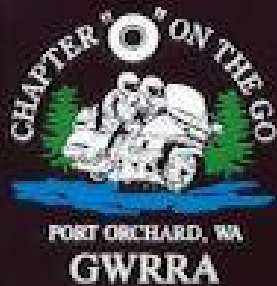


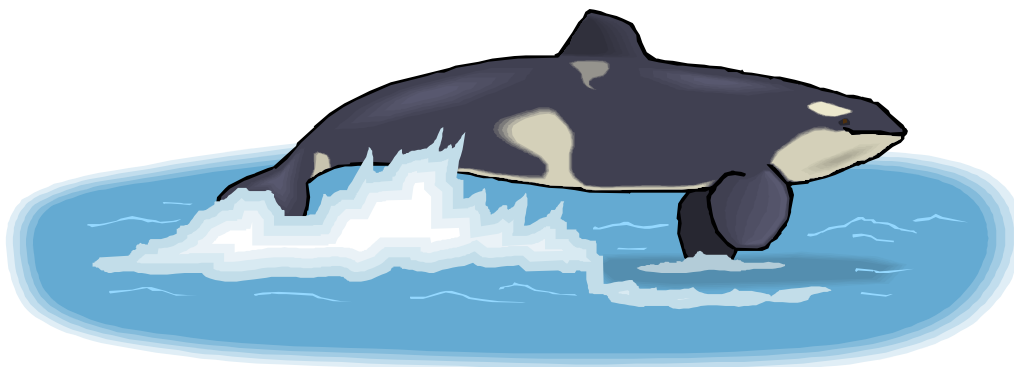
Volume 16, Issue #4

April 1st, 2006



GWRRA . REGION I . WASHINGTON DISTRICT . CHAPTER O

The Pod Publisher



HOPPY EASTER
GOODIES

Thoughts from your Chapter Director



Hello Pod.

Wow, what a busy month February was. Chapter "O" was on the go, we attended a District work shop, we did several chapter visits and we went to the Bowling Challenge and won the trophy. Thanks to the bowlers and the supporters.

After looking at my calendar it looks like March is going to be just as busy. We started out the month by going to Chapter Q's meeting in Puyallup, we also went to Chapter B's meeting, Chapter F's meeting, and to Chapter D's meeting and Mall Show. There were over 70 Bikes at the mall in Aberdeen (good job).

I want to thank Bill & Lori Biltoft for opening their home to the Chapter on the 11th so that Bill could teach a first aid and CPR class. Thanks Bill, you did a great job.

Well guess what time of year it is, yep your right it is time for the 24th Annual Bob Merriman Memorial Governor's Run. Even though it is held on May the 6th and 7th my staff and I are working on getting things going for the Barbeque so that we may be as successful as last year. In order to achieve this we will need all of the Orcas help in this. Our chapter will also be handling registration so if any one in the chapter did not work it last year and would like to this year just let my-self or some one on the staff know. Thank you in advance.

Now, on to other things, I talked to my Brother-in-Law today and found out he went down on his bike while traveling south bound on I-5 in Seattle. He was not hurt too badly, just took some hide off of his hand. He said he was traveling at 65 or 70 mph, when he topped a rise in the road and I-5 was one big parking lot. He was able to get it slowed down and laid down before the point of impact. It messed up his front fender. It could have been so much worse. Just remember folks be alert at all times.

We had a great turn-out at February meeting, so I hope to see all of you there again this month.

John

Rider Education, Senior Educators Donna and Alan

Managing Risk

By Jim Roberson

The Merriam Webster online dictionary defines manage as “to handle or direct with a degree of skill” and risk as “someone or something that creates or suggests a hazard”. This definitely applies to motorcycle riding because if you look at our sport, it is clearly a matter of managing risk every time we ride.

I will only give three examples here; there are countless others that could be added, but that would be out of scope for this article. What I would hope that you take away from this article is the idea that everything you do while riding contains to some degree a defined level of risk management and that you should think about the ride and not what you are going to be doing at your destination or what you are going to have for dinner tonight. Those things can be dealt with more appropriately at another time.

