



Friends for fun, safety and knowledge



Chapter "E" Bellevue

Chapter WA-E Web Address: <http://www.gwrra-wae.org>



Message from your Chapter Directors: Bob & Patty Spencer

Bellevue Chapter WA-E Breakfast

First things first! Patty and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous Happy New Year!

Here it is....December. With Christmas just around the corner, I like to think of it as "Chrome Acquisition Month". Mrs. Santa has my list and it's up to her to determine if I've been naughty or nice. I may be in luck if she likes naughty!! There is also a second special day in December (besides Patty's birthday that is.....she made me say that). On December 22nd the days begin to get longer again and from here it's a downhill slide into spring and a new riding season. I can hardly wait!

What a great year 2005 has been. When Patty and I became your Chapter Directors in April, we were a bit nervous about following Ernie and Sue. They were a hard act to follow, but with their help and with all of your support, it has been a lot of fun. Thank you to our wonderful staff. You all step up and get the job done every time we need you. Have you ever heard the quote "**It's hard to soar with eagles when you fly with turkeys**"? With many years of management behind us, neither Patty nor I are used to working with so many competent people. We enjoy soaring with our Chapter "E" "Exotic Eagle" friends and staff. You truly make our job easier!

This year may be coming to an end, but don't forget that we still have a couple of things coming up this month. Our Chapter meeting is on Saturday the 17th at 9:00 a.m. Also on the 17th is our Christmas party beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Kenmore Community Club on Bothell Way. Beginning in January we have lots of fun things to look forward to in 2006. Get involved and stay involved. We miss you when you're not there!

Our next meeting is:

Saturday, December 17th

We meet at the Paragon Hotel (old Ramada Inn) on the corner of 112th Ave NE and NE 8th just off 405 in Bellevue

Breakfast/Meeting Hours:

Winter (October – April) 9 am

Christmas Party

Saturday,
December 17th
Kenmore Community Club
7304 N. E. 175th St.
Kenmore, WA 98028
6:30 PM

Please R.S.V.P. to
Bob & Patty

bspswae@verizon.net

or

425-489-9786



November after meeting Ride

Directly after our meeting and joined by our Chapter "A" visitors, 11 bikes made their way through the fog to Lynnwood, for a tour of the new "Non Harley" Cycle Barn facility. We were originally going to get a look at the new 2006 Gold Wing, but they had already sold the only one they had. That didn't dampen the tour however. The facility is brand new and has a large state of the art service department with a "ride in" service desk. Yes, I said "ride in". You actually ride up to the service entrance, the doors open automatically and you ride into the facility and up to the service desk. How cool is that? Those of you with older Wings will be interested to know that there is no cut off on age of bike that they will work on. They work on all Gold Wings no matter what year.

After the tour a few of us spent a little money, then our ride coordinator Jim Pelican, with Christy Gill, led the group on a scenic ride up through Mukilteo, South Everett, across the Snohomish Valley and on to Granite Falls where we enjoyed a late lunch at "Bodacious BBQ". Now don't forget everyone. We have all been sworn to secrecy. If the Roberson's ask where we ate, tell them McDonalds or something. I think the Roberson's have something written in their "Chapter COY" contract, stating that we are not allowed to go to Bodacious (or any BBQ joint) without them.

After lunch some of us readjusted our bike suspensions to carry the extra weight, then split up into a couple of groups and headed out, to arrive home before dark. It was a great ride. It was a little foggy in the Mukilteo and Everett areas but the sun was out and the mountains were beautiful from Snohomish on. All in all....a perfect day!!

Chapter E Couple Spotlight

BOB and THESS THURGOOD

Thess Thurgood was born in Espana, Manila, Philippines in 1946. She graduated from high school and completed a year of college at Feati University in Manila. She married and had five children – two boys and three girls. She and her husband separated in 1984 and she went to work in Singapore, having to leave her kids behind in the care of her mother-in-law. After her father passed away while she was in Singapore she decided to join one of the popular pen-pal clubs advertised in the newspaper there. She did so and wrote to several gentlemen in the United States. Guess who one of them was. Thess became a member of the Mormon Church while in Singapore, subsequently returning to the Philippines to her kids. She brought them with her to the USA in June of 1988. By that time Guess Who had visited her in Singapore and in the Philippines four times, and she had accepted his ardent proposal of marriage. In fact, she came here on what is called a "fiancé visa," which allowed all her kids to come with her. Her first "real" date with Bob was a Church "Boat Dance" Friday evening, July 1, 1988, on Lake Washington. It was such a nice date that they decided to get married the next day. They were married in the LDS Temple in south Bellevue July 2, 1988. Bob always did like boats! That one turned out pretty well, n'est-ce pas?

