

The GWTA WA Chapters Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2026

Welcome to our monthly GWTA Newsletter
For All the Washington State Chapters

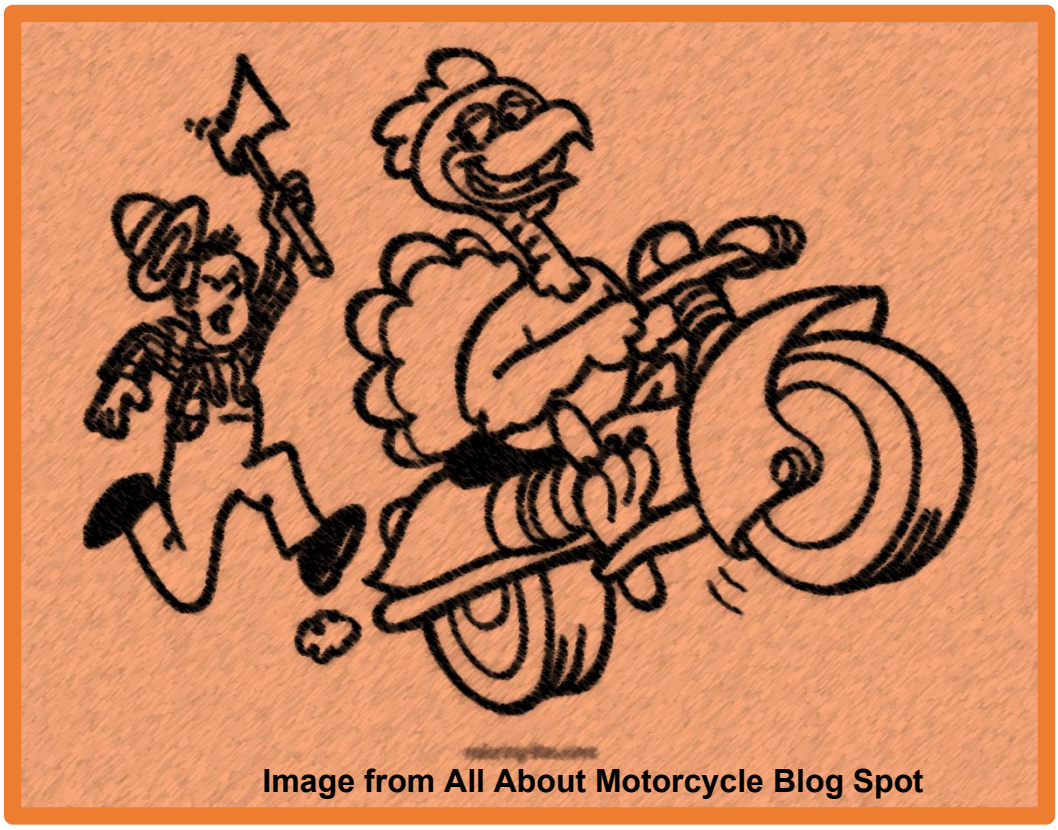

Image from All About Motorcycle Blog Spot

Have you checked out the **Chapter Websites lately**?
Read all about the state, region and national GWTA news!

https://gwta.org/chapters/everett-wings
https://www.gwta-waa.com
https://gwta.org/

Facebook Page: GWTA-Washington State

WA Chapter A

HEY WA A!

December 5th will be a fun day. In the morning you will have time to participate in the annual Olympia Toy Run. Later at 3pm our annual Holiday Party at the Crain's house in Puyallup. Be sure to RSVP using the instructions in your snail mail invitation. Not going, let us know your regrets, we will miss you.

Remember to check your mirrors often, cars don't expect us to be riding so late in the year.

Cheers,
Jocelyn Piechowiak
GWTA WA Chapter A CD
Jocelynpiechowiak@hotmail.com

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WA Chapter C

Hi folks,

First, I'd like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving holiday. We had a great year of riding, ending with a really nice ride (12 bikes) and lunch on the Kitsap peninsula hosted by Chapter A on Halloween. (Thanks to Jocelyn & Mike & Chapter A!)

