

*June 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

June has brought the riding weather we all wait for each year. The open road calls to us and we see the beauty of Arizona and the surrounding states. Each magazine I pick up identifies another great ride to go on (AAA magazine, Arizona Highways, etc. etc..)  
On these great rides; just keep in mind the heat and sun. It's real easy to dehydrate: keep the water pouring in and the sunscreen on the exposed skin.

Sandy (as always) plans great weekday rides for us all and we have had a few. Seligman (at the Snow Cap Restaurant - what a Place!), Bagdad, Skull Valley and Wickenburg just to name a few.

Late breaking News: Our own Dick and Tani have gone to a TRIKE and it's a beauty.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> (Saturday) will be the Frontier Rodeo Parade. We will be in the Parade again this year. I need help with a couple carrying the Banner and also need a nose count of those who are riding their bikes with me in the Parade. **Please hit the reply and let me know if you are coming.**

I would encourage you all to take the time to go to \ the National, Regional, District and Chapter websites and keep yourselves informed of changes, events, rallies, rides etc. and other information that is available to all of us. The webmasters put a lot of work into these sites to keep us informed. Our website is: <http://chapter-y.tripod.com/> Just copy and paste this site into your browsers. Other great information websites are: [www.competitionaccessories.com](http://www.competitionaccessories.com), [www.wingstuff.com](http://www.wingstuff.com) , and [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). There is no end to informational websites. If you want additional information, go to [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) and ask any question to obtain information on any subject.

Remember ET has nothing on a great rides.

Mark your calendars for our June Meeting at the Golden Corral at 8 AM on June 26<sup>th</sup>. All come and **bring a guest and a gift for our giveaways.** Bill and Debbie, our ACD's will be running the meeting.

And as always; *have Fun with the Knowledge: Keep the rubber side down. Helmets will keep you alive.*

Earl Spenard  
Chapter Director

Asst. Chapter Director – Bill Balzer

Hello everyone. I hope you have been enjoying this great riding weather.

I hope everyone going to Yellowstone checks to make sure their bikes are ready. Let's make this a safe and memorable ride.

I'll be running the June meeting, so please come and join us at the Golden Corral for breakfast on June 26<sup>th</sup>. We will try to have a ride after the meeting.

Ride safe and be happy.

Bill & Debbie

Chapter Educator - Dick Studdard

## **Preparing For A Motorcycle Tour**

In an old issue of Motorcycle Consumer News, I was reading Fred Rau's article "Rookie Mistakes" and it brought back memories of my early long distance rides and the mistakes I made.

He starts off talking about the rider with brand new gear that has not been "broken in". The helmet that was tried on in the store and fit, but when it is on for an hour or two, starts to feel like your head is in a clamp and it is getting tighter. It can have pressure points that you don't feel in the store. My mistake was buying a new pair of boots and wearing them for the first time on a weeklong trip. By the end of the first day, my feet were telling me of the mistake.

He states the second mistake is to over pack. You will not have the time or patience to pack quite so perfectly every morning as you did when you started. Fred pointed out "that it is an undeniable motorcycling truth that your clothes will somehow expand in size as you go along". I solve this problem by putting aside old socks, under shorts and "t" shirts that I am going to throw away and taking them on the trip. I use them once and throw them away. I was going to do that anyway and when I start to run out of these items, I stop at a Walmart and buy new ones. If I am going to be gone for several weeks, I make a reservation in a motel about half way through my tour and mail a box of clothes to the motel. When I arrive at that motel, I then mail my dirty clothes home. I test pack the items before I mail them so that I know that they will fit on the bike later. Another reason not to over pack is that during one of your stops, you may see something you didn't know that you could not live without and buy it. You will need the space to store it.

The next mistake is not packing gear you may need during the ride. The example he gives is having you rain gear in the bottom. I keep my rain gear, cover for the bike, jackets, sun screen and water on top of all other items so they are easy to get to.

He also recommends that you carry some extra cash hidden on the bike. If you should lose your credit cards and cash, you have a backup to get home. Also have an extra key with you. I like to give my riding partner the extra key to my Wing in case I lose mine.

One of my pet peeves is the individual that shows up for a multiple day trip and has not checked out their motorcycle or was depending on replacing items on the trip. I had an individual show up with bald tires and state that they were going to buy new tires at the rally we were going to. The rally was 600 miles away and they became upset when I informed them they were not going to ride with me with those tires on the bike. They didn't arrive at the rally and I later found out they had a flat and had to be transported to a dealer for a new set of tires. The dealer did not have the tires they needed in stock and had to order them.

A motorcycle tour can be a lot of fun if you are prepared for it. Be prepared for any weather. On Beartooth Pass between Yellowstone and Red Lodge, Montana I was riding through a snow storm in July. A few days later the temperature on the ride was over 100 degrees.

Ride safe and keep the rubber side down.  
Dick Studdard, AZ-Y Educator