

# Springs Wings

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## Notes from the Assistant Directors

WOW! What a weekend it was! Friday morning a group of Chapter I members gathered in Monument to caravan to Grand Lake for an adventurous snowmobiling weekend arranged by Cliff and Myra Childs. We departed at the appointed hour and before long stopped in Idaho Springs for a quick breakfast. Breakfast over, we “saddled up” and headed out and up over Berthoud Pass over snow packed roads and in a cloud of snow flurries.

Our first destination was Winding River Resort where we rented snow machines, got appropriate gear, safety instructions and a map of the trails. That done, off we went to inspect the machines and make several practice runs in the field prior to following Cliff up the trail.

The trails were pretty deserted so we didn’t have to fear a lot of traffic. Found the first meadow and began to just ride around and have fun and fun it was! We all gathered to follow Cliff down another trail and ... he was gone. After some discussion we headed up the left trail only to find that Ray Daniels had broken down and Nancy had to tow his machine back to the trailer. An unfortunate situation.

On we went up and down hills, around curves, past trail markers and into another open area. Ahead of us up Chicken Hill we saw several sleds stopped and riders attempting to dislodge one from deeeeeep snow. (Speaking of deep snow, ask Cliff how far he sank.) Rather than attack the hill with our dwindling group (did I mention we “lost” a few leaders/followers) especially with the possibility of getting stuck, I was elected to scoot up the hill to scope the situation. Moving forward I gained speed and as the hill came closer I mentally murmured “oh my” that’s steep. This called for full throttle so it was “thumb to the wall” and up the hill the sled and I went - full bore. I reached the group only to find that Don and Cathy’s sled had gotten pulled into the powder and was stuck. With help, we horsed it around, pointed the nose downhill and then off they went back the way we came. Going further up the hill wouldn’t have been wise due to the narrow trail, snow conditions and two-up sleds would have a problem.

The group then turned around and headed back part of the same path as it was getting late in the day and our time to get the sleds to the “barn” was approaching. Along the way we lost a couple more sleds, this time the lost were Wilma and Sandy. Eventually everyone made it safely back to the rental facility and all were excited and

happy with the days events. This was a “first time” snowmobiling for me and a number of others and we all enjoyed the fun.

The rest of the weekend there were the requisite “parties” to be attended and shopping to do. Cliff had the larger apartment room so on Friday and Saturday evening many of us gathered there to snack, talk, tell stories, and some played games. I don’t think anyone left Grand Lake hungry. There was plentiful food at Pancho and Leftys then the Fat Cat Buffet for Saturday breakfast. Both quite delicious but think the buffet won the comparison hands down.

Saturday evening eleven brave souls took a sleigh ride pulled by two huge horses. Nugget, the Irish Setter, pointed the way and kept a look-out as she sat beside her driver and master, Tom. Following the ride (it was frigid but we had blankets) we had elk brats, home made chili, cornbread, and apple pie to feast on. It was all good and a fun time was had by all.

All too soon, Sunday morning came and it was time to pack up and travel back to reality.

*For those of you that weren’t at the last meeting.*

Months ago I addressed those assembled at a meeting and announced that our time here in Colorado Springs and as members of Chapter I would soon be drawing to a close. At that time we were scheduled to depart June 2008.

*Good News.*

Recently we were informed that we will remain here until June 2009 and as such will also remain Assistant Chapter Directors. (cont. on page 2)



**Ride for Kids is coming up fast.  
It's never too early to begin  
raising money for the kids.**

**If anyone needs ride kits,  
please let me know.**

## Notes from the ACDs

This brings up another point. There is a need for an additional set of A/CDs to come and learn the ropes. Being an A/CD is not much work at all and will help you learn a lot about the organization. So please give it some thought then volunteer to work with us as A/CDs.

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One last note. At the Holiday Dinner and last meeting there was discussion regarding the Sister Chapter idea as proposed to us by CA2S. My intention was to include part of his e-mail on the subject but with internet issues at home, I have asked the CD's to edit that e-mail and have it published in this newsletter. That way everyone can read the important bits for themselves.

