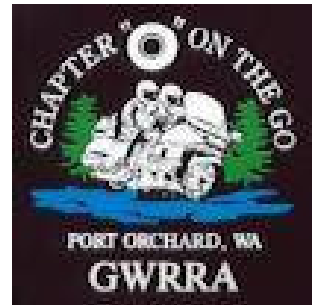




The Pod Publisher



GWRRRA - REGION I - WASHINGTON DISTRICT - CHAPTER O

April 1st, 2007

Volume 17, Issue #4

Thoughts from your Chapter Director

Hello to the Pod.

Well now that daylight savings time has gotten here. I hope that the extra hour of light means that Spring is not far behind. Along with Spring hopefully will come warm weather, and we can get out and do some of the rides that we all have been dreaming about over the past few months.

Even though most of our trusty wings have been put away, there has been a lot of things going on that has been well attended. We have had great turnouts at our chapter gatherings, thank you to all of Chapter "O" and to all our visitors. You are what keeps our chapter strong and a pleasure to be apart of.

Speaking of great turn outs, Wow the Bowling Challenge was a great success, I want to thank all of the Chapters who came to Bowl or just came to support your bowlers. I would like to say thank you to Mike Messinger and his gang from Chapter "L" for braving the weather and coming from Tri Cities to join us. Chapter "L" walked away with the high score for men with a 237 also the high score for women with a 186, and they also won the Bowling Challenge, Con-gratulations. The Bowling Challenge trophy was not the only thing that went back to the Tri cities with Chapter "L", I believe our poor little orca has been "Orca-napped". Yes Boys and Girls, The Looney Tunes from East of the Cascades has carried him away.

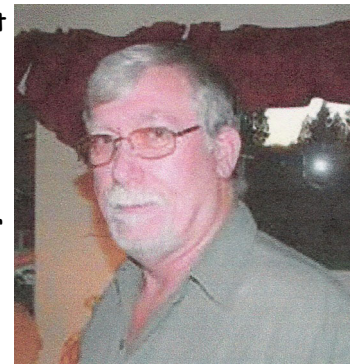
Never fear Folks for I now have as my newest Assistant Chapter Director, A Detective. Yes, you have heard me right a Kitsap County Detective, but that is not all. These fine assistants of mine Ken Smith and his lovely wife Sandi came to us from the Tri cities. So look out to the Gang from the East, for one day soon the "O" Posse will be mounting up to come a looking for that poor little Orca.

Thanks to all you from Chapter "O" who helped with the Challenge. Those who bowled. Those who worked it and to those who came to support it. You made me proud, we had 54 bowlers.

Now that the Bowling is behind us our next big task is upon us. The Governors run will soon be here and we have lots to do. We will be working registration as well as putting the Dinner on. So if you are new in the chapter or have never done it before you can come and talk to me or any one of the staff and we would be happy to have your help. If you have not registered yet and are planning on going please do so.

Well, I will close this with one last thought. There will be a lot of rides coming up this year and most of us will be going to Wing Ding. So please make sure that your Bike is ready to go, don't wait till you get to Wing Ding to get tires, you will not save enough money to make it worth risking your life. I want to see all your smiling faces this time next year.

Ride safe.
John.



ACDs Ken & Sandi

Greetings Fellow Pod Members,
 This has been a hectic month at home and work for Sandi and I. I helped John, John, John, Mike and Tim bowl at the challenge after the chapter gathering and did ok but I was pretty sore the next couple days. I hadn't touched a bowling ball in about 17 years. John and I went to Chapter F's Meeting the end of February and it was interesting. Since then Sandi and I have been really busy and didn't get to the dinner social or the Aberdeen chapter visit and mall show. As some of you know I coach the South Kitsap High Navy JROTC Air Rifle team and we're in the middle of our competition season. Our youngest turned 21 the day of the planning meeting so we didn't get to it either, so I sure hope John lets me know what coming up.

