



GWRRA CHAPTER WA-A SEATTLE, WA



Periodic News Letter
December 2019
www.gwrra-waa.org



Something from the road.



Something from the road!



Merry Christmas to All

Hello chapter "A". Well here it is. Not really the best conditions for riding. We did have a good time at the Christmas dinner that our sister chapter, **V**, put on. Was a great time, with our friends to get together. No scars from the gift exchange and I think everyone had fun. I scored a cool work light and now I can see what I'm doing, hope it helps. Was planning on riding down to **Q's** last meeting but the radar didn't think it was a good idea. Bill didn't get the memo and he rode. lol. Didn't rain too hard, but it'll put a damper on the fun. Didn't win the marble game. They kept pulling marbles and I didn't even get a chance to try before there was a winner. It's not my retirement plan, but it's always fun to win. Chapter **Q** is no more but I do expect to see those guys still participating in the fun. We are going to have a meeting on the Saturday after Christmas. At least I'll get someone to cook me breakfast. lol. Hopefully the New Year ride won't be too cold or wet. Not really sure what the weatherman is saying about it. Be brave, little buckaroos. Come on out and let's burn some gas and wear out some tires. Merry Christmas. Your CD Todd



Don't forget! This **Saturday December 28th** is our **Chapter "A"** monthly meeting at the Golden Steer Restaurant. Breakfast starting at **8:00am** with meeting following at **9:00**. **Usually a ride after.....**



23826 104th Ave SE, Kent, WA 98031.

(Have you checked out the **Chapter "A" Website** lately? Our Webmaster works on it almost daily, Check it out). gwrro-waa.org ***Come on out and join in!***

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

Todd McLain
Chapter "A" Director
toddwmclain@msn.com



Assistant Director (ACD) – December 2019



Looking through the Windshield:

Good afternoon Chapter “A” – As I sit here working on our December News Letter its hard to believe that 2019 is almost over. It’s been a very busy year attending rides, visiting multiple district, chapter meetings and events. With Christmas just days, and New Year’s less than two weeks away lets all plan on a “Safe and fun Holiday Season” and a Fantastic year ahead enjoying our Winging Community.

We had another well attended Chapter meeting for November with visitors from Chapter “V”, Chapter “Q” and Chapter “I” also there for the fun. They invited Chapter “A” members to their Christmas party’s this year.



Chapter “A” meeting on the 23rd



With the weather turning cold and wintery there hasn’t been a lot of good riding for the last month so several of our members have participate in some Christmas events.

A lot of fun was had at the Chapter “V” Christmas party on Sunday December the 8th.

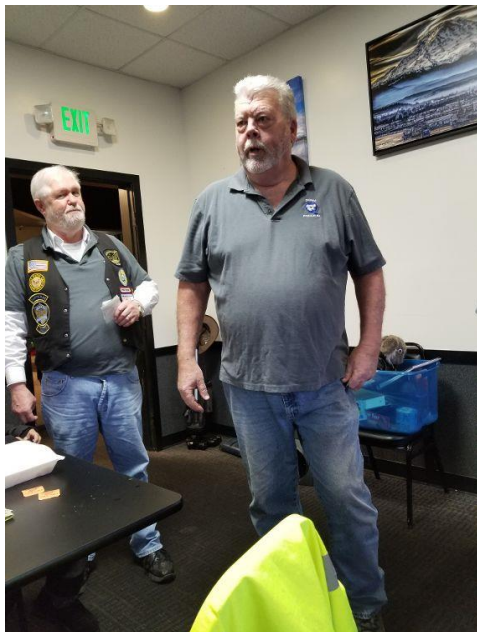


Then there was the chapter “Q” party on Friday the 13th!



And then sadly the next day Saturday December 14th we attended the last meeting for Chapter “Q”. Effective January 1, 2020 three and possibly four Washington District chapters will be closing the doors for good. Chapter’s “D” “P”, “Q” and possibly one more are closing due lack of a member stepping up to the Chapter Director position!

This year (2020) lets each of us make an effort to get out there and make visitations to as many of the district, chapters, rides, events and meetings as possible to support them and enjoy their comradery and love for riding our “Wings”.



Chapter “Q” Last meeting (Sad to see them go!)

