

The Eagle Times

Colorado FreeWheelers

August, 2007

NEXT MEETING **Thursday, August 16, 2007** **Fay Myers Motorcycle World** **7:00 pm**

www.cofreewheelers.org/

Upcoming Rides

23rd Annual 1000-IN-24

Saturday, Aug. 18 - 2:00-4:00am

Leave from: Fay Myers Motorcycle World, 9700 E Arapahoe Rd.

Approx: 1000+ miles (in 24 or less hours)

Ride Organizer: Frank (Freewheelin') Heinzl

After doing this annual club fundraiser for 22 years you'd think we'd have run out of routes that were not duplicates of previous rides, but we still have a few tricks up our collective sleeves. The longest running event of its kind, this years ride promises to leave no one involved disappointed. As in the past discounted IBA SS-1k certification is available upon ride completion in the allotted time. Pre-registration only by Aug. 3. \$50.00 entry fee per motorcycle, includes hat, shirt, & pin. \$90.00 for couples. Extra goodies available to club members at cost, if they volunteer to work the event, and are not entered as riders. Go to the club web site for more information and an entry form.
www.cofreewheelers.org

RMVTA August Dinner Ride

Thursday, August 23 - 6:30 pm

Leave from: Fay Myers Motorcycle World, 9700 E. Arapahoe Road

Approx: ? miles

Ride leader: Connie & Steve Benko, 303-521-3844

Pioneer Trail Ride

Sunday, August 26 - 6:00 am

Leave from: Ramada Inn, 120th & I-25

Approx: 420 miles

Ride leader: Cliff Eudy, 303-947-3854

This will be another historic sightseeing ride to explore the early pioneer sites in South central Wyoming. Stops will include the Register Cliffs, Oregon Trail Ruts, and Fort Laramie.

Open Ride

Sunday, September 2 - 9:00 am

Leave from: Your Neighborhood Grill, 1500 W Littleton Blvd.

Approx: ? miles

Ride leader: TBD

We've got a hole here lets fill it and have a ride somewhere.

Colorado Freewheelers Sponsors Grill Out

Sunday, September 9 - 9:00 am

Leave from: TBD

Approx: ? miles

Ride leaders:

Pat (Thumper) McCombs, 303-601-3980

Jon (Nomad) Lofstedt, 303-816-6555

Please keep your eyes on your e-mail for details on this ride and cook out. It will involve a day ride, with a nice cookout at the end of the day, to honor our sponsors.

Hare and Hound Chase

Sunday, Sept. 16 - 9:00 am

Leave from: Fay Myers Motorcycle World, 9700 E Arapahoe Rd.

Approx: ? miles

Ride Organizers: Bill (Wing Commander) & Becky (Stud Muffin) Gillespie

If you've never been on a Hare & Hound, the Hares (Bill & Becky) will depart early, ahead of the Hounds (everyone else), leaving clues as to their route. If you successfully follow the clues you'll find them at the end of the run, if not you'll get thoroughly lost. If you get lost you can cheat by calling them on their cell phone to find out where they are, so you can join everyone else. If you are the first to find the Hares, you may win a fabulous prize! If you are the last to arrive, you will absolutely win a prize.

Fall Color Ride South Overnighter

Sat-Sun, Sept 22-23 - 8:00 am

Leave from: Mineral Light Rail Station,

Mineral Blvd & Santa Fe Dr.

Approx. 360 mi. Sat, 370 mi. Sun

Ride leader: Brian (BB) Boberick,

303-919-0899 or 303-933-7074

We'll explore the great aspen, and scrub oak colors in the high country from Denver to Gunnison via Fairplay, Del Norte, South Fork, and Lake City on day one, then Day 2 will take in the colors from Gunnison to Denver, via Crawford, Hotchkiss, McClure Pass, Independence Pass, Tennessee Pass, Vail Pass, and Loveland Pass. Motel info will be forthcoming.

Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by President, Jon Lofstedt. At the outset of the meeting, there were seventeen members present. With rain in the area, only five of them braved the elements. There visitor no visitors.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved without anyone getting hurt. Treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 in cash, \$989.74 in checking, and \$122.00 in the Christmas Fund for a total of \$1,193.07.