You see one of those yellow deer warning signs. You think to yourself; I have ridden through this area hundreds of times and have never seen a deer, therefore the sign must have been put there by mistake. According to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices “the use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the unnecessary use of warning signs tends to breed disrespect for all signs.” You have definitely mismanaged risk. According to an article on living with wildlife in Washington, more than half of all deer/vehicle collisions occur in October and November and that deer are most active at dawn and dusk. You should be especially watchful during these times. This does not mean other times are safe; it means that other times there is a lower risk. Manage Risk!

You are riding down the highway and the sky ahead looks threatening. We have all heard the sayings that if you don’t like the weather wait a few minutes and it will change. Since weather prediction is at best an inexact science, we must rely on inputs from our senses and the reports from reputable sources in order to manage risk. The question is; do you stop and put on your rain gear or take a chance? This is another fine example of managing risk. A number of factors will help you make your decision such as how much further do I have to go; how familiar am I with this area; is there a safe place for me to pull off if necessary? Again, Manage Risk.

You are riding in the rain on the freeway and are approaching an interchange with large truck fuel stops on both sides of the highway. It is approaching dusk and you see several trucks on the entrance ramp. What do you do? It is not the intent of this article to tell you what to do, but to encourage you to quickly assess the situation and make the best decision that you can to ensure your own safety. In other words, Manage Risk.

Just a few situations, but they do cause you to think about using your skills effectively, that is managing, to avoid a hazardous situation; risk.

Rid Safe !

First Aid Kit – CPR

At this time each year, we usually try and get members who need CPR and First Aid classes done before the riding season begins. Saturday, March 11th we did just that. We met at Bill and Lori Biltoff's house. We had a very interesting class this year. Our class was given by Bill Biltoff, and it was different than any other class I have attended in the past. Bill ran a video and at certain points, he would quit the video and discuss the material we had just viewed. I enjoyed the class very much along with everyone else. It seemed to me, that what you watched on the video and then the presentation of the material made it a lot easier to remember. Especially when you took the test at the end of class! We all did great! So as we are accustomed to at our gatherings, we had to eat lunch when we were done. We had spaghetti and polish sausages on hot dog buns. We all ate our share. After thanking our wonderful hosts, it was time to leave. We all waddled up the driveway to head home after spending part of the day with good friends, a wonderful class and teacher, and good food. Hopefully with what we learned, if needed, we will apply our knowledge in the proper way!! Those who attended class were Terry Phillips, Jim Olmsted, John Scrivner, Joyce Brown Woods, Lori Biltoff Alan Fewel, and Donna Dodge.

Senior Rider Educators, Alan Fewel and Donna Dodge

Chapter Store

Greetings,

Just a reminder to everyone the store items will be at the chapter meetings. We have most patches, pins, anything you might want for your vest. We have everything displayed in our new catalogue, so check it out. Or if there's something you want me to check on call or email me and I'll find out what I can.

Recently the Staff meeting it was decided to get more uniformed with our chapter shirts. White was discussed as the color but black will still be considered. John is looking into the same place Chapter G is having theirs done for pricing.

With that said all remaining shirts are 50% off the normal cost. We have only a few logo shirts left so if you'd like one contact me. We have left: White Collarless 3 Button SS, 1-L and 1-3XL, Black Polo SS 3XL, Black T-Shirt L and White T-Shirt 2-2XL. Don't forget your patches for your vests either.

So get your goodies and display your chapter affiliation.

Store Keeper Ken (Smith)

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR GOVERNOR'S RUN

It's time to start thinking about the up-coming 24th Annual Bob Merriman Memorial Washington Governor's Run. Not only has the name of this event has grown, but simple afternoon ride, has become a two day event with many thing to see and to do.

