

The Eagle Times

Colorado FreeWheelers

February, 2009

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, February 19, 2008
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
7:00 pm

www.cofreewheelers.org/

Polar Bear Ride 2009

Pete Chronis

Eighteen people (including two clergymen) and 13 bikes showed up on New Year's Day for the Colorado FreeWheelers' Polar Bear Ride. Unseasonably warm weather, with temperatures in the 60s, meant that the Polar Bear got a buzz cut this year.

The favorable weather made for a good turnout at breakfast, with some members seated at an overflow table at the Village Inn, C-470 and South Broadway.

Pastors Paul "Boots" Reimer and Gary Davis were early arrivals for breakfast, with Boots delivering an invocation and offering a prayer for the CFW during the coming year.

Also at the tables were CFW President Pete "Bedrock" Chronis, Veep Pat "Thumper" McCombs, Bob and Sunny Norton, Don Lyle, Don McKee, Gene Porter, Cliff Eudy, Floyd Thorne, Frank Heinzl, Brian Boberick, "Wing Commander" Bill Gillespie, Norm Roeder, Steve Donnafield, Michael Murdoch and Joe and Karen Calabro.

After breakfast, the ride, led by FreeWheelin' Frank Heinzl, took off on a route across the Eastern Plains. Forecasts of wind gusts ranging from 75 to 80 mph in the foothills meant a mountain ramble was out of the question. Indeed, some CFW members who rode in ABATE's Brass Monkey event on Dec. 28 encountered some unusually strong crosswinds, as in "pick up bike & rider and deposit same in oncoming lane" in the foothills near Golden.

The group this New Years, however had a pleasant ride over lightly traveled roads through Eastern Colorado's farm and ranch country in weather that was almost too beautiful to believe. The itinerary took us through quaint Victorian towns that hadn't changed much since the turn of the previous century.

As we rode under breathtakingly clear skies with stunning prairie vistas before us, it was almost like spring as the FreeWheelers racked up more than 240 miles for the day.

After leaving the Village Inn, the riders took C-470 east to I-25, then south to Castle Rock, then east on Highway 86 to Franktown, Elizabeth and Kiowa, before taking I-70 to Limon.

After a gas stop in Limon, the entourage headed north on Highway 71 to Last Chance, and then west on Route 36 to Byers. From there, the group took I-70 to Bennett, where some members who needed to get back to town split off, while the rest took Highway 79 to Prospect Valley and then motored over to Hudson.

Plans to have lunch at the Pepper Pod got derailed because the eatery was closed for the day, so the group rode to a nearby truck stop that included a Carl's Jr. Restaurant and a Subway. A couple of riders headed back toward Denver on I-76, followed soon thereafter by those who stopped for lunch. Most riders were home shortly after 3 p.m.

The Polar Bear and the Brass Monkey were seen in their bathing trunks, taking a dip in a local motel hot tub.

Rider of the Year

Pat McCombs

A big CONGRATULATIONS to Colorado Freewheelers member, and 2008 vice-president Alan Hansher for a job well done on becoming the Colorado Freewheelers 25th Rider of the Year. Alan really got involved in the club this year, and set his sites on winning the award for 2008.

It's no easy task to reel in this award, and if you make a run for it, you will spend a year doing a lot of riding, going to lots of meetings, serving on committees, planning out events, etc.

Just imagine.... At the Christmas and awards banquet near year's end the numbers have been totaled, and your name is called as Rider of the Year. You walk to the front to accept the award knowing you have reached your goal. Slipping on the jacket and holding that trophy, gives one a great sense of pride.

Nice job! Alan and welcome to the Rider of the Year Club. You are now a member of a club that has only twelve Colorado Freewheeler members in the last twenty-five years.

Rider's of the Year

1984- Pat McCombs

1985 - Bill Gillespie

1986 - Bob Norton

1987 - Leo Scott

1988 - Pat McCombs

1989 - Becky Gillespie

1990 - Frank Heinzl

1991 - Pat McCombs

1992 - Rex Young

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by President Pete Chronis. We opened, as usual with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no visitors tonight.