Bob Thurgood was born in Salt Lake City in 1937, the eldest of ten children. He started playing the violin in the 4th grade, switching to the larger viola in high school. He graduated from South High School in 1955 and attended BYU for one quarter in 1956, than served his LDS Mission in the Eastern United States from 1957 to 1959. He married and they eventually adopted two children – a boy and a girl. He obtained a Teacher's Certificate and graduated from the University of Utah in 1966, and after continuing in graduate courses for a couple years began teaching music in the Castro Valley, California School system. An infamous tax levy failure there eliminated his position, and they came to Washington in 1969, where he taught music in the Shoreline School District. Another tax levy failure in 1971 eliminated his job again and he left public school teaching as a business. He has been self-employed as a piano technician-tuner for 26 years, and will stay at that employment until he can find something more permanent. When he became separated from his wife in 1985, he joined the same pen-pal club that Thess happened to belong to and the rest is history, to the tune of 8 grandchildren.

Bob's first ride was on a Harley Davidson in about 1955 on a friend's bike at his friend's insistence. His first bike was the famous Honda 50cc two-tone blue and grey little "step-through" scooter, on which he accidentally performed his first magnificent wheelie – about 100 feet across State Street because he hit the throttle when it was in neutral, and popped it into gear at about 10,000 rpm. That blasted front wheel just WOULD'N'T come down! Their first Goldwing, a 99 1500 SE was bought from a private party in Prescott, AZ in October 2002. They have decided to "trike" it, and expect the conversion to be completed somewhere around Christmas time. They have been WA E Chapter, WA District and Region I COY, and will journey to Nashville TN in July 2006 to take part in the International COY selection events.

WA E is our home away from home! We love all of you and deeply appreciate the friendships you have brought into our lives. We wish all of you the best and happiest Christmas and New Year ever!

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

By Ernie and Sue Sigyarto

We're happy to report that we have no reported new illnesses. And the reporting of Celebrations has yet to peak. Don't be shy to let us know of those many things that are occurring in your lives that warrant a celebration. There are a few things to share with you that may create a smile.

Now, I don't want to let the cat out of the bag so to speak by attempting to reaffirm the details of this story; nor do I want to divulge the identity of the major parties involved. You can consider this somewhat fictional if you want but it is based on facts. Two unnamed individuals (let's refer to them as B&TT) had heard of a grocery store giving away free Thanksgiving turkeys. So, being curious, they went to the store to investigate. They were told that the store throughout the day would announce that anyone with a specific numbered Cart would receive a free turkey. Taking it as a bit on the hokey side, they proceeded to leave. While leaving, an announcement over the PA said that anyone with Cart 11 could get their free turkey. As it happened, B&TT saw Cart 11 outside the store on their way to their car or very large motor home. The rest of the story you can guess; turkey received, eaten and enjoyed by all.

True story two. After getting a haircut, I proceeded to Safeway to check out their cash machine since Wash. Mutual stopped their free usage of their cash machines. Thank you WM while it lasted. Anyhow, I checked out the machine and as I was leaving an announcement came over the PA that patrons should look for a number on the floor and stand on it to wait for the announced number and receive a free gift. The number was 18. Here comes the unbelievable part. As I was walking out, there was the number 18. So, I stood on it. Very quickly I became overwhelmed with an incredible sense of Stupidity. After about a minute which seemed much longer, I just couldn't stay standing there. I had to leave. Quickly!! I of course don't know if this was a scam or not and still am fearful to return to that Safeway knowing full well that my picture is on the Stupid People Bulletin Board.

And now for our real celebration. As many of you know, our daughter, Dawn, is getting married. January 14th. When we first discussed this with several of you, someone suggested that we, Chapter E, do the catering. What fun that was to talk about and the imaginative things that were discussed were, let's say quite Creative. Dawn and Aaron have decided to have a very small intimate reception with very close friends and relatives which wasn't easy to set up. As you can imagine, Sue and I have been and are busy in the preparation of the wedding. It has been fun organizing things and helping Dawn with her many decisions. The stress of hoping things work well hasn't set in on us yet but seeing the plans firming up is really quite exciting. The wedding is in Seattle and if you would like to attend the wedding ceremony, consider yourself very welcome. Let us know if you would like to attend and we will send you directions to the church. After all, we are the hosts of this very special event.