Has anyone been tinkering with their motorcycle yet? I sure have and am really getting the riding bug. I've not only been going over the motorcycle and trailer, but I've been checking out our helmets, first aid kits and stuff like that just to make sure it's up to speed.

Well that's about it for now see you at the chapter gathering.

A/CD Ken and Sandi Smith



District Director Bob Minor installed Ken and Sandi as the newest Assistant Chapter Directors at the February gathering.

Chapter Gatherings



WA-V	Auburn	1st Thu	WA-Q	Puyallup	1st Fri
WA-M	Yakima	1st Sat	WA-R	Walla Walla	1st Sat
WA-B	Bremerton	1st Sun	WA-H	Lynden	2nd Tue
WA-W	Wenatchee	2nd Tue	WA-Y	Enumclaw	2nd Fri
WA-C	Everett	2nd Sat	WA-L	Kennewick	2nd Sat
WA-Z	Centralia	2nd Sat	WA-D	Aberdeen	2nd Sun
WA-S	Ephrata	3rd Thu	WA-E	Bellevue	3rd Sat
WA-G	Gig Harbor	3rd Sat	WA-K	White Salmon	3rd Sat
WA-P	Longview	3rd Sat	WA-I	Olympia	3rd Sun
WA-N	Spokane	3rd Sun	WA-A	Seattle	4th Sat
WA-O	Port Orchard	4th Sat	WA-F	Tacoma	4th Sun

Chapter O hosts a gathering the 4th Saturday of each month at the Airport Diner, located at the Bremerton Municipal Airport on State Route 3. Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM followed by the gathering at 9:00 AM. See WWW.GWRRR.ORG for other chapters meeting locations and times.



A group of bowlers at the bowling challenge. Looks like we will have to go to the Tri-Cities next year...

ACDs Bill & Lori

On March 6th at 6:30 PM at the China West restaurant on Mile Hill road, 20 hungry bikers showed up for hot tea, fried rice and every thing that goes with it. JK and Wilma were first on the scene to assure that ample seating and plenty of food were available. Followed by Lori and Bill. John and Myrna, Vern and Rita were close behind us. Also enjoying the Almond Chicken and Sweet and Sour Pork were Jim And Jan Olmsted, Nelson and Renee Wagner, John and Ilene Seifert, Steve and Melva and Jack and Colleen and last but not least Mark and Nancy. Ample food and conversation were had by all. Wish you could have been with us. Hope you can make it to the next dinner social on April 10th at 6:30 in Silverdale at 2 Margaritas (the old Don Ponchos) just to the west of the Bowling Alley.

Rider Education

A few months back, at our October meeting, there was some questions asked about modular headlights and the proper use of them. The article we have put in the newsletter (on page 4) hopefully will answer everyone's questions. Everyone of us has traveling on our minds in the near future, so here is a trailer check sheet to help get your trailer ready. (on page 5)

The article on "YOUR LANE IS YOUR LIMIT" has some good information in it. Just a reminder, to always ride within your limitations, in your comfort zone and not what the group is riding. If you are not comfortable the way you are riding, then you won't have much fun. RIDE SAFE !

Senior Rider Educators
Alan Fewel And Donna Dodge



Your Lane is Your Limit

Crossing the centerline at any time except during a passing maneuver is intolerable, another sign that you're pushing too hard to keep up. Even when you have a clean line of sight through a left-hand kink, stay to the right of the centerline. Staying on the right side of the centerline is much more challenging than simply straightening every slight corner, and when the whole group is committed to this intelligent practice, the temptation to cheat is eliminated through peer pressure and logic. Though street riding shouldn't be described in racing terms, you can think of your lane as the racetrack. Leaving your lane is tantamount to a crash.

