



"FRIENDS FOR FUN, SAFETY AND KNOWLEDGE"

Chapter "E" Bellevue



May 21st, 2005

**Bellevue Chapter WA-E Breakfast / Meeting Social Hours:
Summer (May – September) 8 am -- Winter (October – April) 9 am
We meet at the Ramada Inn on the corner of 112th Ave.
NE and NE 8th just off 405 in Bellevue.**

Message from your Chapter Directors: **Bob and Patty Spencer**

Wow.....Where did our first month go! Whoever it was that first said "time flies when you're having fun" knew what they were talking about. Our first month has flown by and it indeed has been fun, thanks in part to Ernie and Sue leaving us such a well organized chapter and also in part to all of you, who have been so supportive and eager to step up and get involved. We thank all of you for that!

There are only a few other changes in the staff positions, notably John and Barb Smith are our new "Assistant Chapter Directors" (ACD), Laurie Slavin is now our "Newsletter Editor" and Ernie and Sue have taken on "Cares, Concerns and Celebrations". We've added "Celebrations" to this staff position so that Ernie and Sue may also share some of the fun and positive things that may be going on in all of your lives. We look forward to their reporting! The rest of the staff remains unchanged and are listed later in the newsletter. Thank you to all of them, for staying on and making this a smooth transition.

With May already half over, our prime riding season is nearly in full swing. The next three months are going to be very busy, with most weekends having two or more rides to choose from. In November, at our "ride meeting" various rides were selected and put on the calendar. While some of these rides have been marked as chapter E events, it is important to understand that they are not "etched in stone". Some of you will choose to participate in these rides, while others may choose to do something different. There may even be a time when there is no interest at all in a particular ride on the calendar. At that time, we will choose an impromptu ride. With that said, it is important to remember that we will always encourage group participation in any of our rides. After all, isn't that why we all belong to "GWRRA" and Chapter E? To ride with friends and enjoy each others company!

Lastly, May is motorcycle awareness month. Get out there and be visible. It is also a good time to practice your riding skills and hone your defensive riding instincts. We care about each and every one of you and want to see you at the end of our busy riding season. RIDE SAFE!

After “Chapter Meeting” Ride

By Rodney Townsley, Ride Coordinator

The May after meeting ride has been changed from Pioneer Park in Ferndale to something new and exciting and more interesting than Log Cabins. A Classic Motorcycle Exhibit has opened at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art.

I rode up to Bellingham with a few friends on Tuesday 11 May for a look-see. I was impressed. They have such a wide variety of bikes on display; everyone will surely find something to tickle their fancy.

I saw 1930s board track racers, '40s European Scooters, '50s Hill climbers and Harley Davidson's from 1915 to a beautiful custom 2005 Harley show bike called “The Dragon Motorcycle”.

They have Triumphs, Moto Guzzi, an Ariel Square Four, a 1919 Indian and a beautiful, red 1972 Honda 750. I spent 20 years riding half a dozen different 750s before I discovered Touring Bikes, so this one was especially exciting.

Next to it was a stock 1975 GL1000, without any of the bells and whistles that we have grown accustomed to over the years.

They have all this in the ARCO Exhibits Building, across the street from the Main Museum building, the former City Hall. The exhibit will run until December, 2005, with various interesting programs happening through out the summer.

The Museum is open from Noon to 5pm, Tuesday thru Sunday. Admission is FREE, donations accepted. The Gift Shop, on the 2nd floor of the Main Building has a supply of Event Pins, coffee cups, books etc.

I'll have pamphlets to hand out at the meeting for the Museum in general and the exhibit in particular. It will be a day long ride so fill the tank before the meeting and bring your sunglasses. Summer is just about here, let's take advantage of it.

April's Chapter Rides

Governors Run

By Jim & Karen Roberson

On Saturday, April 30, a group met to travel to Bremerton for the 23rd Annual Governor's Run. Meeting at the Rite Aid we left at 8:30; destination Bad Albert's in Ballard for breakfast. The meals ranged from omelets to chows and all were good. After eating we left for the ferry to Bremerton.

