

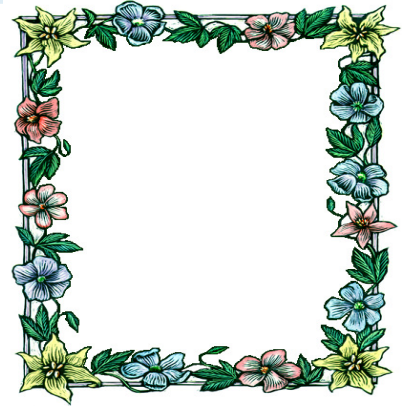
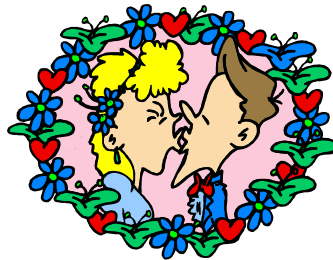
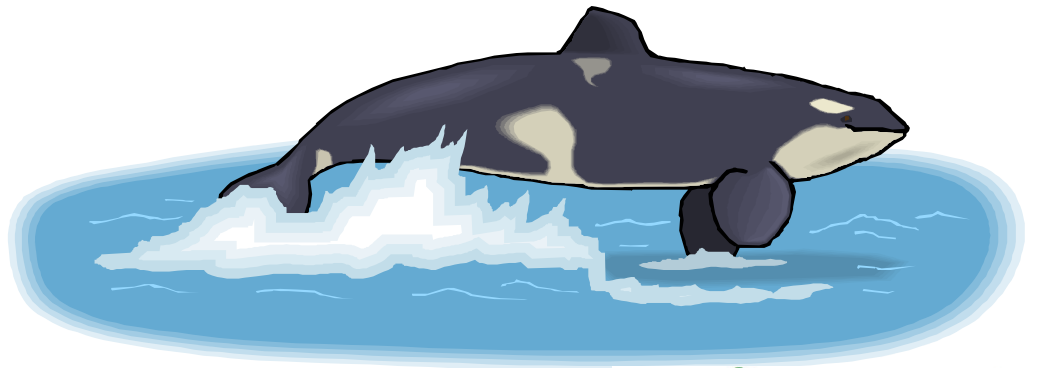
Volume 16, Issue #6

June 1st, 2006



GWRRA · REGION I · WASHINGTON DISTRICT · CHAPTER O

The Pod Publisher



Thoughts from your Chapter Director

Hello to the Pod:

Wow, what a beautiful day outside the sun is bright, the birds are singing and the squirrels are playing in my back yard. "It is a wonderful day in the neighborhood."

Well once again another Governors Run has come and gone. It is hard to believe that it was the 24th one. Even though the weather was not the best, there was quite a turn out. Hopefully the sun will shine next year for a bigger and better 25TH.

When Chapter B asked me if our chapter would be interested in helping out again this year, I did not have to hesitate before saying yes and you being the great chapter that you are did not let me down.

When I looked around on Saturday & Sunday and saw Chapter O colors busy with Registration and preparing and serving the dinner Saturday afternoon. It made me stop and think about what a great bunch of people I have as friends and what a great chapter I have the privilege of being a part of.

I knew that if something needed to be done to fulfill our commitment to Chapter B and Holly Ridge all I had to do was ask, and most times I did not have to ask, it was done.

Oh yes, one more thing. Once again we took largest GWRRA chapter in attendance.

I know that there are a lot of people that I need to thank and if I have not done so please come to our meeting so that I may. I also want to thank Chapter B for allowing us to be a part of this great event.

June is upon us and we have a full calendar so check the web site and be ready to get that phone call to go for a ride, also remember our June meeting is on the 3rd Saturday the 17th.

John

April Dinner Social at the Dairy

Being the true Gold Wingers that we are, we had a grand turn out at the new Dairy Queen in Port Orchard with more than 30 attending. The cooks and waiters were kept busy as we consumed Hamburgers and Ice cream. It seems that nothing makes us happier or more social than a lot of Ice cream.

In attendance were: Dave and Debra Miller, Pat and Debbie Holmes and Gabriel Luke, Jack and Louise Harrison, Jack Davies and Colleen Powell, Doug and Kathy Wray, Wilma and JK Laird, John and Betty Boyd, John and Myrna Scrivner, Lori and Bill Biltoft, Ken and Sandi Smith, Kay Beck, Vern and Rita Walker, Jim and Jan Olmsted, Gordon McKay, Aaron Dodge, Donna Dodge and Alan Fewel, Nelson Wagner and Bob Rifenburg.

