

The Eagle Times

Colorado FreeWheelers

October 2003

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 16, 2003

Burt Chevrolet

7:00 pm

<http://www.msnusers.com/RHNWebPages/cfwhomepage.msnw>

Fall Colors

When I was on an Open Ride the 28th of September with some of our members, Mike Finneran mentioned to me that his wife Lyn was putting a Fall Ride together. This would be a short ride, all planned out. Riding time, shopping time, picture taking time, and good food. The ride would take place on Saturday the 4th of October. Sounded to me like a pretty good time to me, and details would be forthcoming by e-mail. The first of the week I got a very classy e-mail from Lyn explaining all of the details of the ride. She asked all to respond by that Friday, so she had a complete head count. I kept track of the weather as Lyn's ride got closer. Friday night the weather did not look good for her planned route. Snow & Rain in Leadville, and a high of forty degree's was not going to cut it. As any good rider, you have to have a back up plan if you are going to ride. Friday night I sent Lyn an e-mail explaining that I was not into pain and cold, and thought I would head south to New Mexico. Cliff Eudy and the RMVTA guys had invited us to do a Fall Color Ride in the New Mexico area on the same day. Better take a second look at this. Friday night about 9:00 p.m. I decided that I really wanted to ride. It should be warm in New Mexico right? The ride was going to leave at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, would be a full days ride and cover 575 miles. Now for those of you that don't know Cliff Eudy, he has been a Colorado Freewheeler member for a very long time. He spends most of his riding time with the RMVTA group, but tries to catch a lot of the stuff we do as well. I think he has done all but one of our 1000/24 events. Now anyone who knows Cliff, knows he can put some really neat routes together. But one thing Cliff has never gotten down is

the correct mileage for a trip. I really believe the man adds up his mileage on his toes. Saturday's Fall Color Ride was no exception. Cliff's 575 miles turned into 705 miles. Well, what the heck, he only missed by 130 miles. Our day started at 6:00 a.m. and I was back in the barn at 9:15 p.m. We rode with the cold weather gear & rain suites for most of the day. But I gotta tell you, seven riders had a great time. When we left Ft. Garland to head to Tres Piedras and Chama to catch the fall colors the sun came out. As Stan Stotz put it "It was knock down gorgeous" Like any trip there is always something new to see. Although I have ridden this area many times, the guys pointed out a couple of things I had never seen. Our first stop for a picture, was in Antonito to check out a house. What a great stop. This guy for sure must be the twin brother of Jim Bishop who is building Bishop's Castle, but is doing it all in metal. A lot of the same signs though, things like "Broken Treaties." "Do you know your government," "Jesus Saves." There is no way to describe this place, and a picture is worth a thousand words. Another stop was at the home of the man who was the heavy-weight boxing champion from 1919 to 1926. Had one fight that went 115 rounds. Yes, folks! the Jack Dempsey Museum & Park in Manassa, Colorado. These two stops made up for a day of cool temperatures of 38 to 58 degrees. Again my thanks to Cliff & the RMVTA guys for letting me tag along. This rider had a wonderful time. I did have a little input on this ride. Stan Stotz now knows what the WB button is on the new GL1800's. I was pleased to point out that it is all weather bands, and not the Warner Brother's cartoon channel.

Thumper

Charity Bake Sale

October 16th

7:30 pm

(At the Colorado FreeWheelers meeting)

Burt Chevrolet - 5200 S. Broadway

Please put your baking and crafting skills to work
(Also your buying skills)
for this annual event.

All proceeds to equally benefit:

- ✓ **Kempe Center**
- ✓ **Anchor Center**
- ✓ **Community Ministry**

Bring yourself and
bring your friends.

Meeting Minutes

A Way of Life

Minutes of the September 18, 2003 Meeting

President Frank Heinzl opened the meeting. He welcomed visitors and new members. Natalie Vande Vuss was a visitor brought by Pat and Donna McCombs. Jim and Verna Larson were visitors last month brought by Chuck and Chris Janssen. This month they became members. The Goebles are returning to Phoenix and stopped by for a visit.

Our chaplain overworked himself today and is resting. He will return next month. We miss you, Paul.

Secretary's Report - Anne Hudson - was approved as printed in newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Mike Woolery - net worth \$2494.62 including the Christmas benefit that is now \$174.50. Questions about difference in this month's net and last month's net were asked. Mike will explain next month. He didn't have all the facts in front of him. Approved as given.

Ride Committee - Pat McCombs - This was a good year. We had 40+ rides so far. We need 8,800 combined miles to break our 158,000 all time miles record. Sat Sep 20th is the last official ride this year. It goes to Bishop's Castle. We leave at 8 am at Fay Myers. Sep 28 is back to open rides. We will meet at the Village Inn at I-25 and Broadway (**Please check**) at 9 am on Sundays as long as the weather is good.

Congratulations to Becky Gillespie and Brian Boberick for joining the 100,000 miles club.