Chapter “A” will be in its 40th year in 2020

Let’s plan some fun celebrations

Till next month your ACD



Don Hatley
Chapter “A” ACD
dhatwaa@comcast.net

Chapter Treasurer – December 2019



From the treasurer

Perk of riding - better parking at my job

Costco corporate has been growing a lot over the last few years, to the point where parking is now a big problem. I can't complain too much, because it is free parking, but it has become a pain. When I started in 2010, I parked it a lot next to our building. Now they have moved the IT department (we seem to be first on the list for relocation) to a leased building a few blocks from the main campus and there is still parking by the building, but they have hired so many people in IT that in order to get a spot there, I have to show up at 6:30am instead of my old arrival time of 7:15am. That's not crazy early but like many people, I don't like moving my alarm back to 5:20. Because if I get there too late, I have to drive back to the main campus to the relatively new parking ramp, drive up to the 4th or 5th floor (people that have been there over 15 years get the lower floors — not 15 years in the parking ramp, 15 years working for Costco), drive over multiple speed bumps and circle around until I find a spot. Then walk down the 5 floors to either walk or catch a shuttle to the building where I work. Again it's free, but it's annoying.

However, if I ride my Gold Wing, I can park right next to my building. I don't like riding in the dark in the rain, so I still have to drive many mornings this time of year, but when I can ride, it's a nice perk. Since I have Gerbings to keep me warm, I just have to check the potential for ice before I leave. I usually can ride at least a couple times each week. Keeps the juices from coagulating in the bike and helps me to avoid forgetting how to ride.

Charlie Butters / Treasure

Membership Enhancement



Webmaster/Membership Enhancement Input – December 2019 –

GWRRA Chapter Health.

As the year 2019 winds down and the year 2020 is on the horizon, we as an association are faced with more than a few challenges. However the biggest challenge I see is the health and prosperity of our National and District Chapters. I see an erosion of membership across the USA. Our numbers are dwindling as much from normal attrition as from a loss of interest in motorcycling. This has been an ongoing process for a number of years.

Several years ago, GWRRA saw the handwriting on the wall. They changed the membership criteria. It went from Honda Gold Wing and Valkyrie owners only as a requirement for active membership to being open to everyone regardless of motorcycle type or ownership. They were attempting to broaden the membership base. This had both a positive and a negative effect, I heard lots of grumbling from the members. Personally, I think the positive was outweighed by the negative but I do not have any statistics to confirm or deny that. I just know that we are losing the recruiting and retention battle.

What I am getting at is our membership base is getting smaller and those that are members are not as active as they used to be. When I joined GWRRA in 1999, there were twenty one chapters in Washington State. Currently there are only sixteen. And in January of 2020, there will be only twelve.

To keep the remaining chapters healthy and vital, we need to participate more with the remaining chapters. Visit with them at their chapter gatherings. Have a meal, a cup of tea, coffee or a soda. Socialize and enjoy the camaraderie, talk motorcycles or talk about rides or just talk about life. When the weather meets your standards for riding, enjoy a ride to their gathering place. Usually, someone has a scenic ride or a favorite destination to share with those prepared to ride after the gathering.

Don't miss an opportunity to join these chapters when they sponsor a weekend ride, monthly ride or a poker run. It doesn't have to be "YOUR" chapter to enjoy the day with a few riding partners. Had it not been for membership in GWRRA, many of us would have never known the friends we now think so highly.

I don't know why you joined GWRRA but I joined because in May of 1999 I had just bought a beautiful brand new \$20,000 motorcycle and I knew absolutely nothing about it. I was scared. I loved the ride, smoothness and reliability of Honda but looking at the Gold Wing, I realized I didn't even know how to remove the plastic panels. I didn't know what was under those panels but I was sure it was a motor of some kind. You can imagine my shock when I was informed on how to change the engine air filter.

Looking at the fairing, plastic panels, trunk and saddlebags, it dawned on me that just replacing a light bulb was going to be a challenge. So, removing wheels and replacing tires was WAY beyond my experience level. All my previous bikes had been chain drive. I didn't understand the shaft drive and the motorcycle electronics were far beyond anything I had ever experienced. I had owned and ridden many bikes in the past but none as big and complicated as this thing. I needed to connect with someone, *anyone*, that knew something about this machine.

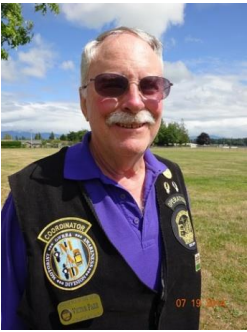
There is a very large data base of knowledge on so many levels in our association. I did all I could do to pick the brains of the 'old heads'. Over a period of years of association with those of you in GWRRA, I finally gained enough knowledge to be mildly comfortable. The challenge is for the rest of you to stay active in our chapters and tap that knowledge base. There is so much yet to learn and it is all so much fun. Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

Mike Briesse

WA-A Webmaster/Membership Enhancement Coordinator

Motorcycle

Awareness - December 2019



Vic Parr



Carl Maier



MOTORIST AWARENESS

I am sitting here thinking how nice it would be to take one last ride before putting my bike up for the season, but then I look up and see the rain and snow coming down. Well, that was a good thought.

