http://www.ridemyown.com/articles/safety/BTB-tipstricks3.shtml>

FOR
SALE

Arai open face helmet
with mike headset. Black,
XXL. \$100
HJC full face helmet with
mike headset. White,
Med. \$75
Tire and wheel for '02
1800. \$300
Contact Don @ 495-3588

Stocking Stumper Answers

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Fleece Navidad | 12. Give him the sack |
| 2. Because he had low elf es-teem | 13. A gnome page |
| 3. Because every buck is dear to him | 14. Snowflakes |
| 4. At the North Poll | 15. North Polish |
| 5. Ribbon Hood | 16. A Holly Davidson |
| 6. "All right everyone, it's sack time!" | 17. The North Pole |
| 7. A hoola-hoop | 18. As stated, it is midnight.
There must be something
wrong with the clock. |
| 8. A volcano . . The hazy
weather condition caused by
volcanic gases is called
"vog". | 19. McMurdo Station in Antarc-tica . . Although there aren't
that many people who stay
there year 'round, once in a
while everybody needs some
cold cash! |
| 9. Henry Wadsworth Long-fellow | 20. San Francisco . . . The Trans-america Pyramid office build-ing is located downtown. |
| 10. <i>Jingle Bell Rock</i> | |
| 11. He wanted to sleep like a log | |



Apex Sports is one of Colorado's leading motorcycle dealerships, offering a premium selection of new and used motorcycles, ATV's, custom trikes, and trailers. We provide a wide variety of high quality parts and accessories. Additionally, we have a fully certified service department to meet all your needs.

Our staff is dedicated to ensuring that you are completely satisfied in the purchase

Linda & Butch Shelley
15605 Archer Terrace
Elbert, CO 80106

Chapter I meeting
information:

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

WHERE
Holy Cross-Lutheran Church
4125 Constitution Ave.

327 S. Weber
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Phone (719)475-2437
Toll Free (800)748-1799
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Email: comments@apexsportsinc.com



November Goodie Patrol
Lewis & Carol Farmer
Chris & Casey Ward



Mailing Label Goes Here