



GWRRA CHAPTER WA-A SEATTLE, WA



Periodic News Letter
February 2018
www.gwrra-waa.org



Through the Windshield:



Looking through the Windshield:

Hello Chapter "A"

Here it is February already. Boy one twelfth of the year is already over! Just goes to prove you have to get out there and take advantage of each and every day, or it's just gone. And speaking of that several of us from Chapter "A", along with Chapter "V" and many others attended the South Sound Honda presentation today of the new GL1800.



Seeing it in pictures is one thing, but physically putting your hands on it is another. I'm sure we'll be seeing them on the road shortly.....

As I'm sitting here at the computer looking outside at a rainy, dismal and cold day I'm telling myself that spring is just around the corner. And although I was laid up almost all of January some of our Chapter members were able to put some miles on their wings out visiting other chapters.

Chapter "A" visited Chapters "V" on the 2nd, Chapter "B" on the 6th, Oregon Chapter "I" on the 13th and Chapter "D" on the 14th, Chapter "E" on the 20th,



Chapter "E" meeting.

Chapter "P" also on the 20th to attend the installation of their new CD,



and Chapter "I" on the 21st.



Great job Chapter "A" getting out there supporting the other chapters while having a lot of fun putting miles on your Wings.

If you haven't already registered for the **Washington District rider Ed workshop on March 10th**, you don't want to miss it! It looks like a fun and interesting day, and the Chapter will reimburse you the \$15.00 admission cost.

Don't forget our Chapter "A" monthly meeting **Saturday February 24th** at the IHOP Restaurant 610 Rainier Ave. South, Renton. Breakfast at **8:00am** with meeting at **9:00am**.

The monthly social for March 8th is at the MAZATLAN Restaurant 540 Rainier Ave. So. Renton 98055. (always the second Thursday of the month) Official time is 6:00pm, with some members showing up a little early.



What's your favorite restaurant? Just let us know, send a text, e-mail, or call and we'll set it up for our next social.....

-----**Don't miss the fun**-----

Don Hatley
Chapter "A" Director
dhatwaa@comcast.net

Assistant Director (ACD) – February 2018



Something from the road.

Nothing from the road for February.....

Todd McClain (ACD)

Chapter Treasurer – February 2018



From the treasurer....

Well, seeing that it's unlikely that I'll be able to pop for the 2018 Gold Wing anytime soon, I decided to make the jump to an older GL1800. I purchased a 2002 GL1800 from Powersports Northwest in Centralia. The dealer was very friendly and one of the guys on the sales staff actually races Gold Wings. He rides a GL1800 now, but there is a photo of him taking a curve on a racetrack riding a GL1500. He does some suspension and throttle modifications on the GL1800 to make it as responsive as possible. I don't think I'll be doing that, but I have enjoyed my first few rides on my "new" GL1800. It seems to have been owned by a frequent rider. It has 77,000 miles on it, a Gerbing plug-in, modulating brake lights, some add-on lights and an adjustable windshield upgrade. I'll add a modulating headlight for safety and some passenger arm rests for comfort. I've managed to get in one good ride so far. Mike, Todd, Harry and I made the trip down to Chapter D's January meeting and took a roundabout trip on the way back. The weather wasn't great, but it was certainly passable for a January ride.

Meanwhile I still have my GL1500. I needed to replace the ignition switch and that was quite a job. I had to tackle removing the fairing. Some post somewhere said it could be done in 45 minutes to an hour. I would like to see the footage for how he did that — it took me about 4 hours. A photo of the naked wing is attached. The bolts for the ignition are theft resistant breakaway bolts, so once the fairing is off, you have to cut slots into the remaining head of the bolt so that a screwdriver can be used to remove them. I cut the slot with a hacksaw, but couldn't budge the bolt with a screwdriver. I then emailed Mike about my progress and he advised me to try using a hand impact screwdriver. After a trip to Harbor Freight for a \$9 impact screwdriver, I was able to loosen the bolt with a few whacks. I installed the new ignition, then set about putting all the parts back on the bike. I managed to remember where all the screws and bolts went and ended up with none left over.