The **Secretary's Report** containing the October meeting minutes was accepted without bloodshed.

The **Treasurer's Report** was also accepted without undue stress. Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 cash on hand; \$265.48 in the Christmas fund; and \$1,935.47 in the checking account, for a total of \$2,200.95. Frank made the wise motion to accept, and Bob quickly added a second, and the motion passed. Floyd also noted that proceeds from the "almost a bake sale" in October will be split between the Anchor Center and The Community Ministry. Some \$485 was collected/donated at the meeting, and \$100 was pledged by absent members. So, each charity will receive \$292.50. Chris Janssen was fronted \$200. for ornaments, candy and other items for the Christmas party. Floyd closed his report by saying, "We're in pretty decent shape, financially".

Upcoming Rides: Frank noted that we are now on the Winter Ride Schedule. That means we will meet for breakfast each Sunday at 9am, and if the weather permits, there will be a ride starting around 10am. We will meet at the Village Inn at C-470 and Broadway. The Rocky Mountain H/D Turkey Run will be this Sunday. Meet at the Village Inn - Breakfast: 9am, leave for the turkey run at 10. The Children's Hospital Toy Run will be 12/7. Route will be from Aurora Sports Park straight in Colfax to the hospital.

Mileage totals for 2008: 179,103 total club miles for the year with 79 ride dates; High month was August with 38,041 club miles; Bill Gillespie had the most club miles for the year with 14,178. Frank Heinzl and Alan Hansher were both over 10,000 miles also. Pat McCombs has earned his 200,000 mile award, and Floyd Thorne his 50,000 mile award. Pat & Floyd will receive plaques at the Christmas party.

Pete brought a sample of the club logo from Threadworks, an embroidery shop. It will be used for any new award or club jacket. New club jackets will be \$119, including all embroidery.

Election of Officers: Pete was nominated to continue as President by Don McKee. The nomination was seconded by Bob Norton. The nominations were quickly closed, and Pete was re-elected by unanimous vote. Yeah, Pete!

A temporary rule was then adopted to allow the nomination of a member not in attendance. With that, Pat McCombs was nominated and seconded for Vice-President by anonymous members, and elected to that post in absentia. Yeah, Pat!

Bill Gillespie was stupid enough to accept the secretary job again, and Floyd Thorne agreed to handle the books and money for 2009. Yeah, Bill & Floyd?

It was just not Thumper's night, as he was also awarded the Mental Meltdown award (in absentia) for his "Virtual" Killer Brownies. He was supposed to bake brownies for the October bake sale, but was a no-show then as well. He agreed over the phone to buy his own virtual brownies, and thereby contributed to the pot.

Frank won the 50/50 for a whopping \$9. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Submitted by Bill Gillespie, secretary

Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by President Pete Chronis. He seems to get about a minute better each month. We opened, as usual with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no visitors tonight, but late comers included Tory Brown and Bob Swanson. Thumper was still sick, so say the reports.

Pete received an email from the Reiner & Lisa Klappenberger. They have relocated in San Jose, CA. They thanked us for the great times with the club, and wished us all good and safe riding. The FreeWheelers certainly wish them the same good fortune, and hope they stop in for a visit when back in the area.

Pete also told the group (with an intro from Don) about his recent encounter with an "undocumented citizen" in a stolen car. Seems the fellow backed into him at a traffic light, then ran the light to get away.

The **Secretary's Report** was not accepted because the minutes of the January meeting have yet to be written. Bill promised to have them available for all in the next newsletter, if it gets printed that is.

The **Treasurer's Report** was accepted, however. Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 cash on hand; \$276.98 in the Christmas fund; and \$1,351.37 in the checking account, for a total of \$1,709.68. Of that, \$276.98, the Christmas Fund, will go to Community Ministries, and \$535.00, the proceeds from the October bake sale, will be split between the Anchor Center and Community Ministries. So, that leaves us with a mere \$897.70.

Upcoming Rides: Winter Ride Schedule - now through March. That means we will meet for breakfast each Sunday at 9am, and if the weather permits, there will be a ride starting around 10am. We will meet at the Village Inn at C-470 and Broadway.