Seasons Greetings

A Christmas Story

'Twas the night before Christmas—Old Santa was pissed.
He cussed out the elves and threw down his list.
Miserable little brats, ungrateful little jerks.
I have a good mind to scrap the whole works!
I've busted my butt for damn near a year,

Instead of "Thanks Santa"—what do I hear?
The old lady bitches because I work late at night.
The elves want more money—the reindeer all fight.
Rudolph got drunk and goosed all the maids.
Donner is pregnant and Vixen has AIDS.

And just when I thought that things would get better
Those people from the IRS sent me a letter,
They say I owe taxes—if that ain't damn funny

Who the hell ever sent Santa Claus any money?
And the kids these days—they all are the pits

They want the impossible—those mean little brats

I spent a whole year making wagons and sleds
Assembling dolls...Their arms, legs and heads

I made a ton of yo yo's—No request for them,

They want computers and robots...they think - I'm IBM!

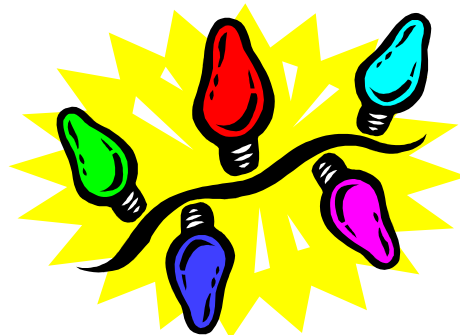
Flying through the air...dodging the trees

Falling down chimneys and skinning my knees

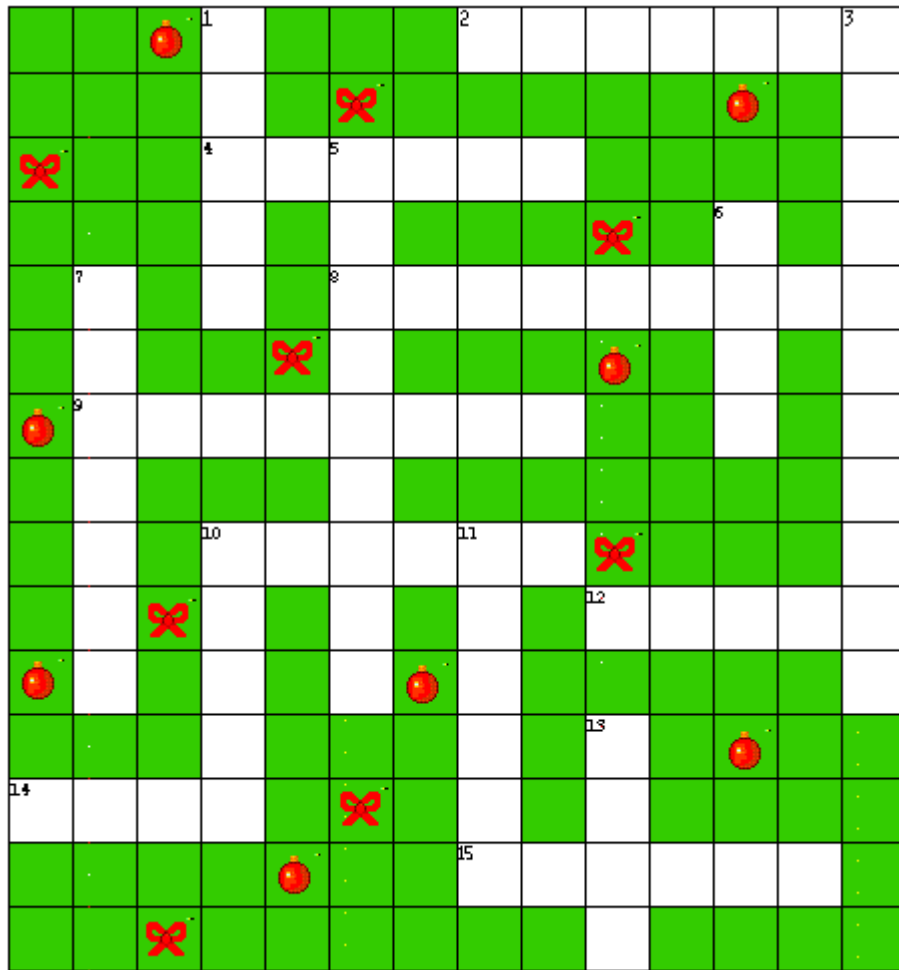
I'm quitting this job there's just no enjoyment

I'll sit on my fat butt and draw unemployment.