There was apparently some praise bestowed upon the newsletter editor for the most recent publication. It's just too bad I was late, and wasn't there to enjoy it. My thanks to Don McKee for taking notes until I arrived.

Pat McCombs informed the group about George Barrett's injury on a recent ride. The pavement caught George's boot during a right lean and pulled his foot under the bike breaking several bones in his foot and leg. He will need surgery to repair the damage. Since George and his family have been dealing with his health problems already, some discussion ensued about providing some financial help for them. It was decided that there will be a bake sale at the August meeting. The RMVTA and others will be invited to participate, and the club will also buy a 25th anniversary shirt for George.

Orders were taken for club shirts commemorating the 25th anniversary of the club's formation.

Deward Knapp, formerly of BMW Denver gave a presentation on XS Energy Drinks. He provided samples of the various products he offers online. Deward offered to supply an energy or sports drink to each participant in the 1000-IN-24. There was a motion made to that effect, and it was approved. He will be allowed to set up a small display at the start.

Motion made to sponsor George Barnes in the Iron Butt Rally for \$200. (later amended to include Reiner and Lisa Kappenberger, who will also be participants). Motion was passed.

Thumper nominated Brian Boberick for the Mental Meltdown award for letting the battery run dry on his Gold Wing so that it wouldn't start at the Drive-In Movie Ride. Brian also noted that the oil level didn't register on the dipstick either. At that point the nominations were closed, and Brian was presented with the award.

50/50: Donna McCombs won \$26.

The meeting was adjourned, but I didn't write down the time this month either.

Submitted by Secretary, Bill Gillespie

A Fundraiser for our Friend

Pat McCombs

As so many times in years past, I come to our little group asking for your help. For the last twenty-five years, the Colorado Freewheelers have not been able to save the world, but we've sure helped a number of our biker friends who have fallen on hard times.

On Thursday night, **August 16th**, the Colorado Freewheelers will be having a Special Bake Sale at our monthly meeting. The proceeds of this sale will be going to the George Barrett Family, who have fallen on very tough times. Not that they did not have enough issues to deal with, several weeks ago George broke his foot in four spots, and his leg in three spots while riding his bike. There was no crash, but his foot was pulled under the bike on a sharp right curve. We all know how George likes those curves!

It is our hope, that the Colorado Freewheelers will come out in force to support this Bake Sale. We have also invited the RMVTA to join us as well, and some other outside biking community friends.

I know for some of you that Bake Sales are not your cup of tea. But if you could reach for that check book, and send something in, it would be greatly appreciated. Make Checks out to the Colorado Freewheelers.

Checks can be mailed to

Colorado Freewheelers

P.O. Box 1886

Englewood, Colorado 80150-1886

We look forward to seeing one and all. It should be a very fun and rewarding evening. So, put your bake goods together, craft goods, and anything else you think might go well at this fund raiser.

On a personal note, this may be the most expensive lemon meringue pie I will ever purchase. There will also be plenty of Thumper's Killer Brownies to be enjoyed.

Thanks for your time.

Pat "Thumper" McCombs

IBR Sponsorship

The following e-mail was received by Floyd Thorne after he send a sponsorship check to Reiner and Lisa Kappenberger for their upcoming assault on the Iron Butt Rally.

Floyd, and all it may concern,

WOW, what a nice surprise we just got in the mail :-)

We are very honored about this sponsorship by the Colorado Freewheelers - we are proud being members of this club, even so we are lacking on active participating.

But please don't be offended if we do not accept this check. We would rather see the club is spending it for charity or for something all of the active members can have a share of it.

We are doing this crazy ride because of us and only for us. It will be the biggest challenge we take on together since the day we arrived in this wonderful country exactly 7 years ago on the day we cross (hopefully!) the finish line in St.Louis! So again a big thank you to all who made this decision in supporting us that way.

