

The Eagle Times

Colorado FreeWheelers

June, 2007

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, June 21, 2007
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
7:00 pm

www.cofreewheelers.org/

A note from your President

Editor's Note: The following article was written for the May issue of the Eagle Times. Since there was no May issue, just pretend it's last month, and get over it.

As I sit here in the second week of May, watching it snow (again) I have to say, its been a long winter. We have had just enough good days of weather to really make you want to ride. Yes, we have gotten in a few good rides and have had some good fellowship but I know that many of you are planning big trips for the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, just a few weeks away, and would like to see a big change in both temperature and moisture.

Well, with that said I want to THANK YOU ALL for the participation that you have shown thus far this year. We had a good and fun bake sale last month which brought in just under \$1,000.00, a really good start for this year. Money is now coming in for the 1000/24 thanks to Frank's hard work, so another thank you there.

We have been getting about 12 people each Sunday morning for the open ride breakfasts and sometimes rides so thank you there too. And another one to Thumper for putting together a fun outing for the "Fill In The Blanks Ride."

We had three new members at our last meeting, so thank you to them and welcome. Now when you think back to the last few meetings or outings, think of one of our members you have not seen lately, give them a call and encourage them to participate. We need to look after our own!!

One more note!!!!, We all need to pay close attention to the ride book. This time of the year there are different start **times** for the different events that we have scheduled.

So, you're going to make a call, and then prey for better weather!! Check the ride book for the next start **time**.

And THANK YOU,

NOMAD

Hyder Seek

Floyd Thorne

I don't know where to begin, really. My traveling partners and I have looked forward to this trip for several months. Seems like with the winter that we just went through most of us were really ready to "Get out of Dodge" on a long extended trip of some sort.



I had purchased some Gerbing heated garments recently; a heated jacket liner, pants and gloves. Somehow I figured that if ever there was a time to justify the investment that this was as good as any. The thing that I found while wearing them was that instead of exhausting a lot of mental and physical energies worrying and trying to deal with the cold, you could actually focus on the ride and the safety necessary for a good and enjoyable journey.

If we were not riding in the rain (with its associated cooler temperatures),

continued on page 3

Upcoming Rides

June 21	RMVTA Dinner Ride	July 6	Drive In Movie Ride
June 24	Figure 8 Ride	July 8	Wind & Fire Benefit Run
June 30	Haunted Places Tour	July 14/15	21st Annual Ladies Run of Colo.
July 4	Firecracker 5280 Ride	July 22	Sponsors Appreciation Picnic

See the Ride Book or Website for all the details on these and other FreeWheelers rides!

Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President, Jon Lofstedt. Visitors included Rich Williams of Fort Collins who rides a ST-1100, Michelle Walbert who rides a Harley FLH, and Jim Mennier of Bailey who rides a Honda VTX-1800. Welcome to you all! Gary Davis of Church in the Wind gave the invocation in the absence of Chaplain Boots.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without incident.

Treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 in cash, \$764.68 in checking, and \$65.50 in the Christmas Fund for a total of \$911.51. We will incur a fee of \$120.00 for web hosting.

Past Rides: Norm's Wild Goose Chase was well attended including a guest rider by the name of Michelle. Nobody seemed to know Michelle's last name, but she rode a Shadow. The Church in the Wind Bike Blessing saw nearly 400 people but only 6 bikes due to the snowy weather. There was plenty of food, and another blessing is scheduled for May 6th. An Open Ride on April 15th covered 241 miles and included Peak to Peak Highway, Estes Park, and Loveland. There were eight or so riders.

Upcoming Rides: The Fill In The Blanks Ride will be April 22nd and will cover about 135 miles of twisties with 25 blanks to fill in. Breakfast will be at 8:00am, with the first bikes out at 9:00.

1000-IN-24: Frank reported three entries so far. He said he finally got his SS1000 certificates from the Iron Butt Assn. for his ride to and from Iowa last year. We are still waiting for the items from the IBA for the 1000-IN-24 last year.

Safety: Bob Norton reminded us to be prepared for any weather condition. The weather in Colorado can change quickly, especially this time of year. Also, stay hydrated. Just because it's not real hot, it doesn't mean you don't need to drink water.

There was a discussion at the March meeting about wearables with one idea being an anniversary shirt commemorating our 25th year. Jon got some info on a very nice shirt from Fox Fire. A picture will be published in the next newsletter. We will need to order 20 or more for a price of about \$46/ea.