There's no Christmas this year now you know the reason,
I found me a blonde. I'm going SOUTH for the season



Christmas Puzzle



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ACROSS

2. What you put on your gifts so you know who the gift is for.
4. ____ the Snowman (name of a song)
8. Where does Santa live?
9. What month do we celebrate Christmas?
10. ____ Bells (name of a song)
12. Who has a long beard and wears a red suit?
14. What children like to get for Christmas?
15. What Santa rides in.

DOWN

1. What do you give each other at Christmas?
3. What a Christmas house is made of.
5. Something you put on your Christmas tree.
6. If you are bad, what does Santa put in your stocking?
7. What is the name of the reindeer with a nose that glows?
10. Whose birthday is celebrated on Christmas?
11. You put these on your Christmas tree to make it glow.
13. What do you decorate with ornaments for Christmas?

What's on the Calendar?

December

December 10th - Chapter "D" Festival of Lights Parade. - Montesano Wa. - This is a great time and it will get you in the **holiday spirit**. This year's theme is "**Holiday Blessings**". Here is a web site for more information: <http://www.home.earthlink.net/~sfretts/special.html> you should plan to be at Beacon elementary school by 3:00 p.m. if you want to watch the bikes being decorated for the parade. The parade line up begins at 5:00 p.m. Keep in mind; this is not just a motorcycle light parade. There are lots of other fun lighted floats! If you are going to watch the parade, dress warmly! There is a GWRRA pot Luck, silent auction and lots of fun after the parade, so come back to the Beacon Hill school afterwards (bring your favorite dish)

December 11th - Jingle Bell Run / Walk - There are 10 of us signed up for the 5K (3.3 miles) **Jingle Bell Run, supporting the Arthritis foundation. (We are walking of course)**. If you would like to see us off, root us on, or just make fun of all of us in our Santa hats and jingle bells, we will be meeting on the outside stairs in front of the Starbucks at Westlake Center at 8:00 a.m. (corner of 4th and Pine). Our start time is 9:00 and it will take us about an hour.

December 17th - Chapter "E" Breakfast Meeting - Breakfast at 9:00 and meeting at 10:00. There will be no after meeting activities as our Christmas Party will be this evening.

December 17th - Chapter "E" Christmas Party - Our Christmas party will be at the Kenmore Community Club again this year, beginning at 6:00 p.m. I hear the dinner will be even better than last year! Guys bring a male gift and gals bring a girl gift. Gift limit \$15.00. A separate flyer with more information and directions will be out later this week. In the mean time, let us know if you are planning on attending. **We need a head count! As in past years, we pay for this party out of chapter funds. Come and enjoy. We have so much fun!**

December 25th - Merry Christmas

GRAND AVENUE

BY STEVE BREEN



Chapter E Business

Birthdays & Anniversaries December



Sue Gustin	6 th
Neal Agachinsky	20 th
Patty Spencer	20 th
Dave Hersey	29 th
Ed Zaic	31 st

Jim & Karen Roberson

30th



WANTED

Used tent trailer.

Contact Neal Gutekunst at cgp5x@allstate.com

White Chocolate Cherry Chunkies

Prep Time: 15 min. Yield: 4 dozen cookies

1 cup butter, softened
1 cup packed brown sugar
1 cup granulated sugar
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons milk
1 cup chopped macadamia nuts
½ cup candied cherries
1 ½ cups white chocolate chunks

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In a medium bowl, with electric mixer, cream butter and sugars together until light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla and beat until just combined. Set aside. Sift together flour, soda and salt. Add milk to the butter mixture and then add the flour mixture. Mix until just combined. In another bowl, combine nuts, cherries and white chocolate. Then add to batter, stirring only to blend. Drop by heaping tablespoons onto a grease cookie sheet, 2 inches apart. Bake for approximately 11 to 13 minutes. Cool on wire rack.

Chapter E Library

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 / Trailing (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

2006 Entertainment Books

\$30.00

Save money on chapter dinner socials, travel, and much more.