This year, Chapter "O", is once again handling the On-Site Registration. We welcome all of our members to sign up to help with this task. Its fun to greeting new riders, as well as the ones you may only see from one year to the next. Young children going on their first run with their parent, bikes of all sizes and everyone out for a good time. There will be vendors with chrome, tires, all sorts of bike related accessories, entertainment and food of course, Plus the GRAND PRIZE!!!!!!

Speaking of food, we are also putting on the Bar-"O"- Que again this year. It was a success last year and we hope to make it so once again. We can't do these things without the support of you, the members. So, come slice a tomato or scoop out the salad or what every needs to be done to make it happen.

One other thing, last year Chapter "O" took largest Chapter by Pre-registration. We can do that again. We will have flyers available at the meeting. April the 15th is the dead line. You'll be able save a little money by pre-registering. This is a very special event for a very good cause. For those of you that are new members don't miss this one.

John & Myrna



Riddler's Corner, Submitted by Rick Williams and J.K. Laird

Three old ladies named Gertrude, Maude and Tilly were sitting on a park bench having a quiet conversation when a flasher approached from across the park. The flasher approached the ladies, stood right in front of them and opened his trench coat.

Gertrude immediately had a stroke,
Then Maude also had a stroke.

Tilly, bless her heart, being older and more feeble, couldn't reach that far.

In a certain suburban neighborhood, two brothers, 8 and 10 years old, were exceedingly mischievous. Whatever went wrong in the neighborhood, it turned out they had had a hand in it. Their parents were at their wits' end trying to control them. Hearing about a priest nearby who worked with delinquent boys, the mother suggested to the father that they ask the priest to talk with the boys. The father replied, "Sure, do that before I kill them!"

The mother went to the priest and made her request. He agreed, but said he wanted to see the younger boy first and alone. So the mother sent him to the priest.

The priest sat the boy down across a huge, impressive desk he sat behind. For about five minutes they just sat and stared at each other.

Finally, the priest pointed his forefinger at the boy and asked, "Where is God?"

The boy looked under the desk, in the corners of the room, all around, but said nothing.

Again, louder, the priest pointed at the boy and asked, "Where is God?"

Again the boy looked all around but said nothing. A third time, in a louder, firmer voice, the priest leaned far across the desk and put his forefinger almost to the boy's nose, and asked, "Where is God?"

The boy panicked and ran all the way home. Finding his older brother,

he dragged him upstairs to their room and into the closet, where they

usually plotted their mischief. He finally said, "We are in BIIIIIG trouble."

The older boy asked, "What do you mean, BIIIIIG trouble?"

His brother replied, "God is missing and they think we did it."

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.

Please send us your articles, recipes, short stories jokes (good taste), Etc. Please send them as earlier and often as you'd like. I can always hang on to things for the next News letter.

Thanks for your support! Ken and Sandi Smith

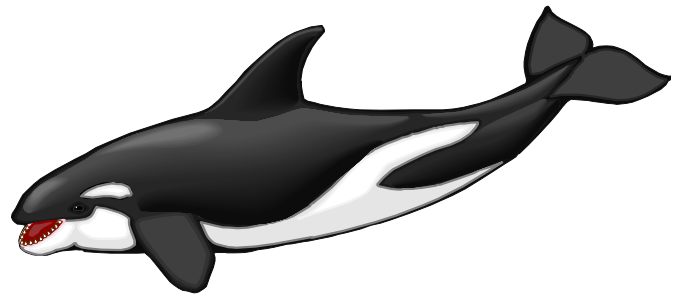
Members Make the Chapter

Your Chapter serves the Membership, and as such we Members need to serve it. We all lead busy lives regardless if we work or are retired. Kind of reminds me of the Jerry McGuire movie a few years ago with the famous phrase "Let me help you". To make a chapter strong and vibrant everyone needs to contribute a little bit. I know we have members who have the "been there and done that" story, and to be honest at times I'm one of them.