The Hankinson family sent their thanks to the FreeWhealers for their support and love for Walt. Memorial patches for Walt will be available soon. A motion was made to rename the Rider of the Year trophy in Walt's name. The motion passed unanimously.

50/50: With a total of \$47 in the pot, Alan Hansher won \$23.50. Ron Hall got the free Christmas dinner.

Thumper won the Mental Meltdown Award. He was taking some great pictures with his new digital camera on a recent open ride. The only problem was that the data card for the camera was in the SD slot in his computer at home.

The motion to adjourn and get on with the bake sale was made at 8:23.

Submitted by Secretary, Bill Gillespie

Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by President, Jon Lofstedt. Visitors included Paul Apjoke who rides a 2005 Goldwing.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, I guess. I don't really know because I was late. My thanks to Don McKee for starting the notes. On second thought, the April minutes couldn't have been approved because I just transcribed them not 15 minutes ago.

Treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 in cash, \$1,759.68 in checking, and \$89.50 in the Christmas Fund for a total of \$1,930.51. We will incur a fee of \$120.00 for web hosting. We took in \$965.00 For the Bake Sale at the April meeting.

Past Rides: The Church in the Wind Bike Blessing was covered. The Fill In The Blanks Ride had 10 bike participating. *Editor's Note: Becky and I got hosed!* Frank reported on his ride with Rhonda to Walsenburg where the met up with Bruce Waters.

Upcoming Rides: The Run for the Wall Ride will depart for Trinidad at 8am on May 19th. We will meet the cross-country parade and ride with them to Limon. The Royal Gorge Train Ride will be June 2nd. The Gateway Auto Museum Ride will be June 9/10. The Aluminum Butt Ride will be June 16th.

Safety: Bob Norton simply told all to "be safe."

1000-IN-24: Frank reported the route has been selected by the members of the committee from 11 route submitted over the past few years. Alan Hansher will be given a free pass this year for submitting the selected route. IBA SS1000 certificate applications will be available again this year. Maybe we'll get our stuff from last year before this year's ride.

A motion was made by Don McKee and seconded by Bob for the club to purchase 100 Walt Hankinson memorial patches and offer them to members who want them.

Frank indicated that the club's sponsorship of a plaque for the Ladies Run of Colorado had been previously approved. He got a check for \$75. On a related note, former LROC committee member and FreeWheeler Terry Maniscalco has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will undergo surgery soon. We wish her all the best in her fight.

50/50: Frank won \$10. There was no Mental Meltdown Award as Thumper was not here. I guess he can just keep it another month.

The motion to adjourn was made at 7:53.

Submitted by Secretary, Bill Gillespie

From the Chaplain

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

Should you ever need to contact me, I am available. My phone number is 303-288-4828. You can Email me at cbpr842@aol.com.

Until then, ride safely, and remember you do not have to ride alone.

Chaplain "Boots"

Passport Shirt



This is the shirt that has been proposed for the 25th Anniversary of our club.

- The perfect shirt for travel and adventure
- Large button chest pockets
- Zip pockets behind chest pockets are large enough for airline tickets and passport
- Compass pocket on left sleeve
- Shoulder epaulettes
- Roll up sleeve tabs
- Two button cuff adjustment
- Fabric - washed and brushed cotton
- Colors - Khaki, Indigo and Stone
- Sizes - XS-3XL

There will be discussion about a group purchase of this shirt at the June meeting.

Hyder Seek, *continued*

we were often times riding on wet roads where the rain had passed before us. There were also several occasions where we were getting sleet and snow in the air and on a couple occasions where we had to ride in the tracks to avoid the two to three inches of slush. Don't get me wrong, we had many hundreds of miles where the sun was shining beautifully. But even then, in most cases, just having the garments on was very comfortable without having them powered.

The moral of this part of the story is that if you like to ride all year long or even in the early spring and later fall seasons you can be as comfortable as you desire. Just dial the thermostat to your desired level of comfort and enjoy the ride. I felt that my garments actually paid for themselves on this trip alone.

I also recently purchased a refurbished Garmin 2610 GPS unit. I have always been a little envious of the fellows that have them (not necessarily the 2610 but rather any GPS model.) I know around town you just have to key in an address and it will take you there without having to use a map or a lot of trial and error. On a trip like this one you could key in the next major city you plan to travel to and it gives you the route, distance to the next turn and total mileage to that destination. It enables you to plan your gas stops and get more distance out of each tank because you know what towns are out in front of you and how far they are away.