As it stands, everyone seemed to agree that it was a good idea and that we could try it for a year. If it works great. If not, both chapters can walk away having tried something new.

Chapter I's coordinator for this endeavor is Rod Klock and he will get in touch with the CA2S coordinator John Raser. Rod will keep us informed of the progress.

That's all for this month,

Bruce and Mel  
A/CD, CO-I

## Special Thanks

A special thank you to the Christmas Party team that made the evening so memorable. Thank you Wilma for being the liaison with Guiseppe's Restaurant and ensuring the food, DJ and dance floor were all lined up. Thank you Nancy Lockhart for opening up your home to a bunch of crazy women, and providing a delicious breakfast as we made the centerpieces - and thank you for all the wonderful photos too! Thank you Marilyn for your amazing talents and ideas for the crafts - how you can look at a tree ornament and turn it into a piece of scenery is way beyond me, but it works! And thank you Nancy Daniels for hosting the Jewelry Party and contributing the proceeds towards the party. It was a fun afternoon trying on the beautiful pieces, and even more fun knowing the money was going to such a great event.

We have a lot of incredible people in our Chapter and these wonderful ladies are some of the best.

Sandie Esrkine

## January Dinner Ride

Hi there Chapter I - This month's **Dinner Ride** will take place on Tuesday the 22nd at the Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery. The address is 3316 Cinema Pt. - right off of Powers. Plan to be there at 6:30.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO BE THERE!!!** We need to turn in a head count and it really helps the staff to be prepared if they know how many to expect.

Thanks and hope see you next week!

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### Christmas Party Committee

Upcoming event in February -

*Valentine's dinner*

*Feb. 16*

Valentine committee will send additional information soon.

Here's a summary of the idea for a sister chapter from John Raser in California Chapter.

Background: GWRRA has tons of chapters all over the country, and all over the world. We get the Wing World magazine every month, which lists all the chapters, and provides the name and phone number of the Chapter Director. We also get the Gold Book every year, which lists all the members worldwide and their phone numbers. But, what if one of us were to actually travel to one of these places, and called one of these people up on the phone to say hello? Maybe we were hoping that they would give us some insight into the area, and maybe we could join them for a meal. But, this person wouldn't know us from Adam. Maybe our attempted contact would be successful, and maybe it wouldn't. Is there something we could be doing to improve this outcome?

The idea: Wouldn't it be nice if our chapter developed a "sister chapter" relationship with another chapter (or chapters) somewhere else in the country/world? We would start a communication link with these chapters. We would acknowledge them in our monthly newsletter and on our web site. We would receive their newsletters as well. They would start to become part of our "extended" chapter family. We might even send them a nice basket at Christmas time, and stuff like that. We would extend to them an invitation to come see us if they ever have plans to visit northern California. (Is there anyplace in the USA that has better riding than the bay area?) We could show them the good

roads; show them where to rent a Goldwing; and invite them to one of our chapter meetings. And, it would give us the opportunity to go visit them as well, and have the same courtesy extended to us. If we have a sister chapter that isn't too far away, we could even plan a multi-day event to all go and visit them some time.

Upside/downside: Well, I've explained the upside. But, we should also consider the downside (if any). First of all, we should have someone in the chapter be designated the Sister Chapter Coordinator. Since this is my idea in the first place, I'll volunteer for this at first. But, over time, someone else will want to take over the role. So, we've created another chapter job function, which we shouldn't do too lightly, so we can call that a downside. Also, if we decide to send them Christmas basket, then there's a cost for this. Let's say we put \$50 of goodies in the basket, and it takes another \$25 to ship (I'm guessing) then, that's \$75 that comes from our chapter funds. So, that's another downside. Finally, we should ask the question if we're getting ourselves into something that we may regret. How would this happen? Well, I'm not really sure. But, to be safe, when we set this up with another chapter, we could explain that we're getting involved in something new here, and would like to do this for a one-year basis to see how it goes. If after a year either chapter has some regrets, we can both walk away and choose not to "renew" the sister chapter relationship. I think that covers the bases.