Charlie Butters / Treasurer

Membership Enhancement



Webmaster/Membership Enhancement Input – February 2018 - KEEPING IT INTERESTING

Yes, keeping things interesting is the difficult part of GWRRA Chapter life, especially if the membership is as diverse as ours in Washington State. We have retired members and working stiffs. It is an ongoing battle for our District's Chapter Directors to keep everyone interested. As the membership and demographics change, so do their interests. This happens in every Chapter as time passes and some of our folks depart due to relocation, health issues, advanced age.

The retired members seem to have all the time in the world and are free during the week. Those that are still working are either only available on Saturday or Sunday or maybe have their "weekends" in the middle of the week.

How do we accommodate everyone? The only way is to communicate amongst ourselves to compare notes and let one another know what our availability is.

How do we do that? By going to Socials and or Chapter Gatherings. While there, get our heads together and make our desires and availability known, whether it be riding or socializing. We could visit other chapters and see what they are planning. There is also the District Chapter websites with ride information.

For me, I have found that keeping the interest up means participating in socials, meetings and other events sponsored by other chapters. Variety is the spice of life after all.

We are all members of a national association that has hundreds of chapters all over the world. Of those many chapters, there are fifteen in Washington, not counting Chapter A. Of those fifteen, six are less than an hour away from the Kent/Renton area. Visiting and participating with them is very easy and enjoyable during the year. Three other chapters are less than two hours away and during less weather active days, provide a nice ride opportunity just to go and visit them.

The other five chapters require a bit more sunshine because it requires traveling across the mountains to get to them. But hey, spring and summer is just around the corner and rides over the mountain can be a lot of fun. Several of us ride over the mountain just to have a burger, a tamale, or some pie alamos.

But, I think the best way is to just pick up the phone and call someone and see if they are interested in a ride either at the time you make the call or perhaps a few days down the road. The telephone company used to advertise "Reach out and touch someone". It, of course, was an attempt at building revenue because they were advocating long distance calls.

Nowadays with the advent of cell phones, long distance calls are pretty much all free. But, it still holds true, "Reach out and Touch Someone". The personal touch is a very powerful tool. You would be surprised how readily someone would be willing to get out and do something when you are talking in their ear rather than talking to their eyes via email.

If you are interested in going for a ride, call me at 253-535-4271. Don't be alarmed when you get a message that says "This customer does not accept solicitation calls....". It is a phone company service that helps weed out the telemarketers and it does work. Just stay on the line and you should get through with no problem.

That said, take a look at our website, <http://www.gwrra-waa.org/>. In the lower part of the front page you will see a list of rides coming up between now and September. This is the short list. It includes the names of the rides, who is setting them up and there are flyers to download for most of them.

On the top of the left margin of the web page, you will see the heading of **2018 Calendar with Clickable Links**. Click into it and it will take you to the current months calendar. Previous months and subsequent months are there for you as well, all you need to do is scroll up or down.

Mike Brieese

WA-A Webmaster/Membership Enhancement Coordinator

Motorcycle Awareness – February 2018



MOTORIST AWARENESS BACK SEAT DRIVERS

Recently my wife and I had an opportunity to spend some vacation time in Mazatlan, Mexico. Many times our mode of transportation was by the local bus, taxi, or pulmonia (mainly an open air VW driven only in Mazatlan). Many times I wondered where the driver's attention was focused. The customary stop sign (which in Spanish is ALTO) is merely a yielding event. "Right of way" is simply being able to squeeze into an empty spot in the traffic. Many times I wanted to "mention" to the driver that maybe he is too close to the vehicle in front of us. Two lane roads were often made into three lanes, which meant the shoulder was open to one and all. I learned several things from these "adventures":

1. Listen to the “suggestions” offered by your co-rider (backseat driver) since you may not be aware of some potential dangers from your driving methods
2. If you have to make an emergency stop along the side of the highway – watch for the traffic approaching you. For one reason or another they might take a liking to your vehicle and want to use it as a hood ornament, along with your own person.

