

MEMBER BIO – DOUG & CHRIS PETTIGREW



I did not start riding motorcycles until 2002, even though my Dad rode all his life, and in his later years rode a Gold Wing. My first bike was an '89 Gold Wing and I named her True Love. I bought it even before I had a motorcycle license. I think she is a big part of the reason Chris and I first became friends. Shortly after I starting riding the Gold Wing, I found out real quick I should not have started out on a Gold Wing, maybe something a little smaller like a 750. I sure should not have had a passenger on it, but we had so much fun, joining Chapter W in so many rides.

Due in large part to my extreme motorcycling inexperience, Chris and I had an accident outside Taos. Ask any rider and they will tell you that the bike will go exactly where you are looking. Well, we went where I was looking – off the shoulder on a left hand turn. Fortunately we were only going 40 mph. and had a very soft bar ditch to land in. Long story short, Chris and I both had broken collar bones and I had three broken ribs. We both swore off motorcycles, but that only lasted a very short time. Two weeks later bought a '96 green Gold Wing.

Shortly after we recovered from the accident, we took up with Rick and Lynda at the Accessory Pit and Chapter W which are both located in Albuquerque. They kind of adopted us. I took an Experienced Rider Course and all the classes I could get and so did Chris. Never underestimate the value of those Rider Education classes!!! We have both learned so much.

That year, I think we went on every ride Chapter W had and attended most of their meetings. The small fact that we had to travel 480 miles round trip, did not keep us away. We even got married at one of Chapter W's meetings. They gave us such a beautiful wedding! It just seemed right, after all, they were our family and friends. They have all helped us get through some really rough times; in our hearts, Chapter W will always be “our” Chapter.

In January 2007 we answered the calling and re-started Chapter C. It has been a lot of work and a lot of fun. We've grown to 34 members and have an awesome and very competent staff. We are looking to having a fun year in 2010.

Doug and Chris Pettigrew
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