Sincerely, Reiner and Lisa

Editor's Note: The Kappenbergers were affraid they had offended some of us. After I assured them that was not the case, I then received the following:

All,

We are very happy that we didn't offend anyone of you, which we value very highly, as this would not have been our intention at all by declining this precious gift.

Please feel free and use the \$200 for what you think will be in the best charity meaning. We would love to keep the cheque (but will void it out) as a reminder of the generosity from the Freewheelers who think so highly of us - we will do our best not to embarrass the Colorado Freewheelers ;-)

Hope we can join you on the 9th of September for the BBQ and have a little celebration of whatever nutty things we did in the IBR.

Sincerely, Reiner + Lisa

Odds & Ends

Community Ministry Walk

The Community Ministry will be having a fundraising walk on Sunday, August 26th. The Ministry runs a very needed food bank and is one of our charities each year. In fact, they receive half the amount collected from the 50/50 each month.

The walk will begin at Sister City Park, behind the Red Robin Restaurant at 3333 S. Wadsworth at 2:00pm. Participants will walk from there to Bear Creek Park at Hampden and Raleigh for a party with music, games and food. Shuttles will be provided to take walkers back to the start, or to the start depending on which end of the walk they leave their car or bike.

The goal is to raise \$10,000, so there is a minimum \$20 registration fee. Of course, additional donations and pledges are welcome. T-shirts will be given to pre-registered walkers. Registration and pledge forms may be obtained on their web site:

www.comministry-denver.org

Click on "Late Breaking News".

From Mr. AMA

Just a note to say hello and let you know that the ol' guy is still hanging in there. We are in AZ. Stayed this summer since my ol' bod needed some repair. Repaired: veins in legs, right eye cataract.

Hope this note finds all of you in good stead and hello to the whole gang.

Marc "Mr. AMA" Beaulieu



Photo by Floyd Thorne

Schaffer's Accident

Herb & Lynda were involved in a single-bike accident recently, and the following was received by Don McKee from Herb:

The mishap occurred Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. We were in the process of completing the Trail Ridge — Walden — Poudre Canyon loop back over Stove Prairie Road.

It had been raining for about an hour and we were in the process of crossing a cattle guard in the apex of a very tight downhill curve. Not my idea of a good route. I slowed the bike, brought her upright, thought I had crossed the "guard" — then leaned into the next bit of roadway. WHAM! The bike slid out from under us faster than greased lightning.

Lynda had a broken collarbone and a dislocated finger. I had the typical mild rib trauma plus a severely sprained ankle. My ribs and Lynda's collarbone are more or less healed, but her finger and my ankle are still slowing us down somewhat.

Ah, well, we're doing OK. Thanks for your warm "well wishes."

See you soon, Herb

The Transformation of Willy Taylor

Our own Willy Taylor has undergone a transformation in recent weeks. Yes, Willy got a true haircut for the first time in many, many years.



We don't know if it was the hot weather, or if he just decided it was time, but he sure looks different.

But, wait! Talk about different, take a look at this photo from his wedding day way back in 1970!



He was telling me at the start of the End of the Pavement Ride that it used to be even longer, and he had a full beard many years ago. I told him I would like to see that. Well, he was foolish enough to send me the proof. Honest folks, it's the same person!

A stop at the World Famous Kermit's (well, famous among local bikers at least) on the End of the Pavement Ride

Ghost Rider

This year the 17th Annual Don Council Memorial - Steak Run returned to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Although this ride has no ties to any motorcycle club, it does have a number of members from both the Colorado Freewheelers & RMVTA Motorcycle Clubs. This years event was held July 26th through 29th, and was the return to the Black Hills of South Dakota, in what was known as "The Black Hills Rendezvous".

This year on the ride shirts, we not only thought of our long time friend Don Council, but twenty-one riders who are no longer with us, had their names on the shirt as well. I guess it was our way of saying thanks for the memories, and letting them know they are always on the rides with us.