It also, when zoomed into a pretty close view, enables you to see the route over the rise and around the bend which enables you to position yourself ready to setup and take the next bend in the road. I certainly can't use it to the extent that some in our group could, but I hope to be able to very soon. It was sure fun though to see the route just as they did and know where we were going and how long it would take to get there.

I had been to Canada in 2005 and was well aware of the beauty of the Canadian Rockies and longed to get back up there. Of course on this trip we were able to see even more of the beautiful country that we did in 2005. If you have never had the opportunity to see British Columbia and the western side of Alberta, I strongly recommend that you include it in your vacation plans in the future.

We saw some of the most beautiful and LARGE rivers that I had ever seen. Most of them literally make our South Platte look like a stream. With all that beautiful water almost everywhere it was surprising to me not to see more boating or other human activity. I could not help but think that living right there, that many

people take it all for granted just as many people take our beautiful Colorado mountains for granted, and don't get up there often to enjoy them.

There are not many people that you know that can say they have been to Alaska, EVER, let alone to have ridden there on a motorcycle. I have not been in all of the "Lower 48" as they say "YET", but I can color in Alaska on my cloth patch of states having been to. I had a wonderful time and it was a GREAT experience and opportunity. Would I do it again? – In a heartbeat. Maybe not next year, like many folks have, but I will be back!

I would like to say thank you to my traveling companions for their knowledge in the areas of navigation and the ways of long distance touring, as well as for their fellowship and camaraderie. I look forward to traveling with each and every one of you again one day soon.

Bob Norton has posted over 700 photos taken by all five riders. The collection can be viewed at:

<http://rides.webshots.com/album/559195919RCWsl>

Click on "Slideshow" in the upper right corner, and enjoy the trip.

Floyd Thorne, Mr. "T"

Dear Freewheelers,

On behalf of the Hankinson Family, I would like to thank the Colorado Freewheelers Motorcycle Club for the great tribute to "Pop." Knowing that you cared so much about him is heartwarming.

We consider you our Colorado Family and grew to love so many of you during the time of Pop's illness. There was always someone there to ensure that Pop's wishes and needs were met and those of the family as well. The care, kindness, and love you have given us will always be cherished.

The 'support team' was fantastic and aided greatly in easing the pain of Pop's passing. We are truly grateful and forever in your debt. I can speak for all the others in saying that we have left much of our hearts with you in Colorado.

God Keep you His Graces.

With love and appreciation,

Carol J. Figarra

Fay Myers Motorcycle World Open House 2007

To say that Fay Myers Motorcycle World open house on April 14th was a success, would be a gross understatement. It was a day the Motorcycling community had been waiting for since we got bogged down with snow starting back on December 19th of 2006. The sun came out, no clouds, sixty degree weather. A perfect day to catch up with friends, meet other clubs, and help out the Fay Myers staff, who were over run with bikers.

Some of the local clubs were there with booths set up, and both the FreeWheelers & RMVTA Motorcycle clubs seem to be doing a brisk business in the recruitment of new members. The Freewheelers were also handing out a number of entry forms for this year's upcoming 1000-IN-24 event.

Two Colorado FreeWheeler/RMVTA members Bill Gillespie and Floyd Thorne, put on their cooking hats to help out the event. Looked like they cooked hot dogs for many hundreds of riders and guests. I thought mine was a little over cooked, but what the hell! Couldn't beat the price.

Lots going on, with guys doing burn outs, ramp jumping, trick riding etc. There was certainly something for everyone. Even the youngsters were slow racing on Honda 50's.

There was a booth next to the FreeWheelers that was really busy, called the "Big Ear." They are out of Colorado Springs, and deal in custom molded ear plugs among other things. Seemed to generate a lot of interest among members from both clubs.

This member would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to Frank Heinzl for all of his efforts in putting the display together for this event. To the other members who pitched in, thank you as well. There were a number of you who worked the booth. Frank was telling me later in the afternoon, that he had logged in some twenty plus members who came out that day.

Last but not least, thank you Fay Myers for the invite to be part of your day. It appeared that we all had a wonderful time.

Thumper

Hyder Seek 2007



The Athabaska Glacier - Columbia Icefields south of Jasper, AB



The Sealaska Inn, Hyder Alaska. Yes, that's a snowdrift in the foreground. Hyder, AK and Stewart, BC received over 35 feet of snow this past winter.



The bear watching was good. Mom & cubs near where we were standing in the photo on page 1, two days earlier.

To see over 700 photos, go to Bob Norton's group collection:
<http://rides.webshots.com/album/559195919RCWsl>