Chapter WA-O has a rich history of riding in force to events. At one time we were known at "O on the Go". The key word above is history. As a chapter, we were also known for huge turnouts at summer events and having many people camping. I know we are all a little older now, and I'm the first to find a motel in lieu of camping but the point is we went places. Here in the cooler-riding season (unless you commute by motorcycle) weeks may go by before you even see your motorcycle, much less riding it. It does not mean we cannot travel by car to do things together. It is true that most motorcycling events take place in the warmer months. But we do try to schedule activities such as dinner or ice cream socials once a month. Maybe we should start scheduling weekend events such as bowling or movies or maybe a visit to a museum.

The chapter has its staff meeting on the Tuesday prior to our regular meeting. You all are welcome to attend and participate in those meetings.

JK



Burglary Prevention, Ken Smith

Reducing Criminal Opportunity is the foundation from which Crime Prevention is built.

Crime Facts

Burglary is the most prevalent neighborhood crime. Most people believe that residential burglaries occur during the nighttime when people are not home. The truth is that more burglaries occur during daylight hours when people are away at work or on vacation. Household burglary is one of the easiest crimes to commit and the hardest to solve.

Household burglary is one of the most rapidly increasing major crimes in the nation. Statistics show that in over one-half of the household burglaries no forced entry is made.

What should you do if you arrive home and discover that your door has been kicked or pried open or a window has been broken out?

DO NOT ENTER YOUR HOME. It is unknown if the burglar is still in your home. Household burglary has a high potential for death or injury in cases where the property owner surprises a burglar. Immediately call 911 either on your cell phone or go to a neighbors and call.

PREPAREDNESS AND AWARENESS IS THE KEY TO PREVENTION.

- **Get to know your neighbors.
- **Organize a neighborhood meeting and establish a crime watch in your neighborhood.
- ** Be aware of suspicious vehicles and subjects in your neighborhood.
- **If you see a suspicious vehicle write down the license plate and description of the vehicle.
- **Try to obtain a good description of the subject (s).
- **Security systems have proven to be an effective deterrent.
- **Install appropriate lighting systems around your home.
- **Take photographs and document serial numbers of important items.
- **Engrave your personal ID number on your belongings

STAY SAFE!

Getting Involved and Getting New Involvement, Rick Williams

Hi everyone,

Many of you may know that Sharon and I are foster parents to teen boys. In addition, I am the President of Kitsap Foster Care Association and Sharon is the Treasurer. We have been doing this for 9 years. We are the 2nd largest Foster Parent Association in WA State. In the beginning, it was just the "board" that met and membership just wasn't there. It was very sad but, we recruited, took ownership, promoted and did fun things and now we have a budget of almost \$40,000 and about 135 members. We do raffles; have educational speakers, things for the kids to do and of course, food! This requires 13 board members and dedication. Our web site is terrific and our reputation is rock solid.

As a GWRRA member, I look and see that many of our leaders are the same souls from years past. They keep doing what it takes to make the organization keep working but where is the new blood? It's there but is there enough? We always applaud them for stepping forward but would you? Are you any busier than them? PLEASE!!

The point is, we all want a great, fun organization. One that keeps us having a good time and going fun places but,..... do we ALL need to do our part to make it so? The ones that do are very, very special people. They give you THEIR time. What do you give? Do you attend the meetings? Purchase 50/50 tickets and financial support really helps, I might add.

We all know that we need; new members but what is really needed is younger members. Lets recruit! Most of us are getting, and I hate to say it, OLD! We older types get stale and settle for anything coming our way. If that weren't true, than why isn't there a huge rush of new, fresh ideas on how to have fun?

OKAY.....ticked off? Then get off your butt and get some new, young recruits or come up with your own ideas on what we should do. We ride Motorcycles, not lazy boys! It is time to support those that have stepped forward. We only get out of it, what we put into it.