Our regional director, Vonda, has found a great place where we can exercise our charitable inclinations. (Thanks Vonda!) It is the Washington Soldier's Home in Orting. (https://dva.wa.gov/veterans-service-members-and-their-families/veterans-homes/washington-soldiers-home-orting) This is a Medicaid and Medicare certified nursing home for veterans, operated by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. The WDVA staff has collected wish lists from Soldier's Home residents, and the plan is for GWTA WA chapters to do some Christmas shopping for some of these folks based on their wish lists.

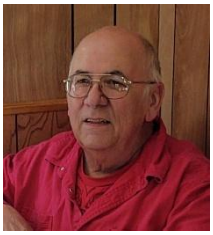
At Chapter C's November breakfast meeting the chapter agreed that we would use some funds from the chapter's bank account and also supplement those funds with additional personal donations. I asked for volunteers to manage this process, and Dorothy Nopson and Mike Leibold have graciously stepped up as our chapter volunteers for this project. (Thanks Dorothy and Mike!) Chapter C members who wish to donate to this very worthy cause should get their donation to Mike Leibold at (or before) the Dec 12 breakfast meeting at Patty's Eggnest. This will allow Mike & Dorothy to do the shopping and work with Vonda to get the Christmas gifts delivered to the Soldiers Home. Many thanks to all those who are contributing to this project!

Chapter C will hold its annual planning meeting on **Sunday January 10 at 2pm at Everett Powersports**. This meeting will be where we compile our 2027 calendar of events, including day rides, overnight trips, dinners at area restaurants, game night(s) and other chapter activities. After the planning meeting, we will go to a local Mexican restaurant, and Chapter C's treasury will pick up the tab for that meal. (Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch?) I encourage anyone (not just chapter C members,) who would like to assist us in planning the 2027 calendar to join us for the planning session followed by good Mexican food on January 10.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions about donations for the Soldiers Home or about the Planning Meeting or about anything else.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Howie Dickerman, CD WA Chapter C
(206) 571-3273
howiedickerman@outlook.com



One of the benefits of chapter meetings is that conversations are always thought provoking.

I was at the November 2026 Chapter C meeting this last Saturday talking with a couple of fellows named Don and Dennis. Don was talking about bike maintenance, oil changes, oil types, and oil filters as well as final drive fluid change interval and viscosity. The conversation got around to newsletter articles. I recalled that I had written about disassembling oil filters and had pictures of them. If you would like to see that article, it is in the August 2018 newsletter. To save space, here is a link to the newsletter. Chapter A August 2018 Newsletter.

As to oil types, Don said he preferred dino oil over synthetic. Everyone has their preference. At that point, I expressed my ignorance as to how 100% synthetic oil was manufactured and I wondered if it contained any dino oil. If synthetic oil is not dino oil, which comes out of the ground, why does the price of synthetic oil go up as quickly as dino oil? Interesting. I do not have an answer.

We talked briefly about the final drive and how often the fluid needs to be replaced. I couldn't remember the interval. I have a database that I made years ago to track my maintenance, and I used the change intervals I gleaned from the owner's manuals of various vehicles I own. Each has its own specified interval for fluid changes. Both my '98 GL1500 and '17 GL1800 have the same interval; every 24,000 miles is recommended. The frequency for engine oil changes are 8,000 miles. Me being me, I cut both of those in half for frequency.

I just looked up the intervals for the 2018+ GL1800's. The engine oil change interval is the same as the older models, 8,000 miles. What I did notice was, there is no mileage interval for the final drive oil change. The logic table is blank up to 24,000 miles and it has three years as the listed interval of change. Three years sound like a long time but from what I have read, a good number of Goldwing riders do not do 24,000 miles in three years.

I also did a review of aftermarket add on handgrip warmers but could not recall what month and year I had done those. I looked through my various pictures and such on my phone but could not find any reference to the articles. I was relatively sure the newsletter was still on the website, so I had to do a search when I got home. I did that review, by the way, because I wanted to install heated handgrips for my '98 GL1500.

The Heated Grips article is in the November 2023 newsletter. In the interest of saving space, I've included the link for the newsletter here - Chapter A November 2023 Newsletter.