Six members went to the 3 Flags Classic this year - Bill and Becky Gillespie, Vince Vincent, Brain Boberick, Tom Shader, and Rex Young. The 3 Flags is a rally from Mexico to Canada every year on Labor Day weekend. Bill and Becky reported on the ride.

RMVTA is having their Fall Color Ride on Sunday Sep 21st. They have invited us to join them. They will leave from The Sofa Mart parking lot at 6th and Kipling between 7:45 and 8 am.

The 2004 3 Flags committee was so impressed with our checkpoint the last time that they want us to do one next

year. The checkpoint is at Tory, Utah. We would have to leave the Thursday before Labor Day to set up. The checkpoint would be open on Friday. Rex Young moved to check out what needs to be done before we decide. Moved and approved.

Frank thanks those who helped him bring his bike back from New Mexico. He also apologized for not being able to ride this month because of his broken collar bone, which is healing nicely.

Ladies' Run gave over \$9000 to Charity this year.

Activities Committee - Chuck Janssen - The Christmas Dinner is on December 13 this year. Get you reservations in. He will have the menu available next month. The Country Dinner Playhouse is Jan 11 The play is The Unsinkable Molly Brown. Please pay by the December Party. Price includes dinner, tip, coffee or tea.

Rider of the Year - get those purple books filled out and turned in by the November meeting.

Break

Discussion of the October Bake Sale. Pat McCombs suggested that 1/2 of the proceeds go to the Family getting the Christmas fund. After some discussion it was decided that the Kempe Center, the Anchor Center, and the Community Ministry will equally share the proceeds. The Community Ministry is to use the money to help a family or families it feels need it the most. It was unanimously approved. Save up your pennies, nickels and dimes (and dollars) and come have fun and bid on the goodies.

Safety - Tom Hudson - Mexican Drivers are coming farther north Their trucks are not in the best of shape and usually have bad tires as well. Their knowledge of the area is limited and their English is not strong. Keep well away from them. If you can't see their side view mirrors, they can't see you.

50/50 - Drawing for free Christmas dinner went to Paul Becker. \$26 went to Brian Boberick. \$26 went to Christmas Fund.

Meeting was adjourned.

Anne (One Term Only) Hudson

Sometimes, you just never know how things are going to turn out. When January of 2003 started, and the way things were at my place of employment, I was wondering if it would be possible to catch many of the Colorado Freewheelers rides. In February, there was no doubt that I would be able to catch as many rides as wanted to. My place of employment made some major changes. I found myself for the first time since 1961, as one of America's unemployed. As a result of this action, I have been able to do some serious riding in 2003. I have always been very envious of people who seem to take in fifty or sixty rides a year, or are able to take a month-long ride etc. I have been fortunate in 2003 to have maybe my best riding year. The only short coming, is that I had to wait 'till I was sixty years old to do it. It has been great to do some forty club rides and be able to take three major trips. I can't remember a year, where I've done close to 18,000 miles like this year. One thing I have found out this year is there are still a lot of what I call "Hard Core" riders out there. People, who to them, motorcycling is a way of life. How do I know this? Because it's been my good fortune to ride with some of these folks this year. As I look back now, and after many conversations with some of these folks, I realize now, I had no life but my job.

What a shame! It cost me a lot of missed things with my family, and a lot of roads I will probably never get to ride. To people like Bill Gillespie, Vince Vincent, Tom Shader, Larry Harkins, Stan Stotz, my hat is off to you. They have found the balance, to be able to ride when they want. I can tell you one thing, when I go back to the work force, it will have lots of balance. To this rider, motorcycling is a way of life.

Thumper

29th Annual - 3 Flags Classic

America's Premier Motorcycle Tour - 2004

For a lot of our new members, I thought this might be of interest to you. Many of you have heard conversations at meetings, and on rides, about an event called the 3 Flags Classic. This is a subject, that is dear to the heart of many Colorado Freewheeler members. You need to have a little history of the 3 Flags Classic, to really get a feel of why it is such a draw to a lot of our members. Once you have ridden a 3 Flags Classic, it gets into your blood and you are hooked for life. Let me give you a little background on the event. In the early 1900s when cars and motorcycles were exciting new ways to travel, motorcycle riders would start somewhere at the Mexican border and ride all the way to Canada, just to see if it could be done. These rides were referred to as "border to border" runs. In 1974, after reading about these border to border runs in a 1914 newspaper that was published by the American Motorcycle Association, Josef Usatin of the Southern California Motorcycling Association thought it would be a great idea to rekindle the old spirit of the border to border runs. As of 2003, there have been 28 very successful 3 Flags Classic rides. In the early years of our club, (we were founded in 1982) the Southern California Motorcycling Association was about to run it's 8th 3 Flags Classic. As members, we had heard of the event, but had very little information on it. In 1986, I received a call from one of our members Bill "The Wing Commander" Gillespie that would change for ever the way I rode motorcycles. Bill called me in early August of 1986, an uttered these words, " Do you remember the 3 Flags Classic?" Somehow Bill had gotten five tickets to the 1986 3Flags Classic. It was short notice, but the five tickets were gone in less than two hours. Five Colorado Freewheelers, would take the ride of their lives. The five riders, Bill Gillespie, Bob Norton, Rex Young, John Cribbs, and myself. 5200 miles of fun, from Colorado, to Mexico, up to Canada, and back to Colorado. How much we didn't know on that first 3 Flags, and that my friends is a great story for another Eagle Times. You may ask yourself, what all this is leading up to? Well, as many of you know, we have very strong ties to the