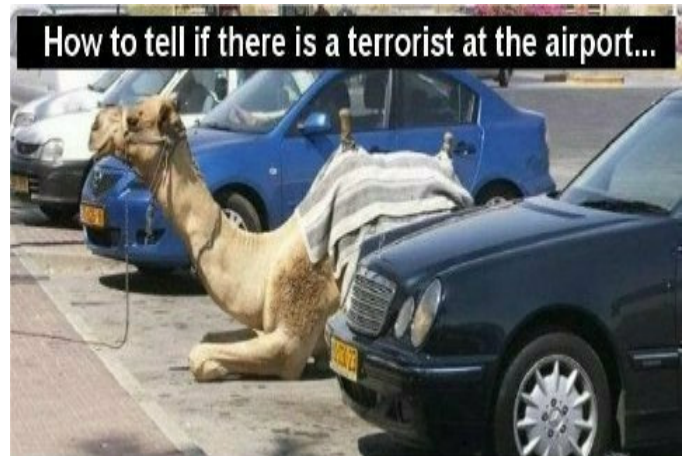
The positives are what we are about. The potential is unknown. Where do you want to go? Support the terrific staff that supports your organization! DO something!

To those that are always there, I give you praise. (there are many) Those that are iffy, try to be better and those that just don't find it fun, tell us why! We really want to know. We can change. If you don't tell us, we may never know. (remember, we are OLD!)

So, perhaps I am off base. If I made you mad. Good! Tell

me. If I hit a nerve.....tough. Do something about it besides hiding under the sheets. Let's make Chapter "O", more fun than ever!

Ricky Rocket and yes, I now ride a Gold Wing




Motorcycling Tips

Here is a tip when riding your motorcycle very early morning or late at night while in the rain. The beam of your headlight becomes absorbed in the "black," wet asphalt roadway because of "light scattering" and refraction principals. This can be a little un-nerving at 60+ mph on the freeway with other motor vehicles who, for the most part, are driving "tunnel blind" in the rain. You no longer of have the forward visible space to see hazards in the roadway and the additional reaction time needed to maneuver around an object. One trick I use is to follow another motor vehicle -- not too close -- and use their rear lights' reflections to illuminate my path of travel. Also, I use the distant overhead roadway lights to reflect highway conditions back to me. Simple enough. Now if I could only keep trucks from passing and blinding me with their wheels water spray.

Schedule of Events

- April 2nd Day Light Saving Time Begins
- April 2nd Chapter B Meeting Day
- April 7th Chapter Q's Auction, will state at 6:00pm at O'Farrell's
- April 8th: Chapter C, Everett, Fun Run, Lv Texaco 6:00am
- April 15th, Chapter G Meeting Day
- April 15th, Progressive Dinner Social, Stating at the Olmsted's, more to follow
- April 16th Easter Sunday
- April 18th: Staff Meeting at Jan & Jim Olmsted's, 6:30pm
- April 22nd: WA-O Regular Meeting, 8:00am, Airport Diner, Bremerton Airport
- April 23rd: Chapter F Meeting Day

April 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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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

- 04/21 James Olmsted
- 04/21 Barbara Berreman
- 04/23 Alan Fewel
- 04/28 Robert Rifenburg
- 04/28 Betty Boyd



Anniversaries

- 04/03 Rick Williams
- 04/08 Steve & Melva Lefave



GWRRA Chapter WA-O Officers and Volunteer Staff Members

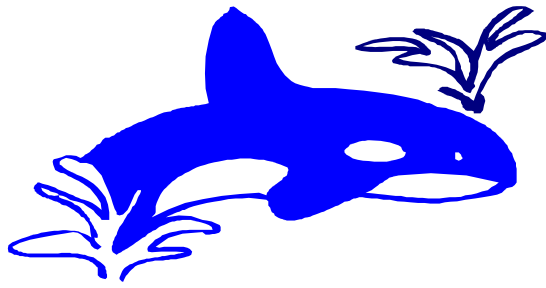
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Owner: Larry Gay

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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

For Sale: Portable 4ft by 4ft dry heat sauna, nice white cedar construction. Happy sun lighting lights with inferred heat, stereo AM/FM CD Player, paid over \$3,000.00 new asking \$2,000.00 just don't have the room for it now. Ken Smith @ 360-876-6737

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