I don't know about you but I am sure looking forward to more Ice Cream runs.

Bill Biltoft

Getting to Know Your Bike and Yourself

Greetings,

I just wanted to let everyone know that Pat Holmes, Ricky Rendt, Dave Miller, Nelson Wagner, Steve LeFreve and myself had a great time at the ARC last Saturday May 13th. It was very upsetting that all we had was sun all day, sorry for the water logged guys who went in April. I just wanted to say that the class went very well.

Our chapter had 6 of the 12 students accounted for. ("O" on the GO) The classroom portion seemed a bit slow but when you're refreshing I guess it seems like you've heard it before. But then, just maybe,, the light bulb comes on and you hear something that makes what you understand why you were having a problem with something, a turn, balance, stopping, etc.

We went through 9 different driving skill drills from slalom courses, slow and high speed stopping, slow and high speed stopping in corners, Apexing corners and very slow maneuvering course with very sharp turns. A lot of light clutch and throttle work. We did everything both direction so you had to make right and left turns. I know some people feel more comfortable turning one direction then the other but that's where this course helped out because they made you go both ways.

We were on the course from about 1230 to 430 with a few breaks and got home around 630-700pm. We even got to practice picking up a dropped bike, some more than others. No, on one dropped their bike during the regular courses but we had a couple that couldn't find the ground when they came to a stop.

The big thing everyone came away with was to remember to keep head and eyes up, look where your going to go not down at the ground and practice, practice, practice.

Even though I have been riding for years I would recommend this course or any course like this to everyone and especially if they just have gotten a new bike and need to know what they can and can't do on it.

Ken Smith

Words from, Mike and Barb

It's newsletter time again and that means we have a Chapter 0 meeting coming up real soon.

Jack has a ride planned for us to Packwood after the breakfast meeting for Packwood's annual flea market, so lets get "0" on the go. It's a fun run and always something to buy.

I'm sure we all look forward to getting out and riding after being cooped up all winter. Sure hope you new folks will join us and you'll see what a great time we have.

The Governor's Run is behind us and I want thank all of you that were able to help us make it a success and I know John feels the same way. The dinner went great, as usual and we are proud of how our Chapter came together and made us look good. I hope everyone had a good time, we did and you guys looked great in those bikini's.

Mike and Barbra

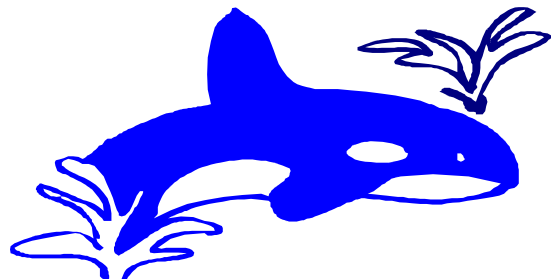
Editors Note

Greetings,

A reminder for your articles, jokes, recipes for the News Letter has a dead line of the 15th the each month. We'll try and remind everyone as John will around the 10th of each month to help us keep on track. If there's no last minute edits by the staff the News Letter will go out 10 days before the end of the month.

Also it is note worthy that Sandi Smith has now taken over the chapter store and I will be helping her as needed. So please feel free to either contact Sandi or myself for all your store needs. If we don't have it we'll make ever effort to get it. Keep it in the backs of your minds the new coat and shirt idea that John is working on/ When he has one made up with will be seeing who's all interested and then taking prepaid orders.

Thanks for your support! Ken



Myrna's Notes

Thankful.....for you all.....

I don't think that you can say "Thank You" enough. Especially when it is to people that are near and dear to you. That is the way we feel about all of you within our chapter. It is hard to express just how much it means to us to know when we commit the chapter to as big an undertaking as the Governor's Run, Everyone will be on board.

Thank you,

To all who helped out at the registration tables, served up cakes and cookies, announcing information through out the day,

To those who chopped the onions with tears in their eyes, and served the Bar-b-que, suffered frozen fingers handing out soda's.

There were many things to do and many who came to the aid of the chapter. We are very proud of you all and proud to call you our chapter members.

Remember next year will be the 25th Anniversary. It will be bigger and better than ever, so be prepared. We may ask for your help again.