Arriving in Bremerton we went to the Best Western to drop our luggage and meet with some other chapter members. After a short rest we left for the Kitsap Fairgrounds, site of the event. There were many vendors, much shopping to be done and toys to purchase. We shopped and visited and shopped some more until dinnertime. Then it was time for a hamburger dinner with all the fixings served by Chapter O. By the way, the white cake was quite tasty.

We listened to country singer *Katie Webster* and the featured band *Aftershock*, watched the awards and 50/50 drawing then left for the hotel. Back at the hotel everyone was hungry so we got some snacks and visited until around 10PM.

The next morning we went back to the fairgrounds for the ride. The ride was scenic but a bit confusing, but we all made it through in good time. During the ride we had a Mexican Sunday Brunch at the Puerto Vallarta Restaurant in the shopping center at one of the checkpoints.

We got back to the fairgrounds in time to check in and then watched the drill teams. The Northwest Wings and the BC Drill Team put on excellent shows. Gathering for the closing ceremonies; we visited until they started. There were 1444 registrants; 879 pre-registered and 565 on site registration; riders ranging in age from 18 to 91. Lots of prizes; gift certificates, merchandise, one lucky young woman won over \$2,000 in 50/50 and the 2005 Gold Wing was won by someone, but it wasn't any of us.

Leaving the fairgrounds we headed to Poulsbo for a fish and chips dinner but the restaurant had changed hands and was not open. We found an Italian Restaurant that was very good. After dinner it was on to the Kingston ferry and back home. It was a great weekend with good riding and lots of visiting with good friends.

Lime Run

Sunday, April 24th, 2005

By Laurie Slavin

What a perfect day for a Sunday ride. Mark and I met up with Bob S. and rode up to the Smokey Point rest stop where we met Jim and Christy. Once we were all together, we rode up to Burlington Steel Dreams, the location of this year's Lime Run, GWTA, Chapter S fund raiser for Make a Wish foundation. Once registered, we stop by Mr. T's for a great breakfast and then started our day of riding. We followed "LIME" splats all around the back roads of Burlington and beyond. We were promised lots of great sites along the way, such as farms, tractors, big dogs, bicyclist, lakes, old buildings and road kill, we were not disappointed. The roads were great, winding around through residential homes, farm land and the countryside. My favorite site was the big dogs lying on the side of the road as we traveled by and a long line of at least 50 bikes riding in together to check point 3. We made it through 5 check points with only one 8 mile de-tour (which was worth every mile) and one u-turn and ended back at Steal Dreams for a barbecue and show provided by the NW Wings Motorcycle Drill Team.

Socials

XXX Ice Cream Socials

Join us every Thursday night through the summer at XXX in Issaquah, starts at 6 pm.
Hope to see you there!!!

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

By Ernie and Sue Sigyarto

Most everyone is aware of Cares and Concerns. Keeping us all informed of how everyone is doing and passing along any needs or wants to you is our major concern. However, we need to know who is in need of our Cares and Concerns. So, please notify Bob and Patty so they can let us know and we'll pick it up from there keeping you informed in emails.

The Celebrations is new. It's for whatever makes you happy. For example, my Saab has just turned 98000 miles. As Former CD's, you take the excitement where you get it. Not near as exciting but still a Celebration, Mark Caldwell has moved to his new home in Renton. It's a cute three bedroom rambler with a two car garage. I see a lot of room for more toys. And, John Holter has joined the Washington Drill Team. He was in his uniform at the Governor's Run when the Drill Team performed. He is currently practicing the required maneuver skills. Enjoy and ride safe. Let us know of anything we can celebrate.