If you would like to purchase one or have questions contact

Charlene or Steve Lee (425) 483-6212 or dbleshot1@comcast.net

Benefits Eastside Mothers of Multiples
Convention Committee

I'm off to Spokane this spring!

Rider Education

Winters in the Northwest are Tricky

By Mark Caldwell

Winters here in the Northwest can be very tricky for motorcyclists, so let's all be extra careful to make sure we make it through safely. Most of us are pretty good about layering up in the winter months, and we know that if we get wet that it amplifies the effects of the cold, so we need to be even more careful. We have had articles in the past about the effects of hypothermia and how dangerous it can be, especially to the motorcyclist because one of the effects is to slow your reaction time and dull your senses. On a motorcycle, we need all the reaction time and sharpness of senses that we can get. And one of the tricks of Northwest Winters is to shine the sun making it appear to be warm, possibly even feeling warm while you're standing still, only to discover that it's much colder when you're moving.

Remember that just because you feel warm does not mean that the ground is warm or that your tires are warm. When you begin your ride, your tires will be cold and won't grip the road nearly as well as they do when they are warm. So be sure to account for this decrease in traction when you're making your turns.

Temperatures vary dramatically from place to place or even just from sunshine to shade. You may think that because the news says that the temperature is 40 degrees, it means that you won't face ice, but that's not necessarily true. First of all, you should ask yourself where that temperature reading was taken. The local Seattle news stations' broadcasts reach up into Canada, down to Portland, out to the ocean and up into the mountains. So just where was that temperature reading taken, and where will you be riding? As long as we're on that subject, have you noticed that the "current temperature" reading varies by several degrees, even among cities that are side-by-side?

Next, ask yourself whether all of the roads you will be riding on have been receiving direct sunlight all day. Will there be patches of shade where ice or frost could be hiding? What about minor hills and valleys? Ever been riding north up I-5 just past Everett on a cool autumn evening and felt that sudden chill as you pass through the cold zone? What happens if you do that when the temperature is hovering within a few degrees of freezing? And what about that bridge you have to cross that is exposed all around, and more likely to have ice or frost than the regular pavement on either side?

And another of my favorites is how fast the temperature changes when the sun goes down. Do you know what time sunset is and how that relates to your trip? You may be warm enough during the day, but will you be warm enough at night? Do you have one part of you that always seems to feel the cold regardless of what else you are wearing? It's time to address that and get the gear you need. Cold fingers will really hinder your ability to stop or swerve in an emergency, and that could be your undoing. Other cold parts are a distraction at the least, and possibly more dangerous than that.

By now, you may think I'm completely against riding in the winter months. I'm not. I especially enjoy a ride on a sunny clear-blue-sky day after weeks of rain or gray blah. I just want you to think through the things that you don't have to even consider in the summer time. You see, I want you to keep coming back and sharing the adventure with all of us. Ride Safe so you can ride longer!



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Mall Show	OPEN	
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	Karla Edwards	425-641-5135
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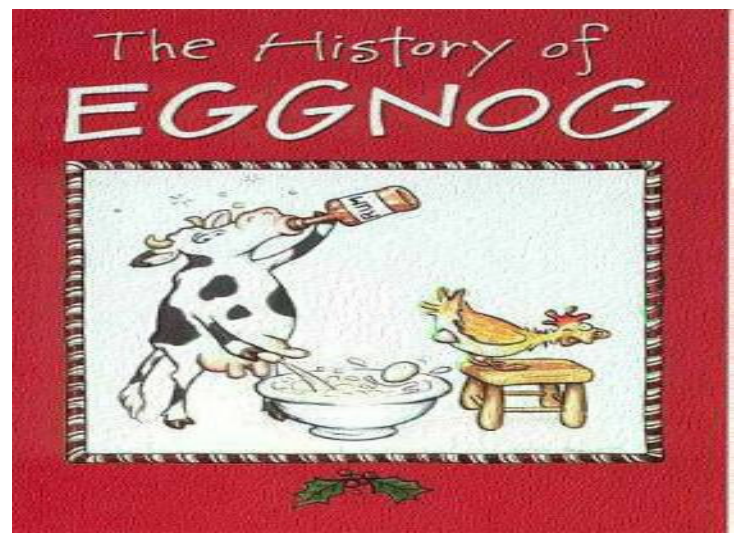
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WA-District:
<http://www.gwrra-wa.org>

Region I:
<http://www.BigSkyRegionI.org>

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