Exact bike control has you using every inch of your lane if the circumstances permit it. In corners with a clear line of sight and no oncoming traffic, enter at the far outside of the corner, turn the bike relatively late in the corner to get a late apex at the far inside of your lane and accelerate out, just brushing the far outside of your lane as your bike stands up. Steer your bike forcefully but smoothly to minimize the transition time; don't hammer it down because the chassis will bobble slightly as it settles, possibly carrying you off line. Since you haven't charged in on the brakes, you can get the throttle on early, before the apex, which balances and settles your bike for the drive out.

More often than not, circumstances do not permit the full use of your lane from yellow line to white line and back again. Blind corners, oncoming traffic and gravel on the road are a few criteria that dictate a more conservative approach, so leave yourself a three- or four-foot margin for error, especially at the left side of the lane where errant oncoming traffic could prove fatal.

Simply narrow your entrance on a blind right-hander and move your apex into your lane three feet on blind left turns in order to stay free of unseen oncoming traffic hogging the centerline.

Because you're running at The Pace and not flat out, your controlled entrances offer additional time to deal with unexpected gravel or other debris in your lane; the outside wheel track is usually the cleanest through a dirty corner since a car weights its outside tires most, scrubbing more dirt off the pavement in the process, so aim for that line.

From the WA District Rider Education Newsletter

Modulating Headlights:

While visiting Chapter WA-O Social Gathering in October, a member asked me if there were any studies available on the use of motorcycle Modulating-headlights. I didn't know of any study or studies nor did anyone else at the social gathering, but I would research the "web" for an answer to his question.

Also, there was some discussion on the legality of motorcycle headlight-modulators in all 50 states. Here is the Federal Law about the legality of motorcycle headlight-light modulators:

"Federal law supersedes all state laws and makes motorcycle headlight modulators legal in all 50 states. FMVSS 108 (Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards) (49 CFR Part 571.108 S7.9.4) allows motorcycle headlight modulation systems all 50 states provided they comply with the standards set forth. Title 49 USC 30103 (b1) (US Codes) prohibits any state from forbidding a system that conforms to FMVSS 108." Headlight modulators are also legal in Canada.

The entire Subpart B--Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, Sec. 571.108 Standard No. 108 can be read on the WA District Educators Web site — under "LINKS."

From the "Hurt" Study:

The Hurt study, published in 1981, still offers riders insight into the statistics regarding motorcycle accidents and tips on safer riding. With funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), researcher Harry Hurt (from which the study gets its common name) of the University of Southern California, investigated almost every aspect of 900 motorcycle accidents in the Los Angeles area. Additionally, Hurt and his staff analyzed 3,600 motorcycle traffic accident reports in the same geographic area.

Three excerpts of the Hurt Studies "Summary of Findings:"

- Conspicuity of the motorcycle is a critical factor in the multiple vehicle accidents, and accident involvement is significantly reduced by the use of motorcycle headlamps (on in daylight) and the wearing of high visibility yellow, orange or bright red jackets.
- Conspicuity of the motorcycle is most critical for the frontal surfaces of the motorcycle and rider.
- Motorcycles equipped with fairings and windshields are underrepresented in accidents, most likely because of the contribution to conspicuity and the association with more experienced and trained riders.

An excerpt from the "webBikeWorld Motorcycle Safety page."

"... the Hurt Study mentioned motorcycle visibility (or lack thereof) as one of the prime causal factors in motorcycle/vehicle accidents (or not), especially from oncoming vehicles turning left in front of the motorcycle, Note that there aren't any "scientific" studies that we are aware of that definitively prove that headlight modulators reduce accidents, but both the U.S. and Canadian governments must have been convinced of the efficacy of modulators when they passed legislation permitting them."

Finally, an excerpt from the National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety.

- Headlight modulators, which cause the light to alternate between a higher and a lower intensity during the day, also increase conspicuity (Hurt, 1981). Headlight modulators are federally regulated lighting devices and as such, all state law governing them is preempted. Motorcycle headlight modulators have not been studied to determine their effects on other motorists."