This may be the thought allot of us have had lately and then we see diehards riding!

At least we see them because they bring out the thoughts about riding. What about the people who don't ride? Will they see those of us that are Diehards? I have my hopes they will.

These thoughts bring out the need for us to wear our colors in public, to functions like our monthly breakfast, or just our hats for everyday things. As a reminder to those, who don't ride. We are still out there at times.

As the weather changes, so does the challenge of driving and riding. This is due not only because of looking for motorcycles, but the attention we need for other cars, due to driving conditions. Things like, it gets dark earlier. Are your lights on? Is the road slick with rain, ice, or snow? If so, what is the cushion between you and other cars? Are there bikes out there?

The last question may seem strange at first, but I have been caught out in those conditions, as most of us who have ridden for any length of time have, and it is no fun. If you ever have, you know that your attention gets diverted to other things really fast!

Well, for me I will reluctantly winterize my bike, and look at those who haven't, with thoughts of the past! I then will open a good travel book, and make plans for next years riding adventures, and good times.

WA District Assistant Motorist Awareness Coordinator Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Carl and Kaye Maier

Vic Parr or Carl Maier (253) 224-6420 (509) 844-3865 parrv@msn.com camaier@cybermesa.com

**Carl Maier Asst. District
MAP Coordinator**



*Don Eide
Rider Educator*

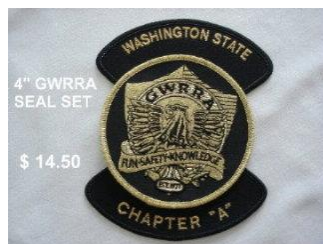
THE GWRRA RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM



*The **Rider Education** article and lots of great information can be found on the **Washington District Website @ gwrro-wa.org***

**Don Eide
Washington District Educator
Rider Course Instructor RCI-702
UI SI-1848 eide02@yahoo.com 509-531-7849 (Cell)**

Chapter Stores



The full stores inventory is on the Chapter Website:



Gary & JoAnn Beard
Stores Manager / Face Book Coordinator

Chapter Sunshine / Greeters



December Birthdays

17th Mike Miller

January Birthdays

1st Bill Holt
9th Mike Briesse
15th Ann Butters
16th Gisela Jones

December Anniversaries

January Anniversaries

Chris & Patty Johnson
Sunshine / Greeters

WA"A" Activities



New the 5 Aces Ride



Hello All GWRRA members and Chapters,

*At Chapter "A" We've noticed that there are some lonely Saturdays out there. Outcasts, if you will. Four months each year have an additional **5th Saturday** with no chapter meetings or scheduled events. No guidance, and more importantly, **"No Ice Cream"**. Well here at Chapter "A" we want to do something about it! Come ride with us, on these **5th Saturdays** of the month and **we will buy you a cone**. The destinations are going to be forthcoming. We are not really sure. Did I mention that there will be ice cream and riding involved. More to follow!*

*Todd Mclain,
Chapter "A" Director*

Upcoming events

Sat - January 25 – Chapter “I” Casino Night

Flyers for the above events can be found on the Chapter “A” website.
gwrra-waa.org





Motorcycles and / or Parts Buy / Sale

Adds will be listed for three (3) months or until sold!

GWRRA Members Adds Free!

WANTED / To Buy

Selling ??



Bought "New" 2017 Goldwing, now I have to sell my 2003 ABS Gold Wing. It is a wonderful wing with 117,400 fun miles on it. And its beautiful inside and out. **It is listed on**

<http://www.gwrra-waa.org/for sale.html>

I have it listed at \$5800. If interested, let's talk.

Mike Brieese brieese@earthlink.net

**Try to remember,
the greener grass
across the fence
may be due to a
septic tank issue.**



Chapter WA "A" Officers and Staff

Todd Mclain – Chapter Director (CD)

Don Hatley – Assistant Chapter Director (ACD)

Charlie Butters – Treasurer

Mike Briese – Membership Enhancement Coordinator (MEC)

Mike Briese - Webmaster

Gary Beard – Stores Manager

Bill Holt – Phone Tree Coordinator

Joann Beard – Face Book Coordinator

Chris & Patty Johnson – Greeters, and Sunshine Person

The Chapter has several positions open and is looking for members with great ideas to fill them!

-Open – Assistant Chapter Director (ACD)

-Open – Chapter Educator (CE) (Appointed by District Educator)

-Open – Ride Coordinator

-Open – Newsletter Editor

-Open – Activity Coordinator (Monthly Activities)

-Open – Technical Coordinator (Goldwing Maintenance Information)

-Open – Chapter Historian

-Open – Ways & Means Coordinator – Conducts 50/50 drawings, door prize etc.

