

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, November 20, 2008
Fay Myers Motorcycle World
7:00 pm

www.cofreewheelers.org/

New Location for Christmas Party

Sunny Norton

The location for our annual year end dinner and awards presentation will be **Mimi's Cafe**, just south of C-470 on Yosemite Street in Lone Tree. On page 3 of this newsletter, please find the menu for the **December 20, 2008** Christmas Party Dinner.

As usual, I have adjusted the meal price to include the drink, tax and gratuity. There is one slight variation. These dinner prices do not include the soup/salad, or dessert. However, I have adjusted the these prices as well, should someone choose to add it onto their meal.

There is a specific reason behind this thought process. For those who have never dined at Mimi's...come hungry! The standard menu choices are very large portions. The exceptions, are the "Just Enough" meals. These meals have been specifically scaled down in portion size to be "just enough". Otherwise, be very hungry, or plan on taking home leftovers.

The only other thing club members need to be advised of, is that Mimi's only has a beer & wine license. They do not serve hard liquor. Drinks and appetizers will be at 6:00 pm and dinner will start at 7:00 pm. Due to the new relationship with Mimi's this year, I am asking that checks/payments submitted with dinner orders, be made payable to Colorado Freewheelers, and be mailed directly to my address.

Sunny Norton
5721 S. Queen St.
Littleton, CO 80127.

If you choose to add a soup/salad to your dinner order, please remember to include the additional \$2.47 to the cost of your dinner selection. With permission from the president and treasurer, the club will cover the cost of the dessert with each meal. If you require any additional information regarding the Christmas dinner, please feel free to call me at 303-973-9222.

Children's Hospital Toy Run

The 23rd Annual **Toy Run to The Children's Hospital** will be held **Sunday, December 7, 2008** at 11:00 AM with staging beginning at 9:00 AM. **Please do not show up before 9:00 AM.**

The Toy Run to Children's Hospital will be staged at the **Aurora Sports Park** at 18601 Sports Park Drive, Aurora CO. (*get directions*) This change has been made to accommodate the ever-growing number of people who wish to participate in this special event (in fact, the Toy Run has grown from approximately 500 people in 1999 to over 10,000 people in 2003 ... more than a 2,000% increase in only five years!).

Pre-registration for the Toy Run will take place at any metro-area Harley-Davidson dealership (Rocky Mountain Harley-Davidson, Mile High Harley-Davidson, Sun Harley-Davidson, Freedom Harley-Davidson) prior to the day of the event. Registration on the day of the event will take place at all metro-area Harley-Davidson dealerships starting at 7:30 am.

The cost to participate in the Toy Run is simply a new, unwrapped toy. Visit the Toy Run website to view more details and to see the "Wish List" to get an idea of what the kids like nad need. The website address is:

<http://www.rmh-d.com/toy-run/>

Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order unusually late at 7:09 pm by President Pete Chronis. We opened, as usual with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were no visitors tonight.

Injury Report (a hopefully rare report): Donna McCombs was involved in a traffic accident where she was hit from behind. We're not sure of her injuries, but she was not transported to the hospital. Sunny Norton lost a battle with a coffee maker at work and her hand and wrist were pretty badly burned by hot water. She was in attendance, and had the area wrapped. We all wish both ladies a speedy recovery.

A motion was made by Frank Heinzl and seconded by Bob Norton to accept the **Secretary's Report** of the September meeting minutes, and the motion passed. If I sent Christmas cards, Frank and Bob would be on my list.

The **Treasurer's Report** was also accepted without bloodshed. Our treasurer, Floyd Thorne reported \$81.33 cash on hand; \$251.48 in the Christmas fund; and \$1,470.47 in the checking account, for a total of \$1,803.28.

Our Vice-President Alan Hansher is now working a part-time job in the evenings, and will not be able to attend meetings on a regular basis. It was decided to trudge on without replacing the vacancy, because after all, no one could replace Husker Hansher.

Past Rides: When asked about rides, Frank replied, "Yeah, we ride." The first of two **Fall Color Rides** saw Frank, Alan, and two Dons (McKee & Lyle) enjoy a nice ride to the mountains. They came upon heavy traffic at Georgetown on I-70, and took the back way over some gravel roads to Hidden Valley to avoid the traffic. Frank rode the second the following week by himself.

Upcoming Rides: 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. Due to the closing of Your Neighborhood Grille, we will meet at our former

hangout, the **Village Inn at C-470 and Broadway**. Harry's Roamers 52nd annual Turkey Run will be Sunday, November 16th. It will start at GI Jodi's near Ken Caryl and Simms. The Rocky Mountain H/D Turkey Run will be the following Sunday.

Sunny and Chris Janssen are still looking for a location for the Christmas party. Sunny took some suggestions from the group, and will make some calls.

Fay Myers will be hosting a meeting of club representatives on 10/28 to learn how they are providing for the clubs and members needs. Frank, Bill and Bob will attend.

