



October 2009



# Springs Wings

## Colorado Springs Chapter I



### Color Ride Report

See how many pieces of candy you can find in this issue?

We had a wonderful time and such a beautiful Color ride! Mark and Cindy planned this trip out meticulously! From the route, places and time to eat, gas stops, scenery, hotel, time for ourselves, to the enjoyable ride home. The route was designed to go through Florence, past Bishops Castle, brunch in Colorado City then onto I-25 south to Walsenberg. From there we went over the La Veta pass and turned south at Ft. Garland then west from San Luis. This was new territory to us and we avoided the long climb up Wolf Creek Pass. Mark almost caught a wild turkey with his bare hands on the bike..ha! He decided to take the planned routes backwards to get us into Pagosa Springs in time to check out the city's sites and stores. After exploring on our own , we met for supper and walked over to a well recommended restaurant. The food was delicious and it was nice to sit outdoors on the patio. After dinner, the four of us decided to enjoy our hotel's hot tub for a bit. We continued the evening by playing cards, laughing and enjoying some spirits. While it might have been a little too early for the highlight of



the colors, we took in all there was to see on the way back. Starting out in 34 degrees after a nice breakfast, the heated gear came in real handy. As we headed over Wolf Creek Pass the temperature began to climb as we climbed, but soon cooled back down as we approached the valley. While heading north to Lake City we encountered sheep herders on horses blocking both sides of the road. The sheep did not seem to mind us parked on the bikes as they carefully steered clear. (sure glad it wasn't a herd of cows or buffaloes!) Then on to Gunnison, Monarch Pass, late lunch in Salida then back to Buena Vista for the trip home. The weather was a little cool in spots but otherwise awesome. The colors were more brilliant in some parts and the 700 mile ride itself was worth it, not to mention the company of our ride planners, thank you Mark and Cindy Atwell!

by the Lockharts

Visit Chapter I at  
[www.springswings.org](http://www.springswings.org)



# *"Ride to Live" campaign*

*By Butch Shelley*

CDOT launched the "Ride to Live" campaign in April of 2008, not a lot had been publicized about it but some semi-current information and lots of other info about motorcycles in Colorado can be found at:

<http://www.dot.state.co.us/TrafficSafety/most/index.cfm> or

<http://www.dot.state.co.us/trafficsafety/most/MotorcycleFactSheet2008.pdf>

includes:

## **2008 Motorcycle Safety Facts**

- ▶ 98 riders and passengers were killed in motorcycle crashes in Colorado in 2008, the highest ever recorded
- ▶ Motorcycle fatalities represented 18% of the 548 traffic deaths in Colorado last year, despite representing only 3% of registered vehicles

## **Motorcycle usage is up.**

- ▶ Registrations have increased from 89,897 in 1994 to 173,873 in 2008
  - Of the motorcycle fatalities in 2008:
- ▶ Over 2/3 were not wearing a helmet
- ▶ 34 percent of riders were under the influence of alcohol
- ▶ 39 percent did not have a motorcycle endorsement



## **Key findings**

- ▶ Ownership of motorcycles is concentrated in a few geographic areas. (Jefferson and El Paso Counties combined hold more than 25 percent of the state's motorcycles, while the combination of Jefferson, El Paso, Arapahoe, Adams, and Larimer hold almost exactly half of the state's motorcycles.)
- ▶ Small rural counties in Western Colorado have the most motorcycles per capita in the state
- ▶ Rural Eastern Plain counties had the greatest percentage of "large" motorcycles within their boundaries
- ▶ Motorcycles in urban counties are more likely to be newer (2001 model year or younger)



## **Watch out when turning left.**

- ▶ Most crashes between cars and motorcycles involve turning left at an intersection. If you are preparing to cross traffic or turn left, take a second look for motorcycles.

