

The Eagle Times

Colorado FreeWheelers

April, 2009

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, April 16, 2009
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
7:00 pm

www.cofreewheelers.org/

Ride for the Son

Pat McCombs

Annual Blossom Festival

Saturday, May 2nd, 2009

This will be the Colorado Freewheelers 5th Annual Run in support of the Canon Crusaders (CMA) Run for the Son Poker Run. Larry Harkins CFW member, is also President of the Canyon City Colorado group. It is always a fun time, and on our return from the poker run, everyone can walk around and enjoy the Blossom Festival for the remainder of the day. Riders can return to Denver at a time that works for them.

Ride: Saturday May 2nd 2009

Leave Time: 7:00 a.m.

Ride leaves from: Village Inn, at C470 & South Broadway

Arrive: Fremont Motorsports in Florence Colorado around 8:45 a.m.

Donation: What ever you feel you want to give. no set entry amount.

Coffee & Donuts will be there for the riders coming in before the poker run starts. Should cover about 100 miles, and will be back in time for lunch served by the Canon Crusaders. Good eats and lots of door prizes. 1st Place poker hand gets a set of new tires. Should be a fun filled day.

Thumper

Bake & Craft Sale

If you have any money left after dealing with various governmental agencies, please bring it to the meeting this Thursday night. We will be having our annual "In Lieu of Dues" charity bake sale. And the charity is you!... and all of us. The money goes to our treasury, not the US Treasury.

The members decided many years ago to have a fundraiser instead of dues to support the club's expenses. Although a bake sale may not be the most original idea for a fundraiser, it's worked pretty well over the years. After all, we all like to eat.

Several of the members bake items each year that have become somewhat of a tradition. Others will pay way too much for a store bought delight. The club also possesses some

members with actual talent. Those people make some very sought-after items in the craft category.

Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne is always complaining how little money we have, and this is our chance to make him smile. The traditional auctioneer is Bob Norton, aided by his lovely assistant, Frank Heinzl.

It's sure to be the social event of the season. Well, maybe not, but it will be a fun evening, and tasty too. We'll have a short business meeting, and get after the goodies and treasures about 7:30.

So, if you care about your club, bake something, make something, buy something to sell, or come buy something at the sale, but we need you there!

Upcoming Rides

Norm's Wild Goose Chase

Sunday, April 19 10:00am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: ? miles
Leaders: Norman (*Monkey Wrench*) Roeder
Join with us as we chase the goose, "Norman" all over the front range. Never a dull moment on this ride, the first one of spring.

Wet Mountain Valley Ride

Sunday, April 26 9:00am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: ? miles
Ride Leader: Bill (*Wing Commander*) Gillespie
The Wet Mountain Valley lies in southern Colorado South of the Arkansas River. Bordered by the Wet Mountains to the East, and the Sangre de Cristo Range to the West, a ride there this time of year should offer some very scenic views of the snow covered Sangres.

Canon City Blossom Festival Ride/CMA Poker Run

Saturday, May 2 7:00/8:00am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: 270 miles
Ride Leaders: Frank (*Freewheelin'*) Heinzel / Pat (*Thumper*) McCombs
See article on page 1 for details.

Fay Myers Open House

Saturday, May 2 9:00am

Location: Fay Myers Motorcycle World, 9700 E Arapahoe Rd
Approx: Open Ride Mileage Applies
Organizer: Fay Myers Motorcycle World
This is becoming an annual right of Spring at Fay Myers where we get to promote our club and rides. Frank (*Freewheelin'*) Heinzel will provide 1000-IN-24 shirts & hats to display and ride guides as well as 1000-IN-24 entry forms. All members are welcome to come by sit in the booth for a while and help promote the club.

Experienced Rider Course

Sunday, May 3 8:30am

Meet at: Jefferson County Stadium, SE corner of Kipling and US-6
Approx: 50 miles
Ride Leader: Robert "*Knight Rider*" Norton
Here's a chance to hone your riding skills for the upcoming year, and take a refresher course in motorcycle safety. Some if not all of the cost may be reimbursed by your riding organization such as HRCA, or HOG. Call Bob at (303)915-7742 to reserve a spot if you haven't already.

A Day at the Races

Saturday, May 9 9:00 am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: 150 miles
Ride Leader: Frank (*Freewheelin'* Franklin') Heinzel

This will be the very first motorcycle road-races held at the new High Plains Raceway. The track is located 16 miles East of Byers, CO on US-36. It should be an exciting event.

Armed Forces Day Ride/Run for the Wall

Sunday, May. 16 8:00 am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: 460-620 miles
Ride leader: Frank (*Freewheelin'* Franklin') Heinzel

This year we will be joining the Run for the Wall riders as they pass through Colorado on their way to Washington DC. The riders will be passing through Trinidad at around 11:00am on their way to La Junta for a lunch stop, so we should be able to meet them there and ride at the tail of the group at least as far as Limon, maybe even to Burlington where they will be staying for the night.