Pete checked on a new source for club jackets. He will get more information and report back.

Bob Norton is tallying results from the Post Office Tour. The deadline is the end of October. He said he has seen photos from places he has never heard of.

Frank noted that Rider of the Year entries are due at the November meeting.

Bob Norton, the Safety Committee noted that electronic heated gear is a wonderful thing this time of year. He also reminded riders to always be aware of your place in traffic.

Bob Swanson asked for anyone willing to help move some furniture for a small church in Aurora.

Since there were so few members present, the **Charity Bake Sale** was handled a little differently. We all just put in what we usually spend on the bake sale and took some of the goodies. The only exception was one of Chris Janssen's bears, which we didn't feel could be done justice to. Although not present, Thumper offered to personally deliver an order of his famous brownies to anyone who would pony up an appropriate amount. Steve Kern phoned in an order to be delivered to his home in Florida.

I think there was a 50/50, but I'm clueless as far as who won.

Meeting adjourned around 8pm.

Submitted by Secretary, Bill Gillespie

Motorcycle Gremlins?

World War II pilots and mechanics on both the allied and axis sides for decades have told stories about Gremlins in their planes. Those pesky mythical creatures that play havoc with the electrical and mechanical systems that cannot be diagnosed or repaired.

I believe that this mythical creature can also inhabit the modern motorcycle. I believe that all three of my last motorcycles have had Gremlins on board.

My 93' KI 100LT BMW had an issue with the speedometer. It would just suddenly drop to zero (although the odometer would continue to work). After 25 to 30 miles it would start working again. A problem the dealer had no explanation for.

My 99' Kawasaki Vulcan 1500 had a problem with the starter. You could turn the key, hit the starter and have the bike start 100 times in a row, but then you would try to start it up and nothing. After turning the key off it might take 3 to 5 tries before it would fire-up.

And now on my 99' KI 200LT BMW the problem is with the cruise control. I can be riding along with the cruise control on and all of the sudden it will shut itself off and will not turn back on. Just like the 93' KI 100LT after 25 to 30 miles it will come back on.

I've often wondered if I was the only one to experience these playful little creatures or if I'm just "LUCKY" somehow.

Alan (Husker) Hansher

Colorado Freewheelers Christmas Party Dinner Menu

At

Mimi's Café

9155 Park Meadows Dr. Lonetree, Co 80124

Please choose from one of the following:

Just Enough Maple Glazed Pork Chop

Lightly coated with sweet maple glaze. Served with mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing and fresh vegetables. \$15.66

Just Enough Santa Fe Shrimp & Chicken Fettuccine

Garlic shrimp, chicken, tomatoes, corn, spinach and mushrooms all sautéed in a chipotle asiago cream sauce \$16.27

Spicy Rubbed Baby Back Ribs

Slow cooked and smothered in zesty, house made BBQ sauce. Served with french fries and creamy coleslaw. Full rack \$22.29 Half rack 17.53

Crispy Parmesan Crusted Chicken

With homemade mariara sauce & melted mozzarella on spaghetti \$18.16

Jambalaya

Chicken breast, shrimp, cajun sausage & pork loin in creole tomato sauce, piled high on penne pasta \$19.78

Pistachio Crusted Salmon

With tuscan artichoke ragout, fresh vegetables & potato choice \$21.91

12 oz Top Sirloin

Pan seared with cajan spices or flame broiled. Served with fresh vegetables and choice of potato \$23.16

Pasta Primavera

Fresh vegetables sautéed in garlic butter, tomatoes, asiago cream sauce and penne pasta \$13.55

Add soup, green salad or Caesar salad for \$2.47

Soup Choices: Chicken Gumbo, Corn Chowder, French Onion

Dessert: Mimi's Classic Ensemble

Our signature trio of petite desserts includes Mimi's bread pudding, fresh apple crisp, and a triple chocolate brownie served a la mode (serves 2) \$7.50

Drinks include: Tea-Hot/Iced, Coffee, Lemonade, Soda (Coke products)

Fading Fast?

Pat McCombs

On October 19th, I received an email from one of our members that in part read "It seems that the Colorado freewheelers group is fading fast. There are many reasons, which shall NOT be described here".

As a twenty-seven year member of the Colorado Freewheelers, I can see from his perspective some truth in the above statement. It was once pointed out to me, that the average life of a motorcycle club in the United States was some five to six years, and these were statistics put out by the American Motorcyclist Association. Clubs that have gone over twenty years are indeed rare, and clubs such as Harry Roamer's here in the Denver area are on a very special list for longevity.