There will be a Ride Committee meeting on Friday, January 23rd at 7 pm. The meeting will be at the Fay Myers clubhouse.

Bob Swanson won the 50/50 for \$15.50. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Submitted by Bill Gillespie, secretary

From the Chaplain

Colorado FreeWheelers' Resident Chaplain, Paul Reimer - "Boots"

Received from Boots on 2/12/09:

Here's the skinny; Today in a consultation with Dr, Quaife (my cardio doc) / University Hospital suggested after my stress test failure, that they do another catheterization in the RCA (not a television brand) this coming week. As soon as they have an opening, they will call me. He is quite concerned, not alarmed, about the stress test failure. So you are notified. Flowers, chocolates (oops not advised), cards, calls, and Mercedes & Harleys are welcomed. Home visits and meals are appreciated, following release.

Chaplain "Boots"

Paul Reimer
5481 E 65th Ave
Commerce City, CO 80022
303-288-4828

Members are urged to keep in touch with Paul, as he has no immediate family in the area. The members of our club and the MRA are his family here.

Rider of the Year, *continued from page 1*

1993 - Pat McCombs
1994 - Walt Roberts
1995 - Brian Boberick
1996 - Pat McCombs
1997 - Brian Boberick
1998 - Bruce Walters
1999 - Frank Heinzl
2000 - Sunny Norton
2001 - Bob Norton
2002 - Frank Heinzl
2003 - Pat McCombs
2004 - Bill Gillespie
2005 - Frank Heinzl
2006 - Pat McCombs
2007 - Frank Heinzl
2008 - Alan Hansher

Also stepping to the front of the room for awards, was Floyd Thorne to receive his 50,000 Mile Award. Very nice job, as Floyd rides with two clubs. And a very SPECIAL THANKS to this years recipient of the Bud Davis Helping Hands Award, which went to one of our newer members Don McKee. Don is a tireless worker for the Freewheelers, and rescued a number of our members on the road in 2008. We appreciated all you did this year, Don.

Thumper

PS: My thanks to the club, for my 200,000 Mile Plaque. Lots of great times within those miles.

CFW Hysterical Historical Tour

RULES:

- ☛ This contest will begin with the first scheduled ride of April 2009 and finish with the last scheduled ride of September 2009.
- ☛ Participating members must acquire a towel and select a number (1~99) which will be used to identify his/her participation.
- ☛ Selected numbers must be approved by the judges (Frank Heinzl & Bob Norton) to avoid duplication.
- ☛ Participating members must affix their selected number to the towel in some fashion and size which will allow it to be seen clearly from a distance.
- ☛ Participating members must submit photos which include the following:
 - 1) The numbered towel.
 - 2) Their motorcycle or a part thereof.
 - 3) The historical sign, plaque, place or building (with sign).
- ☛ All 3 items listed above must be clearly recognizable in each photo.
- ☛ Only one photo per location may be submitted.
- ☛ Members must appear as individuals (NO GROUP SHOTS) in each submitted photo.
- ☛ Acceptable locations must all have a sign denoting the historical aspect, they may include but are not limited to:
 - Historical Museums
 - Ghost Towns (must have a town sign)
 - Historical plaques, markers, or monuments.
 - Roadside points of interest or historical signs.

POINT SYSTEM:

- ☛ Each submitted photo meeting the base criteria is worth **4 points**.
- ☛ If you manage to get yourself in the photo as well you'll receive an additional 2 points for a total of **6 points**.
- ☛ An additional 4 points will be awarded if the photo contains a member and his/her passenger in the same photo for a total of **10 points**. No additional towel for the passenger is required.

NOTE: Remember! Only one photo per location will be accepted. Members cannot submit a photo showing a member and his/her passenger and a photo showing the member as an individual from the same location.