Actually has page on tips to motorist about motorcycles. Here's one you would think is common sense:

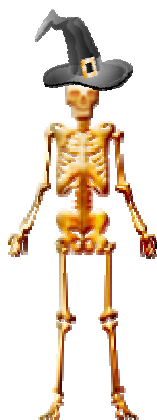
**Failure to obey and yield the right-of-way can result in the death or serious injury of a motorcyclist.**

## **October Dinner Ride**

Thanks to Didi for planning another great dinner ride, even though we were all in cages. We had eight couples—Dick & Didi, Ray & Nancy, Tom & Monica, Dean & Joann, Doug & Marilyn, Chris & Sandie, Jim & Harriet, and Butch & Linda.

We went to La Zingara in Palmer Lake. The food was great and the restaurant set the tables in a big square so we could see everyone and all share in the conversations.

Thanks again Didi. Great job!



**Happy Halloween**

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**Couple of the Year (COY)** - Chris & Sandie Erskine,

**Individual of the Year (IOY)** - Linda Shelley

# Annual Halloween/Costume Party 2009

Where: Ray & Nancy Daniels' home  
830 Pebble Creek Ct., Monument, CO 80132

When: Friday, October 23, 2009

Time: 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm

\*\*\*\*\* If you want alcoholic beverages, please bring your own



Pot Luck: Please bring your favorite dishes or desserts to share with all.

RSVP: 719-488-8841 or email @ [raynan80@comcast.net](mailto:raynan80@comcast.net)

Directions: I-25 North to exit 161 (Monument exit), turn right up the hill for about 2 1/2 miles. Turn right o Scottswood. (Bent Tree) Go one block and turn left on Pebble Creek Ct. . We are the brick house at the end of the cul-de-sac.



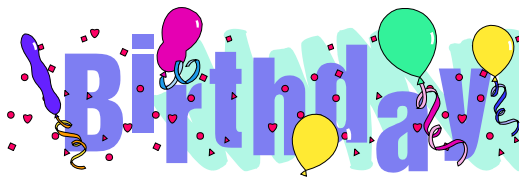
See you there.....Ray & Nancy







# Events



Oct 25—Sherry Strath  
 Oct 28—Sue Damschen  
 Claude Lockhart  
 Barb Bondurant  
 Oct 31—Jane Doan  
 Nov 5—Glenn Goode  
 Bruce Harris  
 Vonda Weber  
 Nov 8—Marie McMinn  
 Mark Hoffman  
 Nov 19—Scott Paine  
 Jim Morasky

## ANNIVERSARIES

Oct 20—John & Kim Athman  
 Oct 22—Jim & Olga Wyman  
 Oct 23—Terry Hillman & DeeDee McCormack  
 Oct 24—Kevin & Patricia Hales

## Dates to Remember

Oct 23—Halloween Party, The Daniels'  
 Nov 14—AF game & tailgate  
 Nov 14—Chapter E, Turkey Dinner fundraiser  
 Nov 21—Chapter G, Turkey Bingo  
 Nov 26—Thanksgiving  
 Dec 5—Chapter I, Christmas Party




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## ***New Mexico District Rally***

Grants, New Mexico, was so welcoming to all the Gold Wingers that attended the rally. A representative from the Chamber of Commerce attended the opening ceremonies and personally welcomed everyone to Grants. If I counted right, there were 17 Colorado GWRRA members in attendance. We all joked that Chapter C should get the prize for having the best chapter representation because they had 2 out of 3 members at the rally.



Butch and Les, CO Chapter C Director, admired and test drove the latest electric scooter displayed by one of the vendors. Everyone tried to get Linda on it, but her feet wouldn't touch the ground.



Butch, Linda, and Monica took a ride South out of Grants through El Morro National Monument. We opted not to go the Ice Caves (on the Navaho Reservation)—gravel road. Instead we decided to continue riding on to Ramah and Zuni Pueblo (on the Zuni Reservation), then back North to Gallup where we stopped for lunch at a Blake's Lota Burger. From there we headed back to Grants.

We stopped at the new Trader Joe's in Albuquerque on the way home to do some shopping. Butch gave us a tour of Santa Fe while looking for a place to eat with a parking lot big enough for the motorhome and trailer. No such place, but we did find the Trader Joe's in Santa Fe.







## Chapter 1 Christmas Party

Dec. 5  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Potluck

Sign-up sheets will be passed around at  
November meeting.

NO alcoholic beverages allowed.