Myrna



Cartoon Corner



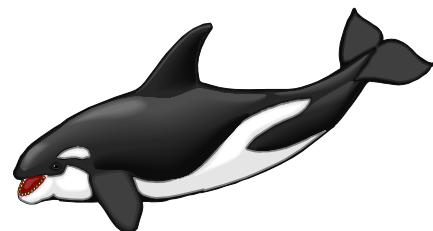
A.R.C or E.R.C that is the Question, Lipstick Rick

Hi everyone,

This month's column is going to be a bit different from my usual, whatever that might be. I am purposely leaving out names because this is MY take on the subject at hand. Please allow some understanding and compassion to those that this article may seem to criticize. Castrate me if you wish. (ouch!)

Yesterday, the April 29th and a Saturday was typical of three years ago when I traveled to Aberdeen for my E.R.C. certification. The weather was threatening but holding. By that I mean that it was dry and uneventful until we had to go out to the blacktop for our practical training. Once we started, so did the rain and plenty of it.

Now to the beginning. We members of Chapter O that were to be re-certified, met at the Texaco at the assigned time of 7 am. Me, as usual remembered it to be 7:30 but being there early, arrived as the group was just heading to the freeway at 7:10 so I was right on time. My Guardian



Angel is always taking up my slack.

The trip was uneventful except for the car with a very young girl and a very older lady had decided to test the front end of their small car against the hardness of the left side embankment. They lost but it appeared no one was hurt. We couldn't figure who might have been driving but HAD there been a cell phone on the road, we could have guessed.

We arrived at 8 am with class beginning at 9:00. All were hungry as no one had eaten but coffee was the only item on the menu and so we talked bikes (of course). We had a mixed group with two couples looking for pilot/co-pilot certification. All the usual conversation and friendliness were present but expectations and curiosity as what to expect dominated the conversations as we watched the earlier group, go through their paces.(they weren't finished) We really couldn't figure out just what they were doing from our vantage point but we were soon called in to the classroom for part one.

Our two instructors were friendly, a little unsure but ready for the training to begin. We all introduced ourselves, told of what we expected from the class and we were off!

The instructors read the material with little more than bland enthusiasm. Some of us students actually added pieces that seemed to be missing. In fact there was a lot missing. I was falling asleep except when I felt compelled to add something basic but important. After about 2 hours, we broke for lunch. As we talked between grunts and chewing, all felt that this was far below a basic curriculum. We hadn't learned anything. I actually considered going home. I wanted to learn and be tested. Make me feel less than! This is why I am here!

When we returned from lunch, we found that the existing class, still had a considerable amount of time to go before we could have our shot. Again, we talked bikes and waited. The weather was seeming to try to wait for us to start too.

I spoke to one of the instructors about the morning course and told him of my disappointment. He said that it was written by GWRRA and passed muster with the lawyers. I told him that it was less than a basic beginner cycle course and he understood but was not allowed to change a single word.

Finally we had our turn on the grinder and our instructors had done a commendable job of being prepared. There was confusion and differences between what was read and what was understood but eventually, we all accomplished the same thing. (well, kind of). I challenged one of the courses and the interpretation was mixed.

Now the weather became an issue, rain and a steady

dose of it to boot. Not just a drizzle but rain. Some of us wore rain gear but those that didn't took a break to change. Our instructors were pretty damp and we even dropped a couple of events due to rain but they actually were already part of earlier events so we were allowed to skip them.

Roy from District was there to observe and take notes on these first of GWRRA A.R.C.s . I think and hope that this man sees what is needed.

Here it is in a nutshell. I want to be tested and tested hard. I want to know where I suck. The classroom was less than basic with no hard facts or scientific or practical information. It should have been a minimum of 4 hours long. It was totally limp. The practical was actually very good and even challenging. It was easy to see that our instructors were new but they tried hard. The weather hampered the ability to really give it a go but still, it wasn't bad. Keep in mind that our instructors are capable, skilled and NEW at this. The fact that they are required to follow a rigid curriculum short changes the program and in no way, reflects on what they COULD do. GWRRA is in the process (I hope) of fine tuning our certification program and it is my hope that it becomes a model to be admired but there is a long way to go. I also hope that they grade you. Some may need to fail and some should get an "Atta Boy! In GWRRA's training, no one is graded and no one fails. In fact, there is no test! My previous training's were both E.R.C.s and I feel that I would rather present my outdated E.R.C. card than that of my GWRRA. I feel short changed and hope that GWRRA sets the bar very high. Remember, Fun, Safety and Knowledge? I especially want the last two of that slogan so that I can have the first, which is fun. I'm not looking for an easy grade because riding a bike requires that you have what it takes or the road will eat you!

I hope that I haven't hurt too many feelings but a person's life is on the line when riding and as a group, what do we want to stand for?