The WA District Educator used the phrase "headlight-modulator studies" to search the web and reviewed all 18 of the sights that appeared. The one continuous "thread" throughout researching the Member's question was "Conspicuity," that is to be seen by other motor vehicle operators, but no scientific studies only opinions.



GWRRA

Rider Education



Trailer Check Sheet

Check Item	Conditions to check	OK (Y/N)
Lights	Brake lights, turn signals, running lights	
Wiring	Breaks, cracks, pinches, chafing. Clean connections	
Tires	Tread, cracks, correct pressure (don't forget the spare if you carry one)	
Wheels	Rust, lug nuts (on and tight), wheel bearings	
Hitch	Locking shoe adjustment, pin or ball clamp, bolts and frame connections, rust, loose connections	
Ball or Pin	Unusual wear, cleanliness, lubrication	
Safety Chains	Adequate length, strength, rust, attachment hooks	
Suspension	Correct pressure in air shocks, rust, loose mountings, spring tension	
Chassis & Frame	Rust, cracks, broken frame members, cracked welds	
Tongue	Rust, cracks, trailer frame bolts	

Schedule of Events

- 6th WA-Q Auction and Gathering Leave Tremont 76 at 5:30 PM
- 7th Bike Maintenance Ken's New Garage 10 AM. Call Ken for directions 360-876-6737
- 7th Wing Ding Meeting, Brown Bag Lunch 1:30 PM
- 10th Dinner Social 2 Margarita's (Used to be Don Poncho's) Silverdale 6:30 PM
- 14th WA-C Spring Fun Run Leave Tremont 76 at 5:30 AM take 6:30 AM Kingston Ferry
- 24th Planning Meeting Jack's 6:30 PM
- 28th Monthly Gathering, Airport Café 8:00 AM

April 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 <i>WA-Q Auction</i>	7 <i>Ken's Garage</i>
8	9	10 <i>Dinner Social</i>	11	12	13	14 <i>WA-C Spring Fun Run</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 <i>Planning Meeting</i>	25	26	27	28 <i>Monthly Gather</i>
29	30					

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 3/7 Aaron Dodge (missed last month, sorry)
 4/21 Barbara Berreman
 4/21 Jim Olmsted
 4/23 Alan Fewel
 4/28 Betty Boyd
 4/28 Robert Rifenbury



Anniversaries

- 4/3 Roger & Linda Kleinendorst—25
 4/3 Rick & Sharon Williams—36
 4/8 Steve & Melva Lefave—35
 4/28 Robert Rifenbury—23



GWRRA Chapter WA-O Officers and Volunteer Staff Members

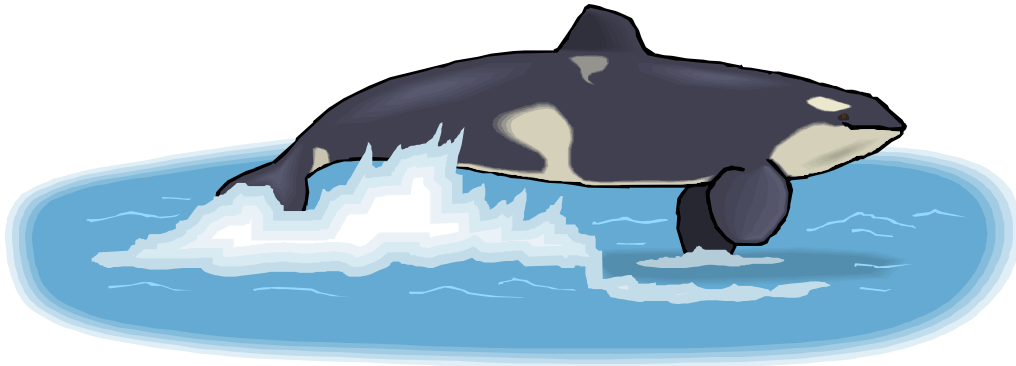
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