This was how I presented it to

our chapter. The response was overwhelming positive, and when I asked for suggestions on a preferred location for our sister chapter, Colorado came out with the most votes. Then, once we began looking at the chapters in Colorado, Chapter I seemed to jump out at us. You guys seem to have a very active chapter and Colorado Springs appears to be a very beautiful part of Colorado.

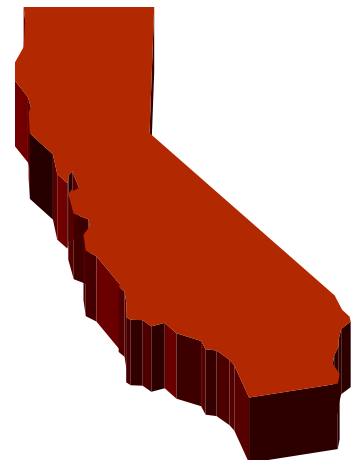
So, please convey our idea to your chapter, and let us know if this of interest to your membership as well.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. You now have my e-mail address, and my phone number is 408-268-0367 (I'm in the gold book, too.)

Here are some chapter facts about CA2S:

web site: [www.CA2S.org](http://www.CA2S.org)

Members: Oh, probably 40-50 on the roster. It seems that about 30 show up for chapter meetings on a regular basis. When we go on rides, we have anywhere from 8 to 14 bikes.





## Saddlebag Conversion

Donald Roberts told us during the January meeting about converting his Wing to a trike and his dilemma of what to do with his old saddlebags. Lucky for Donald, he was directed to Darrell and Don Cruzan, who used their talents to make a (well I'm not exactly sure what you would call it, but it looks great and is functional), as you will see below.



Darrell, Don, and Lauri

Thanks for all your help.

Donald Roberts



# All Roads Are Not Alike

**Tourers take note**

**By: James R. Davis**

Those of us that tour with our motorcycles have learned something about the roads across the country that might not be obvious - they are all different.

I mean that they are made of different materials, the quality of their surfaces varies considerably, they might be pristine and immaculate in one place only to become pot-holed war zones a few miles farther along.

The curves in one section of a road can be well lighted, perfectly banked, and of consistent radius while only a mile away a similar curve can be dark, decreasing radius, covered with 'tar snakes', and have road-side weeds higher than your head.

Why?

It seems to me that what we are seeing is simply a manifestation of the very real differences in County and State wealth and quality of their various maintenance personnel.

The Interstates are consistent in quality and design. The various State and County roads are not.

So, the message here should be obvious: As you cross a County line be sure to be ready for changes in road surface and quality. Slow down and experience the workmanship and care of the roads in a new County for a few miles before believing that you can take that next blind curve as fast as you are used to driving.

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(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

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### *Individual of the Year (IOY)*

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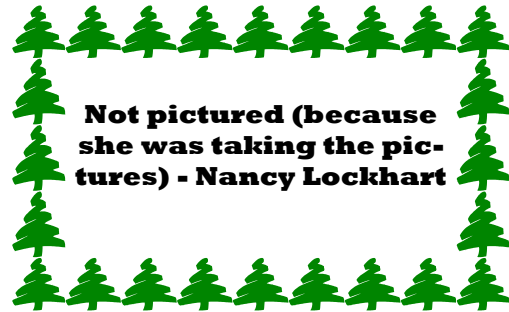


## 2007 Christmas Committee

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Marilyn Irish



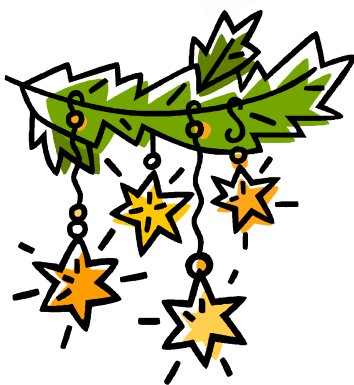
**Not pictured (because  
she was taking the pic-  
tures) - Nancy Lockhart**



Sandie Erskine



Nancy Daniels



Wilma Brown



# 2007 Christmas Party

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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  
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Fax (179)475-0543

Email: [comments@apexsportsinc.com](mailto:comments@apexsportsinc.com)



**February Goodies**

**Butch & Linda Shelley  
Ron & Marsha Curry**



Mailing Label Goes Here