Southern California Motorcycling Association. In 1999, they asked us to run a check point for the 24th 3 Flags Classic. The Colorado Freewheelers rallied to the call. We ran Check Point # 2 in Glenwood Springs Colorado. To this day they still talk about our check point, as one of the best, or maybe the best check points the 3 Flags has ever had. Again the 3 Flags Committee has called upon the Colorado Freewheelers for help. They would like us to run Check Point # 1 in Torrey Utah, for the 2004 3Flags Classic. Although, we are in the early stages of putting everything together. After our club meeting on the 18th of September, I contacted Joe Mandeville Chairman of the 2004 3Flags Classic, to inform him we would take on the check point in Torrey.

For those members who would like to volunteer to work the check point, this is the early information I have. The dates will be September 2nd 3rd & 4th 2004. If you would let me know at the October meeting, or call me at 303-971-0568, or send me an e-mail a thump&dino@aol.com.

This is a major project, and takes about seven months to bring everything together. I hope you will come on board, as we had a blast doing the one in 1999.

PS. You say you might want to ride the 3 Flags Classic? Well, heres the information.

29th Annual - 3 Flags Classic

September 3-6, 2004

Start: To be determined

Finish: Kelowna, BC Canada

300 Riders—Entry Fee \$225 per person

US funds only—Personal Check or

Money Order *(No Company Checks Accepted)*

No refund on entries.

Entries are transferable. *(at face value or less)*

Entries must be received by Jan. 10, 2004

2 entries per envelope (max) if you are not

drawn for a ticket your entry fee will be

refunded. Correct mailing address must be

on your check.

Mail Entries to:

**2004 Three Flags Classic
1272 Oak Ridge Drive
LaVerne, CA 91750-1523**

From the Editor

Input Please

If this issue of the "Eagle Times" looks like "Thumper's News", that's because he is the only one submitting articles lately. As he mentioned in one of his articles, Mr. McCombs has more than enough time on his hands to write about a myriad of things.

Not that Thumper's writings are not welcomed and appreciated, I would like some input from others. And remember, each article is worth Rider of the Year points.

Just jot down your impressions of a ride, a place you would like to visit on one of our open rides this fall and winter, or whatever!

Send submissions to Bill Gillespie at: bgtwice@aol.com or fax to: 303-781-0042.

Mailing List

It's time to purge the list again. There are people getting the newsletter that we haven't seen in a long time. If you want to remain on the mail list for the newsletter you must contact me by year's end. If you haven't been to a meeting this year, and you don't contact me, you can pretty much be assured that the November *Eagle Times* will be your last. You can contact me by:

e-mail: bgtwice@aol.com

Phone: 303-781-0032

Mail: PO Box 1886

Englewood, CO 80150

If you would like to save the club the postage of mailing a copy to you each month, send an e-mail to the above address and I'll put you on the list to receive an Adobe Acrobat version by e-mail, and remove you from the snail mail list. Thanks.

Bill Gillespie, editor

FreeWheeler's Christmas Dinner & Awards Ceremony

The social event of the year is coming up fast.
So, make your reservations and mark your calendars.

Planner: Chris & Chuck Janssen

Phone: 303-777-8438 or 720-495-2897

Date: Sat, Dec 13, 2003

Time: 6:00 PM No Host Cocktails

7:00 PM Dinner

Place: BOULEVARD GRILLE

1500 W. Littleton Blvd (Woodlawn Center)
Littleton, CO 80110

Please make your reservations and payments at the meeting this or next month
THANK YOU, CHRIS & CHUCK

Menu Choices

Pasta Primavera.....\$11.00
Honey-Dijon Chicken.....\$12.25
Filet of Salmon.....\$17.25
Sirloin Steak (12oz).....\$18.25
Boulevard's Best (Steak & Shimp) ..\$27.00

Colorado FreeWheeler's
P.O. Box 1886
Englewood, CO 80150-1886

Bishop's Castle Ride



EPCOT Center? No, Bishop's Castle.



A Bucket "T" with a Franklin mill. You don't see that much anymore!



Looks like a true Panhead to me.

Fall Color Rides



*The changing aspens on the
FreeWheelers Open Ride 9/28.*



*Some great fall colors on the
RMVTA ride of 10/4 as well.*



*Some "wanabees" near a statue of the
"Manassa Mauler" Jack Depsey on the
RMVTA ride in Manassa, Colorado.*



*The all metal house in
Antonito, Colorado*