----- So step forward, "volunteer" to have more fun and have your ideas enjoyed by everyone! -----

WASHINGTON CHAPTER GATHERINGS

Chapter WA-A	City /Mascot Seattle Apes	Chapter Director Todd McClain Phone (206) 241-3565	Meeting Date/ Time 4th Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 9:00 AM	Location Golden Steer Restaurant 23826 104th Ave SE Kent, WA 98031
WA-B	Bremerton Bees	Bob & Helen Liddell Phone: (360)649-9658	1st Saturday Breakfast @ 9:00 AM Gathering @ 10:00 AM	Denny's Restaurant 5004 Kitsap Way Bremerton, WA 98312
WA-D	Aberdeen Duck	Kerry & Greg Bash Phone: (360)581-5543	2nd Sunday Breakfast @ 8:30 AM	Duffy's Restaurant 1605 Simpson Ave Aberdeen, WA 98520
WA-E	Bellevue Eagles	Ron & Lana Peck Phone: (425)908-7321	3rd Saturday Breakfast @ 9:30 AM Gathering @ 10:00 AM	Kenmore Lanes 7638 NE Bothell Way Kenmore, WA 98028
WA-H	Lynden Hound Dog	Garry & Judy Calman Phone: (360)739-5888	2nd Tuesday Dinner @ 6:00 PM Gathering @ 7:00 PM	Fairway Family Restaurant 1726 Front Street Lynden, WA 98264
WA-I	Olympia Cow	Ron & Dianna Hemmi Phone: (253)686-7029	3rd Sunday Breakfast @ 7:30 AM Gathering @ 8:00 AM	Hawks Prairie Restaurant 8306 Quinault Drive NE Lacey, WA 98516
WA-L	Kennewick Looney Tunes	Joyce LoParco Phone: (509)531-9939	2nd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 9:00 AM	Sterling's Restaurant 2500 Queens gate Drive Richland, WA 99352
WA-M	Yakama Mountain Lion	Sherre Holden Phone: (509)305-1278	1st Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 9:00 AM	Branding Iron Restaurant 61311 Hwy 97 Toppenish, WA 98948
WA-N	Spokane Wing Nuts	Lori Ann & Lewis Robertson Phone: (509)251-4443	3rd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 8:30 AM	Golden Corral Buffet 7717 N Division St Spokane, WA 99208
WA-O	Port Orchard Orca	Ken & Tami Smith Phone: (360)440-6357	4th Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 8:30 AM	Bremerton Airport Diner 8830 State Highway 3 Bremerton, WA 98312
WA-P	Longview Panda	Rose & Bruce Hibbs Phone: (360)571-5732	3rd Saturday Breakfast @ 9:00 AM Gathering @ 10:00 AM	Olde Creekside Café 1323 Commerce Ave Longview, WA 98632 (360) 423-7225
WA-Q	Puyallup Koala	Rusty & Nancy Boyatt Phone: (253)312-0851	2nd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 8:30 AM	Paradise Bowling Center 12505 Pacific Ave. S. Tacoma, WA 98444
WA-R	Walla Walla Road Runner	Pat & Von Webb Phone (509)522-2320	1st Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 9:00 AM	Smith's Family Restaurant 1425 W Pine St Walla Walla, WA 99362
WA-V	Auburn Frog	Joe & Patti Diambri Phone: (253)630-8463	1st Thursday Dinner @ 6:00 PM Meeting @ 7:00 PM	Trotter's Family Restaurant 825 Harvey Rd Auburn, WA 98002
WA-X	Vancouver Phoenix	Michael & Vickie Miller Phone: (360)666-2569	1st Saturday Dinner @ 5:30 PM Gathering @ 6:00 PM	Benny's Rod & Custom Pizza 4219 N.E. St Johns Rd. Vancouver, WA 98661
WA-Z	Centralia Chickens	Patrick & Ruth Allison Phone: (360)266-8418	2nd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:30 AM	Ramblin Jacks Ribeye 1336 Rush Rd Chehalis, WA 98532 Ext 72

Our Sponsors:



Zach Steele, PT, DPT, OCS, CKTP
Clinic Director
Physical Therapist
Certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist



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zsteele@outpatientpt.com

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Bill Maney
General Manager

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253.477.1865
253.473.2724

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California Heat

Heated Clothing

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Union, WA 98592

Ron Stull - (360) 490-9193
Katie Stull - (360) 490-5419

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See our web site for Web Site Links to our sponsors; <http://www.gwrra-waa.org>

Todd Mclain

WA-A Chapter Director

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