2005 Calendar of Chapter Events

PD pre-registration dates

*WA-E scheduled event

May

- * 14-15th WA-M BBQ and Fun Run PD: Apr. 25th
- 20-23rd WA-S Victoria Days PD: Apr. 30
- 21st Breakfast Meeting 8 am (begin summer hours) Pioneer Park (Rodney)
- 27-30th WA-L Desert Spring Fling

**Every Thursday night 6 pm. XXX Ice Cream Socials in Issaquah. Begins May 5th.
(Please wear your XXX T-Shirt on the 5th if you have one.)**

June

- 3-5th WA-R Blue Mt. Rendezvous
 - * 4th WA-D Duck Hunt
 - 10-12th WA-Q Elma Rest Stop
 - 17-19th Oregon District Rally
 - 18th Breakfast Meeting 8 am. Ride to Roslyn (Rick Gustin)
 - 22-25th Can Am Rally PD: June 1st.
- (Every Thursday night 6 pm. XXX Ice Cream Socials in Issaquah)**

July

- 3rd 2nd Annual Gustin Ride and BBQ beach party.
 - 4-7th Wing Ding in Indiana
 - 8-10th WA-M Hobo Feed
 - 9th Diablo Lake Adventure
 - 16th Breakfast Meeting 8 am. Fort Worden
 - * 17th WA-A Mystery Ride, PD: Jun. 30th
 - 23-25th WA-M Multi. Ch. Camp Out
 - 28-30th Wash. Dist. Rally in Lynden (360-384-8881)
PD: March 1st
- (Every Thursday night 6 pm. XXX Ice Cream Socials in Issaquah)**

August

- * 7th WA-F & G Mt. Run
- * 13th WA-Y Riddler Run
- * 18-21st Region I Rally, Port Townsend
- 20th Breakfast Meeting 8 am. Poulsbo Art Fair
- * 26-28th WA-P Oyster Feed
(Every Thursday night 6 pm. XXX Ice Cream Socials in Issaquah)

September

- 2-5th Idaho Dist. Rally
- 2-5th WA-B Ocean Beach Camp Out
- 5th Chapter Picnic at the Agachinsky's Noon to???
- 7-11th WA-M North Cascades Loop
- 11th Ride for Kids
- 17th Breakfast Meeting 8 am. Ride to Black Diamond Bakery
- 22nd Dinner Social
- * 25th Oyster Run

**Thursday night 6 pm. XXX Ice Cream Socials.
September 1st and 8th only.
(Please wear your XXX T-Shirt on the 8th if you have one)**

October

- 8th Wash. Dist. Leadership Training in Moses Lake.
Breakfast Meeting 9 am. (begin winter hours)
- 15th Jillian's Sport Bar
- * 22nd WA-Q Halloween Dance
- 22-23rd WA-F South Hill Mall Show
- 27th Dinner Social
- 29th Game Night

November

- 4-7th Rest Stop South Bound Smokey Point.
- 5th LaConor Art Fair 10 am.
- 11th WA-M Veteran's Day Parade

13th Chapter E Brunch
17th Dinner Social
19th Breakfast Meeting 9 am. 2006 Calendar Planning Meeting

December

3rd WA-Q Santa Parade
10th WA-M Christmas Party, Zilla
10th WA-D Festival of Lights (tentative)
17th Breakfast Meeting 9 am. Christmas Party at 6 pm.

Impromptu Rides Pool

Lighthouse Photo Tour
Mt. Baker (approx. 300 miles)
Fall Color Ride
NW Trek / Picnic
Vancouver BC (Rodney)
Woodland Park Zoo / Picnic
Apple State Run Photo Tour
The Sound of Music in Leavenworth overnight (Contact Leah Gray)

Photo Album & Web Site

Reminder:

If you joined us for any of our great rides or events this month and took pictures, please give a copy of your photos to Rick or Sue Gustin for our chapter album. If you have a digital camera, you can print out the best for our album and send your digital photos to Mark Caldwell for use on the web site.

Rider Education

By Mark Caldwell, Chapter Educator

Helmets and Riding Lessons

Two recent news stories really bring home the importance of proper training and proper riding gear. The most recent, is [an article in the Seattle P-I](#) dated May 10, 2005 about the Cleveland Browns Tight End, Kellen Winslow, Jr. The opening paragraph reads

Browns tight end Kellen Winslow Jr. was released from the hospital Tuesday; nine days after a motorcycle accident left him with internal injuries and a damaged right knee.

But more telling is the last sentence which states, "Winslow, 21, bought a powerful motorcycle last month and had a learner's permit, but **ignored advice about getting lessons.**" (emphasis added).