Share your thoughts of Motorist Awareness with others during some casual conversations. That extra thought in their minds about motorcycles on the road may be a life saver.



Vic Parr
District MAP Coordinator



Ride Coordinator – February 2018

Oregon Chapter I Visitation

It was an early morning start to go visit chapter I. Three of us were up for the Visit. Todd, Mike and I. The meeting place was 512 McDonalds at 5:30 am. Helmets on ready to go. The morning was cool with a mist in the air. Heading down I-5 enjoying the ride, we arrived at the Bomber restaurant in Milwaukie, Oregon at 7:55 for a breakfast at 8:00.



Like Don always says, timing is everything. The meeting started at 9:00 with a full room. The owner of the restaurant with a big smile on her face, came in to say thank you to Bijou and Chapter I for choosing her restaurant for their meeting place.



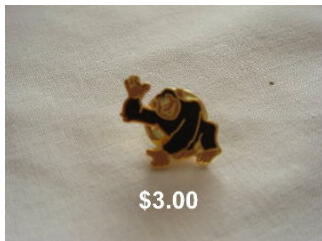
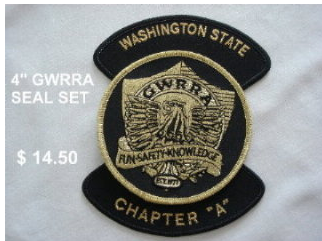
The meeting was coming to an end but not before Mike won the 50/50 and I won a gift certificate to a place in Milwaukie. I was happy to pass it on to a chapter I member at our table to use, He was happy. After some goodbyes it was time to head home. On the road at about 10:30 we took some side roads home, to stretch out the day a bit. The Sun was out, it felt so good being on the bikes. It was a fun day, maybe we will see you on our next ride. As always keep the rubber side down.

Bill Holt / Ride Coordinator

Chapter Stores



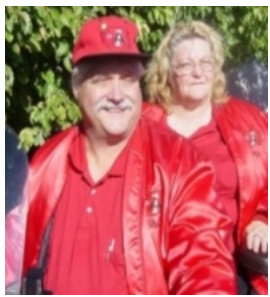
Nothing new for this month in Chapter "A" Stores.



The full stores inventory is on the Chapter Website:

Gary Beard/Stores Manager

Chapter Sunshine / Greeters



February Birthdays



February Anniversaries



No Birthdays or Anniversaries for February

Chris & Patty Johnson
Sunshine / Greeters



WA"A" Activities

- Sat - February 24th – Chapter "A" Meeting at the IHOP
- Sat – March 3rd – Visiting WA-X at Golden Corral
- Sat – March 10th – WA Dist Ride Into Spring
- Fri – Sun -16-18th WA-E Surf Watch (Canceled)
- Sat – Wed – Mar 31 – Apr 4th WA-V Fed Way Rest Stop (Fund Raiser)
- Sat – April 7th WA-M Multi-Chapter Gathering
- Sat – April 21st WA-V Maintenance Day @ Harter's
- Sun – April 29th WA-N Brown Bag Auction
- Sat – May 5th WA-M Fun Run
- Fri – Sun May 11 – May 13th WA-B Mall Show – Silverdale
- Sat – Wed May 12 – 16th WA-V Fed Way Rest Stop (Fund Raiser)

Fri – Tue May 25 – May 28th WA-L Desert Spring Fling



Motorcycles and / or Parts Buy / Sale

Add's will be listed for three (3) months or until sold!

SELLING

GL1800 trailer hitch w/ insert and electrical. \$75. dhatwaa@comcast.net

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Don & Tina Hatley

WA-A Chapter Directors