SUBMITTING PHOTOS:

- ☛ Digital photos are acceptable.
 - Any manipulation of a digital photo meant to deceive the judges will automatically and totally disqualify the member from this and any other future contests of this type conducted by the CFW.
- ☛ Digital photos should be submitted to the judges via email to freewheelinfrank1@msn.com. A verification message of receipt will be sent to the submitting member. It is strongly suggested members keep these receipts to eliminate any disputes which may occur. If a member does not receive a verification receipt within 5 days after submitting a photo the member should contact the judges via phone (303) 295-7137. Leave a message if you do not speak to a judge directly.
- ☛ If a member chooses to submit other forms of photographic entries they must in some way contain the following information on the back of the photo:
 - 1) The name of the submitting member
 - 2) The date the photo was taken
- ☛ All questions concerning the rules of the contest must be directed to and can only be approved by the contest judges (Frank Heinzl & Bob Norton).

This contest is meant to be fun and to promote interesting riding experiences to all those who choose to participate. Please use common sense and keep safety uppermost in your mind when acquiring your photos. The decisions of the judges are final. We look forward to announcing the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place contest winners at the CFW annual Christmas Dinner in December.

Always Say Thanks

I feel sometimes that motorcycle clubs, and motorcycle riders expect way to much from dealers, outside motorcycle sources, and contacts in the motorcycling community. Yes! we spend a great deal of money for motorcycles, and the accessories that go on them, but that is a choice we make when we do business with any type of a "Big Ticket Purchase". It strikes me that to many riders, and clubs after a "Big Ticket Purchase", expect the dealer to shower them with "Freebies" for the rest of their days on the planet.

That I think, is one of the reasons that we continue to ride with the Colorado Freewheelers M/C. The Freewheelers have never been one of the clubs that leans on the dealerships, nor does it expect a lot of the dealers. What we have had, is a great working relationship with many area's of the motorcycling community. For the last twenty-six years, we as a club have been blessed with a number of people who have been loyal to our club, and the many causes we have been involved in over the years. These folks would get word of something the Freewheelers were getting ready to take on, and it was always "What can we do to help.

Who in our club, can forget all that Dave & Kay Weinstock and the entire staff of the old Lakewood Honda Ltd did for us those many years. Working projects from both sides of the fence. Some great things came out of that store, that are still in place today. Vinny Terranova & Kathy Yeavolli owners of Rocky Mountain Harley Davidson Motor Company who have for all these years stood behind a Honda motorcycle club. Sam Clothier, who for many years owned Bob's Towing Service. Never once charged for towing motorcycles, covered the entire route of the 1000/24 and got breakdowns back to Denver. Ron Chambers, owner of Sunlite Donuts. Made sure, that what ever type of event the Freewheelers were doing at the time that they had a fresh supply of donuts for the event. Horace Fleming & Gerry Morris of the Frito Lay Corporation, who kept us supplied with more chips & cookies than an army could eat in a life time. Bill Gillespie, who has donated more time & material for every event for almost our entire run of the club. Lloyd Chavez Sr. & Gordon Markovich of the Burt Automotive Group. They saw to it that we had a nice place to meet, opened the service department when we needed to work on our bikes. Many a good stories there getting ready

for the Tri State Auto Show every year, and an endless supply of door prizes. Fay Myers Motorcycle World, who have provided us a great meeting room since 2003. Murphy Huston of KOSI radio, Tony LaMonica of KHOW & ABC radio and Peter Boyles of KHOW radio. The Three Amigo's who have been with us for the entire run. If we put it together, they got it on the air for us. Jim Blumenthal & Jack Starr at RPM MotorSports. Although Jim is kind of the new kid on the block, Jack was raised by the whole crew at the old Lakewood Honda, and learned the industry well. Both like to get involved with the Freewheelers, and are always looking at new projects. And a little note to Dave Moothart, who is Service Manager at RPM MotorSports. Dave has worked hard the last two years to make sure the guys from the Freewheelers & RMVTA have a home like we had for years at Lakewood Honda.

There are not enough ways to thank all of these folks, for tagging along, on what has been a wonderful ride. The friendships are many, the support awesome. I am sure that I speak for the entire club. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL.

*Pat "Thumper" McCombs
Colorado Freewheelers Member*

Colorado Freewheelers
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