That pretty well speaks for itself. I believe every rider in our chapter is properly licensed and has had some initial lessons. Let's all remember to also take some refresher courses like the ERC (Experienced Rider Course) on a regular basis!

The [second news story](#) was from a couple of weeks ago, about Kelly and Candi Johnson, a father and daughter who died in a motorcycle crash April 23rd on Highway 18. I had heard at the time that their helmets had come off and led to more severe head trauma. I cannot find any confirmation of that in the articles available online, and so it may have been speculation on someone's part. Nonetheless, it raises a good opportunity to remind everyone to check their helmets.

Make sure your helmet fits properly. You can no longer tell that a helmet is too large by shaking your head side-to-side. Any helmet with decent cheek pads will resist spinning, but that doesn't mean it is the right size. Get your head measured and then pick the right size helmet for the size of your head. And be sure to get one from a quality manufacturer, and preferably has been independently tested, such as by the Snell Foundation. Snell tests many aspects of the helmet, including the chin strap and connecting hardware to make sure it won't likely fail in an accident causing the helmet to come off. The last I heard, the Double-D ring is still the most secure method of connecting the straps. Some people don't like this design for various reasons, usually related to the difficulty of use. If you choose to go with another method, I strongly urge you to find a helmet that comes from the manufacturer that way and not mess around with after-market add-on gadgets. Remember, this is your head we're talking about protecting.

That reminds me...my dad, when he was still practicing dentistry, had a sign in his office that read, "Bargain Hunting? Beware of bargains in parachutes, brain surgery, and dentistry." I think we could add helmets to that list. Wear a good quality helmet that will actually protect your brain, not just meet the minimal legal requirements.

Enjoy the ride, and come home safe!

Chapter "Check-Out" Material

Below is a list of materials available from the Chapter for your review. Please contact Mark Caldwell if you are interested in borrowing something for your reading or viewing pleasures.

- Book: Street Strategies by David L. Hough
- Book: Proficient Motorcycling by David L. Hough
- VHS: Co-Rider from GWRRA (2002)
- VHS: Gary Sanford's Slow Speed Cycling Seminar
- VHS: Part 1: Helmet Effectiveness (Hurt Report); Part 2: Co-Rider from GWRRA (Pre-2002)
- VHS: GWRRA & Safeco present Touring & Braking / Trailering (1996)
- VHS: Buying Motorcycle Helmets (Snell Memorial Foundation)
- VHS: Basic Maintenance of the 1500 Goldwing with Andy MacDonald
- VHS: Advanced Maintenance for the 1500 Goldwing with Andrew MacDonald
- Report: Fatal Single Vehicle Motorcycle Crashes, October 2001
- Report: Drowsy Driving and Automobile Crashes
- Report: Impaired Motorcycle Riding: What Motorcyclists Think About Alcohol and Motorcycling, February 2001

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays

1 Barb Smith
8 Gail Arcand
10 Penny Rosenow
15 Kathy Leon
17 Karen Agachinsky
24 Mark Slavin
31 Carolyn Wartchow

May Anniversaries

9 Darrell & Wanda Kruize
14 Jim & Jean Kuper
15 Neal & Karen Agachinsky
29 Ernie & Sue Sigyarto

June Birthdays

3 Karen Jamison
6 Anna Hershey
7 Kathy Jones
12 Lance Donaldson

June Anniversaries

17 Chuck & Gayle Thuot

Please contact Jim and Karen Roberson for any additions or corrections.

Want Ads

FOR SALE

Two helmets - 1 AGV – Full face - Black – Size medium – Brand new, never worn - \$100.00
1 HJC - ¾ - Black – Size small – Like new - \$50.00
Contact Neal or Karen Agachinsky - 360-805-4138

EVERETT AQUASOX

Join us Sunday, July 24th at the Everett Aqua Sox game for a night of fun and a chance to show off your bike (more information at our Chapter Meeting Saturday, May 21st). Game time is 4:05 pm. Tickets are \$9.00 per person and a portion of the proceeds will go to Chapter E. Please contact Steve Lee (425-483-6212 no later than July 10th for tickets.