

February 2010 Newsletter
High Country Wings Chapter Y Prescott, AZ
<http://chapter-y.tripod.com>

Chapter Director – Earl Spenard

HIGH COUNTRY ARIZONA CHAPTER-Y
GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION

January 2010 came in like a lion and went out like a snowed in lamb. Our snowfall set some records throughout the state but our folks were still out there riding. Our January meeting had 29 of us in attendance with a foot of snow on the ground and very cold. OK we all drove our cars.

Dick Studdard and I attended the District Staff Meeting in Casa Grande. It was a very informative meeting. To start with, I was reminded that you do not have to own a Goldwing to belong to GWRRA. Any vehicle with rubber on the ground can join us for our fun, knowledge and safety. Armed with that information, we now have two new Associate members and many more to come. All are welcome at our meetings, so bring a friend, a neighbor, a guest and let them see the fellowship and fun we have. This will also help them understand that bikers are their neighbors but just a little different.

Continuing on with the District Staff meeting we have a new Assistant District Director, Bill Trask. Welcome and be assured of our support with your new position.

I would encourage you all to take the time to go up on the National, Region, District and Chapter Websites and keep yourselves informed as to changes, events and information that is available to all of us. The Webmasters put a lot of work into these sites to keep us informed.

We want to congratulate Ron and Sandy Gaston as our 2010 Couple of the Year (COY) and Jim Weiss as our Individual of the Year (IOY) 2010. This team of individuals, along with many others helps our chapter fulfill our goals of Fun, Safety and Knowledge.

Also congratulations to Dick Studdard for being appointed to the Governor's Motorcycle Safety Council and for serving as Vice President. This will keep all of us *informed* as to what the State of Arizona is planning.

A trip is planned this Year to visit Yellowstone National Park in June, starting from Prescott on June 23rd and returning by June 30th. Anyone interested in going on this ride please contact me, Rod or Dick for details and the schedule.

Mark your calendars for our February Meeting at the Golden Corral at 8 AM on February 27th. All come and bring a guest and a gift for our giveaways.

And as always; Have Fun with the Knowledge that to keep the rubber side down will keep you Safe.

Earl Spenard
Chapter Director

Asst. Chapter Director – Bill Balzer

Hi everyone. Hope you are ready to ride. The weather is starting to change for the better. I heard that Chapter Y had a good turnout for the last meeting even with the snow. I hope this is a sign of things to come. Earl & Jenny are doing a great job. There is talk of some of chapter Y going to Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. This will be a great place to visit so start planning now. I have been there with my family several times and never saw it all. It is great! This will be a ride to remember. Hope you can make this trip. Have a safe ride..

Bill & Debbie

Chapter Educator - Dick Studdard

MAINTAIN YOUR MOTORCYCLE

I have been training motorcycle riders and inspecting their motorcycles for the past 39 years and I am still surprised how many riders do not take care of their motorcycles. Recently I was going to train several riders and the first thing I do is walk around their bikes. You can tell how well a rider takes care of the bike by its appearance. I then checked the tires for their condition and pressure. Tires should be replaced when the tread depth is down to 2/32 of an inch. One bike did not have any tread to measure.

My tire pressure gauge will not register if the pressure is less than 10 pounds of pressure and it did not even register for that tire. The owner of the bike had complained that he didn't get good mileage out of that brand of tire. Now we know why. He did not recall the last time he checked the tire pressure. Good tires are your best insurance for a safe ride. I check my tire pressure before each ride.

On one bike the chain was very loose and on another one the rear brake pads were worn out. After checking several more bikes, the training was re-scheduled to a later date. Much to my surprise, several riders stated that they learned something from this inspection.

When I am preparing to go on a ride I wipe down the bike not so that I am riding a clean bike, but to insure that everything that should be tight on the bike is tight. If I wiped it off, I know I checked it. When I am on a trip, I wipe down the bike and check the tires for cuts and nails. I then cover it before I have dinner. The next morning I check the tire pressure and oil level. I want to check the tire pressure when the tire is cold. This will also give the oil time to drain down to the oil pan and ***I will not be handling a hot dip stick.***

RIDE SAFE AND KEEP THE RUBBER SIDE DOWN

Dick Studdard