T3RG Civilian Top Gun

Sunday May 17

Location: Invesco Field at Mile High
Organizer: T3RG
Mileage: Charity mileage applies

Motorcyclists from all over the metro area will come together to test their riding skills against other civilian motorcyclists and to support the needs of severely wounded soldiers with houses being built to serve their special needs. Navigating the precision maneuvers that motorcycle police use in the ultimate professional riding challenge, bikers will compete to raise money for the bravest of our young men. Thousands were raised last year by the competitors and spectators of the event benefiting Homes for our Troops providing specially adapted homes for our severely injured service members.

Trail Ridge Road Ride

Saturday, May 30 8:00 am

Leave from: Village Inn, C-470 & Broadway
Approx: 250 miles
Ride Leader: Frank (*Freewheelin'* Franklin') Heinzel

This has become some what of a right of spring to see how early in the season we can ride over the highest continuously paved highway in the US.

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Pete Chronis. Again, there was no flag in the room, so there was no Pledge of Allegiance to it. There were no visitors, but we were happy to see Rex Young & Bruce Waters.

The **Secretary's Report** was tabled until the April meeting because the secretary didn't get them done.

The **Treasurer's Report** was accepted because the treasurer did get his report done. Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 cash on hand; \$15.50 in the Christmas fund; and \$871.30 in the checking account, for a total of \$968.13.

Upcoming Rides: Ride books for the season were passed out and will be available at future meetings.

Fay Myers will be holding their Spring Open House on May 2nd. Jon, Floyd and Norm will be our recruiters. Bill will make up a handout for any prospective members.

The fee for the 1000-IN-24 will be increased to \$60 to cover the cost of the 25th anniversary coin to be produced.

Boots had another stent placed in one of his heart arteries, and Willy Taylor is slowly recovering from back surgery.

Pat nominated Alan for the Missing Link award for his nifty dismount on the Garden of the Gods ride. That being the only nomination, well, you know....

Floyd Thorne won the 50/50 for \$8.50, and just barely got his money back.

Submitted by Bill Gillespie, secretary

Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Pete Chronis. There was no flag in the room, so there was no Pledge of Allegiance to it. Steve Chadwick from T3RG Motorcycle Training was the lone guest. Steve told the group about the 2nd Annual Civilian Top Gun competition to be held at Invesco Field on Sunday, May 17th. The Top Gun will once again be sponsored by T3RG, and will be a benefit for "Homes for Troops" to help build specialized homes for handicapped returning veterans.

The **Secretary's Report** containing minutes from the November and January meetings was approved as printed.

The **Treasurer's Report** was also accepted without undue stress. Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 cash on hand; \$15.50 in the Christmas fund; and \$871.30 in the checking account, for a total of \$968.13.

Upcoming Rides: The schedule is still being compiled. Open rides will last through March. Norm's Wild Goose Chase will be March 4th. Ride books will be handed out at the March meeting.

Safety Committee: Bob told everyone to "be safe, and watch for sand & wind."

Willy Taylor is recovering from back surgery, but his progress is very slow.

Boots will have yet another heart catheterization procedure on Friday.

Bob Swanson won the 50/50 for \$16, and donated it back to the club.

Submitted by Bill Gillespie, secretary

CFW Hysterical Historical Tour

The rules for the 2009 season-long photo contest were published in the February issue. Frank & Bob wanted to make sure everyone under-

stood the requirements for both photos and signage. Here is a sample of acceptable photos.



Odds & Ends

E-mail contacts

Messages have been received from John Vitale (in Florida, may be out this way this summer), John & Joan Wangenstein (they are doing well in Minnesota), Marc Beaulieu (in Arizona), Lisa and Reiner Kappenberger (in California), Jim & Carol Kelly (Jim is recovering from som knee problems) and Judy Palier (in New Mexico). All noted that they enjoy reading the Eagle Times either on-line or by snail mail. I have made copies of the messages, and will have them at the meetings.

2009 Polar Bear Ride

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 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 on New Years 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.

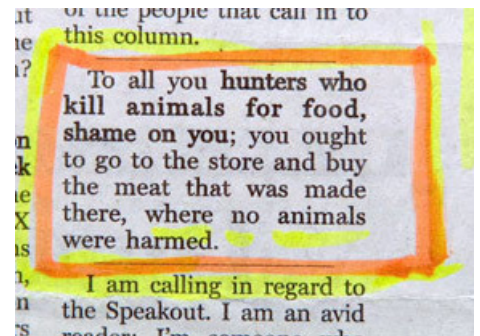
After leaving the Village Inn, the riders took C-470 east to I-25, then south to Castle Rock, then east on Highway 86 to Franktown, Elizabeth and Kiowa, before taking I-70 to Limon.

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 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 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.

Bedrock



This person is qualified to be a politician

From the Chaplain

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

Boots is recovering from his latest heart procedure last month. I'm sure he would appreciate calls and cards from the membership.

He has been staying pretty busy, though. He has been helping with the production of Passion Play - Denver through Easter weekend.

This invitation was received from Boots recently:

This ole codger is going to do something he has never done before, so come and see what he is going to do?

WHO: The Ole Codger
WHEN: Saturday, April 18, 2:00 pm
WHERE: 5481 East 65th Avenue, Commerce City, CO

That should be a great time to drop in on Boots and tell him how much he is appreciated.



True Motorcycle Safety

submitted by Floyd Thorne

Colorado FreeWheelers
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