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

Chapter Director - Sherwin White

Spring is finally here. I hope everybody is set to ride. Our new Ride Coordinator is going to take us "UP UP & AWAY".

I hope everybody likes the new format of our newsletter. Thanks to our new newsletter editor, Rod Riggenbach. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Saturday, May 3rd is the Motorcycle Safety Fair at the Town Center in Prescott Valley. The Chapter is going to have a display booth. We are going to need some volunteers to help man the booth. It's from 9-4. The more help we have, the less hours to work. Also, does anyone have one of these 10x10 pop up tents? And also, some kind of table? Let me know at the meeting or contact me.

The ARIZONA DISTRICT RALLY is OCT. 24, 25, 26. IT'S AT THE LONDON BRIDGE RESORT. They only have 122 rooms, so it's not too early to make reservations. It's a 3 diamond resort. Great location at the Bridge right on the bay.

I am now taking orders for Chapter Shirts, if anyone is interested. They're \$17.02.

Looking forward to a good turn-out this Saturday morning. Don't forget: bring a door prize and get double your 50/50 tickets.

Asst. Chapter Director - Ron Neville

With little exception weather has been really great of late, so I'm guessing everyone is "prepping" their ride for another season. If you haven't be sure to attend to all those things generally included in a T-Clock inspection and do it regularly.

On the home front, we are told to expect our new ride this month (March) so we are cautiously optimistic, but hopeful. Have really missed being able to saddle up, if only for a little short jaunt locally, or perhaps a longer ride somewhere in the state.

We are looking for our new ride coordinator to plan some great rides for the Chapter; and even though we have lots of commitments and will be traveling quite a bit we will try to join is for as many as we can.

So whatever happened to the old phone tree and the idea of calling up some of the local guys (gals) for a short pie and/or ice cream run. Those were good times and we should think about trying to get that rejuvenated as spring is arriving.

Great to see some new faces, along with the veterans and we could be on the verge of seeing real Chapter growth. Keep spreading the word.

So here are my words of Wit? Wisdom? for the month:

In a small town, a man used to call the telephone operator every morning and ask her for the correct time. After several weeks the curious operator asked him why he called every day. He told her "I have to be very careful about the right time. You see, I blow the noon whistle at the factory." "That's strange," the operator said, "Everyday at noon, I set our clock by your whistle."

That's all folks.....Ron

Chapter Educator - Dick Studdard

Rider Education

I have been training motorcycle riders and inspecting their motorcycles for the past 36 years and I am still surprised how riders do not take care of their motorcycles. Recently I was going to train several riders and the first thing I did was 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. The tire should be replaced when the tread depth is 2/32 of an inch. One bike did not have any tread to measure. My tire pressure gauge does not register if the pressure is less than 10 pounds. My gauge 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. 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.

Dick Studdard

Ride Coordinator - Chuck Taylor

My name is Chuck Taylor and I would like to take this time to introduce myself and my wife Lucy. We live in Cottonwood and we own 4 bikes: a 1980 Honda CB750, a 1995 Gold Wing 1500, 20th. Anniversary Edition, a 2003 Gold Wing and a 2004 Kawasaki Vulcan.

I am looking forward to taking on the position of ride coordinator. What I would like to do is something a little different "I think". I would like this to be a team effort. What I mean by this is to have the club as a whole take part in choosing where they would like to go on rides.

Each month I will provide a couple of choices on rides to go on, along with the distance and time for each ride. The options are out there and you as part of the team will choose where we ride. That way I feel it's not like one person is being the dictator. We can discuss it at the end of the meeting and the majority will rule.

Sometimes we could have just the ladies make the decision where we go and sometimes just the men. That's the way we do it at our house. Like I told Lucy, as long as I ride my bike I don't care where we go.

Lucy and I do a lot of weekend trips. We might leave on Friday morning take Route 66 spend the night in Kingman have dinner and little hot tub. Saturday we ride to Oatman and spend the night in Laughlin. Head back home Sunday morning. We also ride to Durango, Colorado on Labor Day weekend. Ride the Million-Dollar Highway and take day trips. If you would like to join us on any of these trips we would be more than happy to have ride buddies. We have already made arrangements to go to Montrose, Colorado on June 4 - 8. They are having a gathering of the Gold Wing 1800's. You can check it out at <u>www.rockies-gold.net/2008.htm</u>. It looks like a real good time. We are leaving with Mike and Han Damiani on the Saturday or Sunday before. It depends on how long Han can ride at one time, since she broke her back in an accident and is trying like crazy to get back in shape to ride. This woman is tuff as nails and won't let anything get in the way of her having fun.

Ride choices for March: Weather permitting one choice will be to Cameron Trading Post, leave Country Club by way of Hwy 69 to I-17, should take 2 hrs. 8 mins (131.57 miles). Second choice: the Ranch House restaurant at the Beaver Creek Golf Club in Rimrock. We will leave the clubhouse, ride over Mingus Mtn. to Jerome into Cottonwood up 89A to Page Springs Road (lots of twisties) down Cornville Road to Rimrock (roughly about 60 miles. It should take about one to one 1/2 hours depending on traffic on Mingus). Decide which one you would like to go on before you get to the meeting. Majority will rule!

Rides

The first ride of the season was a success. See the pictures below. We had a turnout of 6 bikes, 1 beautiful red trike, and Sherwin and Heather following in their car. The ride over Mingus was spectacular as always. We made a stop at the Page Springs Fish Hatchery and were lucky enough to encounter a fish warden who spent about an hour answering our questions. We then drove through Page Springs and Cornville passing a winery and a rib house that some of the riders mentioned they would like to visit in the future. We finally arrived at the Ranch House Restaurant at the Beaver Creek Country Club. While we were sitting at the table in the restaurant waiting for our meals to arrive, the talk was about other places to ride. One was getting a ride together to the Grand Canyon, another was Seligman thru Route 66, Payson, and Williams just to name a few. This is what I want to hear from the club members.

I would like to thank Dick Stehle for riding drag. He did a great job. Hopefully if you were not able to attend this month's ride, you will join us in April. We are considering a trip to either Cameron Trading post or Payson to Kohl's ranch. Kohl's Ranch is a hotel, a riding stable and a very nice restaurant. It's a beautiful ride. We will check on the roads in Payson as we get closer to the ride date because some of the roads have been washed out. By April we think they would be back in great shape but this is Arizona so the ride might change.

RIDE WITH PRIDE Chuck Taylor