The face of the Colorado Freewheelers has taken on a number of wrinkles over the last twenty-seven years, and has taken some very sharp turns in direction as well. I am not sure it is a bad thing, but major changes have developed over the years

Back in the eighties, we had some sixty couples riding in the club. We had committees for everything. Parades, Social Events, Dinners, Overnights, Rides and Rally's, Charities, Membership, etc. All this activity would start to cool somewhat after the first four or five years. Then in 1985 our club and many of our members found a new cause to rally around. A group of motorcyclist's from all over Colorado started the Colorado Motorcyclist's Association. The founder of

the Colorado Motorcyclist's Association was a long time motorcyclist, who had the believed that all motorcyclist's should enjoy the events of other clubs through out the state of Colorado. Did not matter what type of machine you rode, just enjoy the sport and get the word out. For ten years, many members of the Colorado Freewheelers & RMVTA Motorcycle clubs along with various representatives from other clubs in Colorado. This worked well for about ten years, and you could see the burn out coming. Many of us were on the road five and six nights a week, after working a full day and recruiting members from clubs at night. The books would close on this era in early 1994. as the CMA would close its doors.

Then comes, what I like to call the days of the Long Riders. The Three Flags Classic's, The Iron Butt's, The Endurance Rally's, The 1000&24, 400 to 500 day rides. Again things would shift in the face of the club, as it was not for everybody.

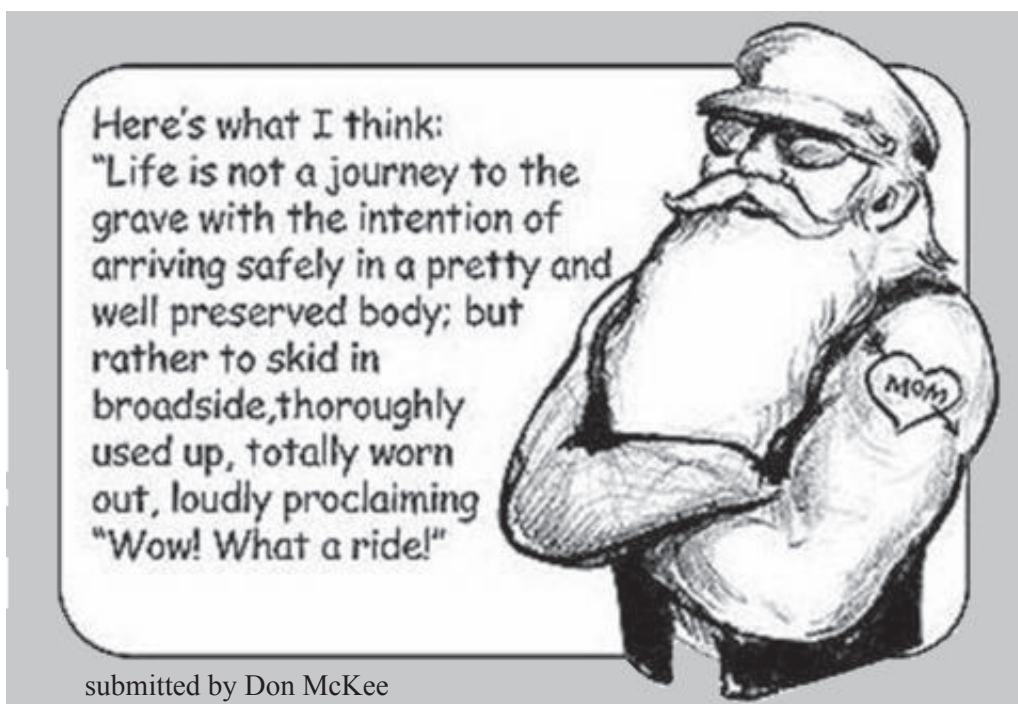
This is just the tip of the "Ice Berg" as to the number of the things the Freewheelers have been involved in over the years. At one time we had a forty foot long by twelve feet high trophy case to show our proud heritage, but it like so many memories is gone as well with time. We have lost members to , age, divorce, moves out of state, other hobbies, fear of riding, expense of riding, riding to fast, and I am sure there are many more we could cover.

Are we "Fading Fast"? I am not sure I can give a true answer to that. Have we leveled off? Yes to that, but we still stick to our values. The club has given thousand's of dollars away to charities over the years, and helped out many people in times of need. This is still being done today by the club. The club today, rides longer & harder than when we were a "Social" riding club. People who have been in the club over the years seem to share different views. I ran into Jim Powell a member who was in the club in the early eighties. "I can't believe you people are still riding. You should have gotten out of the sport years ago". Then the other side of the coin comes to a meeting. Frank "Slim" Jefferson, who is in bad health, on oxygen, in his eighties, can barley make it up the stairs. "God I miss this! the rides, the memories, and the friendships, as the tears rolled from his eyes.

No I do not think the Freewheelers are going away any time soon. At sixty-six, I still enjoy the rides, the playing hard with the younger guys in the corners, and still enjoy the speed. Got hooked in 1958, and not ready to pack it in.

One last thing. If anyone in the club wants to ever write about our club history, or wants to understand about what the Freewheelers have done the last twenty-seven years, let me know. I have every issue of the Eagle Times since the club became a club.

Thumper



submitted by Don McKee