

January 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

2009 Reflections

There is so much to cover on reflecting back over 2009 with our Chapter. Let me begin with a warm THANK YOU to all of you for your support over this last year as this kid got his feet wet with GWRRA.

Your Board: Bill and Debbie Balzer (Assist. Directors), Dick Studdard (Educator), Dick and Tani Stehle (Treasurer), Jim Weiss (Historian/Photographer), Rod Riggensch (Webmaster), Heather White (Greeter). Hats off to a great group of people, JOB WELL DONE. Thanks to our couple of the year (COY) Sherwin and Heather White and our Individual of the Year (IOY) Rod Riggensch.

Our year started off with a bang,

- New District Directors: Garry and Kerry Woo.
- Randy Powell and his wife presented their trip to Alaska, what an adventure.
- Dick Stehle started to put out our weekday ride requests that had a great response and continues to do so.
- We changed meeting locations from Prescott Country Club to Pete's to Golden Corral.
- Gary at StarIsland Motors became one of our sponsors and has supported us through the year along with Law Tigers. Hats off to both of them.
- New Motorcycle Operator Manual with Trike guide lines,
- Trike Training thanks to Ray Handyman, Neil Mawk and Dick Studdard.
- New Chapter-Y Banner, motorcycle hangers, hand out flyer, thank you Sandy Gaston.

So many events. Toys for Tots, Ride for Kids, VA welcome home Celebration, Chili Fest, Red Rock Ride Group, Bill & Debbie's Picnic, Cruise for Critters, District Rally, Region F Rally, Wing Ding, Prescott Light Parade, July 4th Parade, Christmas Parade, and Christmas Party just to name a few.

Reflections also have to note the mishaps of 2009; Neil DeMent gets hit from behind and Ron Gaston lays it down. Both of them are doing great and we look forward to having them with us this next year on all of our rides.

If I were to list the rides we all took over this last year we would not have the space on our webpage.

Our membership is in the 70's and our average attendance at the monthly meetings is 32-48. WOW.

So many of you have contributed so much to our organization in the past and will continue to do so, again Thank you All so very much.

Now for a great 2010. Mark your calendars for our January Meeting at the Golden Corral at 8 AM on January 23rd. 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

Well here we are in a new year. Can you believe it? This is for those of you who missed our Christmas party: it was great! Earl & Jenny out did themselves, getting the Hassayampa Country Club for Chapter Y. Thanks from all who attended.

January is good month to start planning for the coming year for rides or weekend get away's . We are blessed that we can ride in the winter when a lot of the country is in a deep freeze. This is also the time of year to start going over the bikes from top to bottom looking for anything that needs attention. Fix now before the heavy riding season starts. Dealers are more than glad to do repairs when things are slow and we aren't pushing them to get it done.

Debbie and I are looking forward to another wonderful year of riding with our Gold Wing Family.

Thanks.
Bill & Debbie

P.S. Happy New Year. May it be a safe riding season for all.

Chapter Educator - Dick Studdard

Winter Riding

This is the season that our riding is reduced due to the elements. I want my Wing to be ready to ride when the opportunity arises. I have my wing hooked up to a Battery Tender when I know that I am not going to ride it for a week or more. I check the tire pressure every week if I am not going out of town on the Wing and just prior to riding out of town. Temperature will affect the pressure and a very cold temperature will cause the pressure to be lower. Remember that if you check your tire pressure in Prescott and the temperature is very cold and then you ride to Phoenix where it is warm, the pressure of your tires will increase several pounds. You need to be careful not to exceed the maximum recommended pressure of your tires. The maximum pressure is found on the sidewall of the tire.

The condition of the roads is a factor on deciding if we are going to ride or drive a four-wheel vehicle. I can be warm enough to ride, however there can be shady areas where there is black ice or cinders on the road. Another hazard I have experienced is mud or dirt clods on the road from the

off-road vehicles coming onto the road from a dirt road. This time of year I ride slower and make sure that I avoid the hazards that we experience this time of year.

Riding in winter months can be fun if the rider is dressed for it. In Arizona due to the extreme changes in weather and temperature, the riders can be comfortable riding when they layer their clothing. That way they can add or remove layers as the temperature changes.

Keep the rubber side down.

Dick Studdard, Chapter Educator