

June 2008 Newsletter
High Country Wings Chapter Y Prescott, AZ
<http://chapter-y.tripod.com>

Chapter Director - Sherwin White

Welcome to Summer to all Chapter "I" members. They say that the monsoon season has officially started. In the past 2 1/2 years since we have been in the area I have yet to see any heavy rain. The old timers say that they use to have heavy rains. It's a good thing they still have the memories. Heather & I just came back from 6 days in Las Vegas (family business). I must say that they have the worst drivers I have ever seen. They all think that they are N.Y. cab drivers. It's a pleasure to be back where it's nice and cool.

Our staff is still looking for a new Chapter Ride Coordinator. All he or she has to do is come up with suggestions for our after meeting rides. Our members will do the rest.

I want to thank the members who consistently bring door prizes for our 50/50 drawings. We could sure use a lot more. I would like to see that table loaded with items to give away. Don't forget, bring a prize and get double your tickets.

It looks like we will have at least 6 of our Chapter members attending Wing Ding in one week. Full report next month.

There is still time to sign up for the Region Rally in August. Being held in Canon City, CO. Hopefully, we will see you all this Saturday at our Summer kick off meeting.
Ride Safe!

Asst. Chapter Director - Ron Neville
RON'S RAMBLINGS

I trust everyone had a safe Memorial Day weekend, and hope everyone remembered what it is about. Grilling out is fun, as is getting together with family and friends, but stopping a moment to give thanks and remembrance to all our veterans, past and present should be the order of the day. And, I hope everyone did just that.

By my count we had twenty in attendance at the May meeting, which is really not too bad; given it was Memorial Day weekend. As most of you know, the weather did not cooperate so we did not get to join together for a ride. Jane and I were hoping to spread our "wings" a bit on the new ride. However, Mother Nature frowned. Perhaps, next month, and we do have a destination in mind unless someone else has a good idea.

I overheard about five of you were planning to attend Wing Ding. That is great! I have attended six (as best as I can recall) and there is always something great happening, lots of vendors and programs, etc. so those of us not attending will expect pictures and a report on your return. But, as a Chapter perhaps we can have a good turnout for the Region and/or District Rally so pick up the registration forms and get signed up!

Sad to note we cannot participate in the Rodeo/Roughstock events to raise funds for our charities and Holiday events. Perhaps each of us can make a little extra effort on our own to ask everyone we know for money to help “the kids” or any other charity you choose to support.

By the way, Jane and I will be spending a fair amount of the summer at our place in Oregon, so this will be my last newsletter contribution until about September; but we are expecting all of you to ride safe until we can rejoin you.

I’ll hush for now, so here are my words of Wit? Wisdom? for the month.

Up in hillbilly country, there was a struggling little church where there was some talk about buying a new chandelier. The Board of Deacons held a meeting to discuss it. The first two spoke in favor of it. The third Deacon stood up and said, “I’m agin this here proposal for three reasons. First, there ain’t anyone here knows how to spell it, so we couldn’t order one. In the second place, nobody in the congregation knows how to play it, and in the third place if the church has any extra money to spend, I think we ought to buy a new lighting fixture.”

That’s all folks.....Ron

Chapter Educator - Dick Studdard

HELMET SAFETY

There are two organizations setting safety standards for motorcycle helmets in the United States: the US Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Snell Memorial Foundation. DOT sets the minimum standards that all helmets sold for motorcycling on public streets must meet.

“Why do I want to by a helmet that meets the Snell standard and has a Snell sticker on the helmet?”

Snell standards exceed the standards required by the DOT. Helmets meeting Snell Standards provide the highest level of protection available.

“How long should I keep a helmet before I replace it?”

What happens is that many manufacturers use glue to put the liner into the shell. In some cases, the glue will degrade the liner. Also liners will degrade from perspiration and hair oils. And they become compacted through normal use. Only the individual using the helmet knows how the helmet has been treated. If the helmet has been damaged in any way, the helmet should be considered unsafe and replaced. Under normal conditions a well cared for helmet may last up to five years. There are helmet liners that a rider can wear under the helmet that will help keep the inside of the helmet cleaner. One brand is called Head Skins and they are made of cotton or satin. They can be washed in the washing machine.

“How do I know if a helmet is going to be comfortable for a long trip?”

When you are going to buy a new helmet, try it on and wear it around the store to make sure it will fit and is comfortable. Make sure the chinstrap is fastened and you have full visibility while

wearing the helmet. The folks that sell helmets normally recommend this and will encourage you to make sure it fits properly. They don't want you to return a helmet because it is uncomfortable or just does not fit properly.

Dick Studdard

Ride Coordinator – Open Position

Humor

Off the clock
By Rebecca Dudley
News-Tribune Editor/Publisher



My ex-husband had this annoying habit of bringing greasy old carburetors and things into the house to work on. So, last week, when my friend called to tell me this story, my first response was, "Where did this guy live?"



Now reassured that I was never related to him by marriage, this really is too hilarious not to share.

The way my friend told it, this guy pushed his motorcycle from the patio into his living room, where he began to clean the engine with some rags and a bowl of gasoline. When he finished, he sat on the motorcycle and decided to start it to make sure everything was still OK. Unfortunately, the bike started in gear, and crashed through the glass patio door with him still clinging to the handlebars.

His wife had been working in the kitchen. She came running at the noise, and found him crumpled on the patio, badly cut from the shards of broken glass. She called 911, and the paramedics transported the guy to the emergency room.

So far, the story is humorous — in a "that is what you get for being a big enough lout to bring your motorcycle into the house" kind of way.

But here is where I really split a gut.

Later that afternoon, after many stitches had pulled her husband back together, the wife brought him home and put him to bed. She cleaned up the mess in the living room, and dumped the bowl of gasoline in the toilet.

Shortly thereafter, her husband woke up, lit a cigarette, and went into the bathroom. He sat down and tossed the cigarette into the toilet, which promptly exploded because the wife had not flushed the gasoline away. The explosion blew the man through the bathroom door.

The wife heard the explosion and her husband's screams. She ran into the hall and found him lying on the floor with his trousers blown away and burns on his buttocks. The wife again ran to the phone and called for an ambulance.

The same two paramedics were dispatched to the scene. They loaded the husband on the stretcher and began carrying him to the street. One of them asked the wife how the injury had occurred. When she told them, they began laughing so hard that they dropped the stretcher, and broke the guy's collarbone.

Talk about instant karma.