As to the ride home, it was wind, rain and fog, big time! As to the jerk in the Ford Taurus, it's a good thing that I don't have rockets on my bike! You know that you have the skills when you ride by BRAIL! Now, if I can only master that very slow crap that tested me this weekend!

Lipstick Rick



GWRRA NEWS



Please provide the following information to all Chapter Members:

GWRRA Rider Course Instructors:

Our GWRRA National Rider Education Division has developed several Rider Training Courses to enhance and educate our membership in the risk management of riding motorcycles. And, GWRRA has recognized that over time the availability of local commercially available training courses for members has been decreasing due to State funding issues or changing priorities.

The Rider Education Division continues its attempts to fill these gaps by expanding the availability of the following GWRRA Rider Courses:

- Advanced Rider Course (ARC)
- Trike Riders Course (TRC)
- Trailing Course (TC)

Washington was the first District chosen for a prototype or pilot program to teach non-Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Coaches to become Certified GWRRA Rider Instructors. This new program started in October 2005 with additional Instructor Certification Courses in November 2005, March and April 2006.

Today, WA District has a total of 10 Advanced Rider Course (ARC), 7 Trike Rider Course and 2 Trailing Course Certified GWRRA Rider Instructors.

As Certified GWRRA Rider Instructors, we are all volunteers who give our time, knowledge and training to provide Washington District Members with the opportunity to practice and improve their riding skills. And, as a limited group of volunteers and our locations through out Washington District, we may not be available at all times to conduct Rider Course Training.

Since October 2005, many WA District Members has approached the District Educator with the desire to become Certified GWRRA Rider Instructors.

I am very pleased to announce that we are tentatively scheduling a Rider Course Instructor Certification Program (RCICP) in the Advanced Rider Course (ARC) curriculum for Members in the Richland, WA area during the first or second week of September 2006 taught by a Master GWRRA Rider Instructor, Dave Hay, from Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

The class size is limited to only 12 Instructor candidates. Please submit your name to the WA District Educator as soon as you can to:

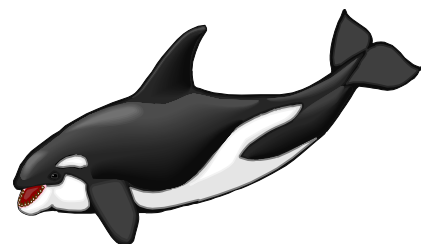
Bruce R. McMahill

4616 140th Street NW

Marysville, WA 98271

or E-mail: bcmahwae@aol.com

Thank you, Bruce, WA District Educator



Schedule of Events

- June 4th, Chapter B Meeting Day
- June 6th, Dinner Social, Family Pancake House, Kitsap Way Bremerton, 6:30 pm, (Kitsap Card)
- June 10th, Chapter D, Duck Hunt Ride, Lv Belfair Safeway 7am
- June 13th: Staff Meeting at Jack and Colleen's, 6:30pm
- June 17th: WA-O Regular Meeting, 8:00am, Airport Diner, Bremerton Airport, This month only, different Saturday
- June 18th Chapter Z's Poker Run, Lv Belfair Safeway 6:30am
- June 25th: Chapter F Meeting Day

June 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 06/03 Rita Walker
- 06/06 Ken Smith
- 06/12 Mark Maier
- 06/14 Nelson Wagner
- 06/15 Renee Wagner



Anniversaries

- 06/11 Ken & Sandi Smith
- 06/25 Edward & Eileen Seifert



GWRRA Chapter WA-O Officers and Volunteer Staff Members

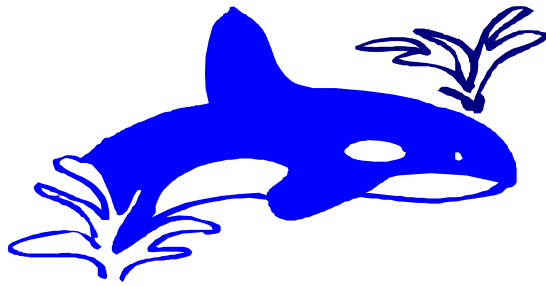
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For Sale

For Sale: 1967 Honda CT90 trail bike. Red, like new tires, new battery, all else great. Has Hi/low range transmission. Low miles. Looks and runs super. Collectable too! \$1000.00 Rick Williams @ 360-876-1994

For Sale: Motorcycle Jacket, size 50 Brando style (motorcycle cop) very heavy leather, brass zippers, thinsulate zip out liner. Like new. Cost \$225.00 sell for \$100.00 great deal! Rick Williams @ 360-876-1994

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