This year for the first time since 1999, Don's long time Steak Run buddy Kent Beach was on the ride. These two for many years on the Steak Run were like Mutt & Jeff or Butch & Sundance. The stories of these two are, and have

become Steak Run Lore, and the stories get more colorful as the years pass. Our good friends at RPM MotorSports this year gave us two \$50.00 Gift Certificates, for the persons who could come up with the best Don Council stories. I think too no one's surprise, Kent Beach walked away with one of them.

It was a year, where we got to renew some old friendships in the Black Hills, and would see the only lady who has ever attended a Steak Run dinner. Our good friend Bob & Joyce Kemp from Spearfish joined us for dinner at the Spearfish Canyon Lodge on Friday evening. Both have had ties to the Steak Run for many years, and acted as judges for the tall stories of the evening.

It was fun to watch Kent ride again, and looking over at him, he has always had that "Then Came Bronson" look while riding. But this year, I had the sense of a "Ghost Rider" on Kent's left the entire trip. I am not sure I believe in Ghost's, but I think a little of Don was on the ride this year looking after his

friend Kent.

Funny how time changes a lot of things. Normal time for Don & Kent's return from Deadwood was between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. This year on my return from the slots of Deadwood was 11:30 P.M. on Thursday night. All of the riders had packed it in for the night, expect Kent who with his feet up on a coffee table, in shorts, and a full glass of wine reading a book.

My special thanks to Grady Dunham, who rode all the way from Minnesota this year to do the ride. To Don McKee, Young Willingham, and Grady Dunham a great "Rookie" skit at the annual dinner, and to all the Colorado Freewheeler & RMVTA members who have supported this ride over the last seventeen years. One's who was missing this year was our good friends Cliff Eudy & George Barrett. We hope things are turning around for you both. truly you were missed by all.

Pat "Thumper" McCombs
Don Council Memorial - Steak Run

Thumpers Photos from the Steak Run



Our President hard a work again



Who is this old Colorado Freewheeler seen on the street in Lingle Wyoming?



So, what hard-core biker arm does this new tat belong?



A true RMVTA Warrior



Three Men in a Tub

Please!!! No more Rum & Cokes

Kent & Don, aka Bud & Lou

Pete Chronis

For a few days, it was almost like old times having Kent Beach along for the 17th Annual Don Council Memorial Steak Run. Indeed, Kent is the surviving half of the Freewheelers version of Abbott & Costello. Our friend, Don Council, who passed away in October 2003, of course, was the other half. To put it mildly, these two guys made previous Steak Runs (also known as “Boys’ Runs”) interesting episodes. You might say this was the Return of the Prodigal, Part II.

In fact, in the olden days at the Lown House, if there was a sudden noisy tumult at 0-Dark-Thirty, chances were, Kent, or Don was the source. Neither one of these guys would win the Carrie Nation Temperance Award, to be sure, and maybe that’s why they made such good company.

It was like 1998 all over again when I met up with Kent at 58th and the Valley at 5:19 a.m. on the 29th to head up to Johnson’s Corner, where the rest of the group would pick us up later. Same old bearded Beach in his Harley jacket and black watch cap, riding his deep maroon and wineberry ‘89 FXRT — except this time around, his beard was white.

Kent hadn’t ridden on a steak run since ‘99 — he missed the Millennium run because his bike was in pieces on the floor of Vinnie’s store, having an oil leak repaired, and it wasn’t ready in time for the trip to Spearfish. After that, Kent sort of drifted away from making the annual rides, despite ample coaxing from other club members, including yours truly.

I’ve known Kent for about 20 years, and his better half, Sue Lindsay, was a former coworker of mine when I was still at the Rocky Mountain News 29 years ago. Kent became a close friend and shooting buddy, and it was his tales of (mis)adventures with the Freewheelers that inspired me to get back on two wheels when I bought my old BMW R-65 in 1997.

In fact, Kent was the one who invited me on my first steak run, and that’s where I met Don Council, who, to put it mildly, was a man with a big heart, a great laugh and an ebullient personality that naturally attracted people. This man was no shy violet. He and Kent traditionally shared the back bedroom at the Lown House, which was probably a good thing, because although Kent is an outgoing person,

too, he usually was the “brakes” for that duo. That is, Kent could raise hell with the best of them, but he knew the limits, too.

