

July 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

Garry and Carrie Woo, our District Directors will be our guests this month at our monthly meeting.

On our great rides - thank you Sandy Gaston - 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.

July 3rd Frontier Parade has come and gone. Thanks to those of you that came out in the heat and rode. It was fun as always. Check out the Website for pictures. Thanks to Jim Weiss for the pictures.

June 23rd – June 30th saw the Yellowstone riders finish a GREAT RIDE (see the website for a few pics.)

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, 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 browser. Other great information websites are: www.competitionaccessories.com, www.wingstuff.com, www.recreation.gov. There is no end to informational websites. If you want information go to www.google.com and ask any question or obtain information on any subject. Speaking of Google, Jess Taylor had the opportunity to use the 1-800-466-4411 for phone information and it works great. Try it sometime.

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

July 24th Meeting at the Golden Corral at 8 AM. All come and **bring a guest and a gift for our giveaways.**

December 4th – Chapter-Y Christmas Party

Special Thanks to Bill and Debbie Balzar our ACD's. Thank you both so much for running the June 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

Hi all of you lucky bikers. I know we're lucky because Arizona provides us with great places to ride and fantastic weather. Debbie and I hope everyone had a wonderful 4th of July.

This Month we will have our fearless leader back from his trip to Yellowstone along with some of our other members. I've been to Yellowstone. It is breathtaking just being there, but it must be even better to ride from Arizona and back on bikes. That is something I hope to do someday.

Just a reminder to everyone to be extra careful riding this monsoon season. The roads can get pretty slick when it first starts raining. Please be alert to this fact. Debbie and I will be helping our uncle when he gets home from the hospital for about 3 weeks 24 hrs a day. So Debbie won't make the August meeting but I will. I look forward seeing everyone again.

Ride Safe
Bill & Debbie

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 buy 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, AZ-Y Educator