I distinctly remember going to the Back Porch for a cold beer with those two, but after that, my memory’s a little hazy. I know we had a steak dinner and then folks started passing around various forms of liquid refreshment.

The best Don Council stories, of course, have to stay on the Steak Run, and even if we told them to outsiders, they’d never believe them. So it’s just as well.

Meantime, Kent, Sue and Sean were among the first friends to arrive at Swedish Hospital in July 2000 — one week after that year’s Steak Run — when our son David, had the horrendous auto crash that put him in a coma for a month. If you could have only one friend in this world to lean on and give you courage when you need it, Kent Beach would be a good choice.

For years, Thumper and I tried unsuccessfully to get Kent to fire up his bike and join the group. In fairness, Kent went through a couple of new batteries that ended up useless from disuse, so the intention clearly was there. Our pal had gotten busy as president of the Buffalo Creek Gun Club and also with coaching some of son Sean’s athletic teams.

Finally, after several false starts, much cajoling by both Thumper and me (including veiled threats at amateur gender reassignment surgery), Kent was back on the road again for another memorable steak run.

Once again, Kent was a friend in good stead when my Harley FXDS embarrassed us all by leaking oil on the parking lot at the Spearfish Canyon Lodge. He followed me into Rapid City, where Black Hills Harley-Davidson got me into their service department and got the bike repaired and back on the road the same day. We spent several hours waiting, but that dealership is so big that you can spend an entire day there and not see everything on the floor and shelves.

Made it back to the lodge just in time for the steak dinner, too.

It was great having at least half of that old Dynamic Duo back with the boys, on the Steak Run. And, I’m certain Don was up there smiling.

Humor

from Thumper

Nun’s & Motorcycles

A Police Officer pulled over two nuns riding on a motorcycle, and said to the rider, “Ma’am, you’re driving much too slowly, could you please drive faster.”

The Nun says, “Oh, I saw the sign with the ‘21’ and assumed the speed limit was 21 miles per hour.”

The Officer explains, “No ma’am, the speed limit is 75. The highway number is Interstate 21.”

Then the police officer looks at the passenger and sees the other nun shaking like a leaf. “Excuse me sister, but what’s wrong with your passenger?”

“Oh, that’s probably because we just got off Highway 205.”

The Rookie

A rookie police officer pulled a biker over for speeding and had the following exchange:

Officer: May I see your driver’s license?

Biker: I don’t have one. I had it suspended when I got my 5th DUI.

Officer: May I see the owner’s card for this vehicle?

Biker: It’s not my bike. I stole it.

Officer: The motorcycle is stolen?

Biker: That’s right. But come to think of it, I think I saw the owner’s card in the tool bag when I was putting my gun in there.

Officer: There’s a gun in the tool bag?

Biker: Yes sir. That’s where I put it after I shot and killed the dude who owns this bike and stuffed his dope in the saddle bags.

Officer: There’s drugs in the saddle bags too?

Biker: Yes, sir.

Hearing this, the rookie immediately called his captain. The biker was quickly surrounded by police, and the captain approached the biker to handle the tense situation:

Captain: Sir, can I see your license?

Biker: Sure. Here it is.

It was a valid license.

Captain: Whose motorcycle is this?

Biker: It’s mine, officer. Here’s the registration.

Captain: Could you slowly open your tool bag so I can see if there’s a gun in it?

Biker: Yes, sir, but there’s no gun in it.

Sure enough, there was no gun in the tool bag.

Captain: Would you mind opening your saddle bags? I was told you said there’s drugs in them.

Biker: No problem.

The saddle bags were opened; no drugs.

Captain: I don’t understand it. The officer who stopped you said you told him you didn’t have a license, stole this motorcycle, had a gun in the tool bag, and that there were grugs in the saddle bags.

Biker: Yeah, I’ll bet he told you I was speeding too.

Photos by Don McKee



Frank, Alan & Pete on thew 1000-IN-24 Pre-Ride

Colorado FreeWheeler
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