In parting, I asked Don if he knew that brake fluid, DOT 3, 4, and 5.1, were all synthetic. There is one exception and that is DOT 5.0. It is silicone and not compatible with the other fluids. If you would like to know more about brake fluid compatibility, check this link – What the DOT Classes Actually Mean. I also added that when you do a brake or clutch fluid change, spilled fluid can be a problem. For cleanup all you need is water. Brake fluid is hygroscopic and water will wash it away very effectively.

Mike Briese
WA-A Webmaster

Fewer Daylight Hours
Don't go down with the sun

By: Cash Anthony

Several area riders had the experience recently of having to ride for quite a few miles directly into a setting sun. The glare was not only a strain on tired eyes but also a very real safety issue, as it effectively blocked all visual detail in the landscape and made scanning for hazards almost impossible. Our lead bike saved several riders a bad spill by warning us of a large dog in the road: our thanks to him was heartfelt, because although the dog was roughly the size and shape of an adult Wolfhound (not a small critter!) and came completely into the lane, it was in shadow and couldn't be seen against the brilliant sun until we were all but on top of it.

Here's a thought about seasonal trip planning. During our long summer days, a group of motorcyclists can make good time and cover plenty of miles by getting an early start, when the temperatures are still cool. Even after taking a break in the hottest part of the day, many summer riders are already checked into their night's lodging and enjoying the pool by sunset.

By the time the sun drops to the horizon and starts causing problems with visibility, their bikes are put to bed. As the daylight hours grow shorter, however, it becomes normal or even necessary to keep riding until twilight in order to make the day's destination.

Those who are planning rides can save themselves and their riding buddies headaches (literally) and worse by giving some thought to the sun's position relative to routing. If you're riding eastward, try to do so in the afternoon or evening so that the sun will be behind you. If westward bound, set off in the morning and keep the sun to your back. If neither of these scenarios is possible on your route, plan to take the north or south legs of a trip late in the afternoon, and do your east-west travel according to the sun's positioning earlier in the day.

While all of us who tour become familiar with riding toward the sun and that 'tipped head" position it can take (to permit a helmet edge, visor, or sunglasses frame to block the brightest light), this should be an occasional remedy and not one regularly used. It shouldn't be done for miles on top of miles, either, as this adds considerably to a rider's fatigue and stress. When it's become too painful or really impossible to see where you're going and what's on the road, the best choice is not to ride. Take a break, wait for the glare to diminish, and then go on.

Otherwise, you may be taking a chance that tearful admonitions to "Go to the Light!" will be the last thing you hear!

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Shared by Bob Tift
GWTA WA Chapter C/ GWTA Board Member



When was the last time that you checked when the brake lights come on while braking?

Dennis Murphy
WA Chapter A Technical Advisor

I found out that when I pull the brake handle, the brake lights come on right away. When I push down on the pedal, that was a different story.
I had to push down pretty hard to get the illumination going. Time to do some adjusting...
On the GL1800, it's pretty easy. There are a couple of screws that actually hold the brake light switch assembly. Loosen up said screws and I adjusted the assembly down and retightened. Success.
This switch also cancels the cruise control. After adjusting, make sure that everything still works as it is supposed to.
This is for the 2001-2017.
It's getting much cooler out, make sure that you check your tire pressures regularly.
I use Fobo tire pressure monitors that have an app. At a glance on my phone, I know exactly where the pressures sit.
If it falls short of the pressures that I set, there is an audible alarm to alert me.
Download the Fobo app and set up the parameters of the desired tire pressures on each wheel. Replace the valve cap on the rear and put your phone next to the valve cap and the app will read it and set it up in your phone. Do the same thing for the front and

that's it. You can even add a photo of you bike to the app. It works great for someone like me that has two motorcycles.
It's a cheap alternative that you can buy for a reasonable price on Amazon. FYI *current users of FOBO Bike App are requested by FOBO to migrate to the new improved FOBO Bike 2 App.*



I have always liked California Heat heated gear. Primarily for the excellent service that they have always provided. With that being said, I was on their website and found that they had improved on their heated pants. Let's buy some.
The pants that I had bought from them years ago were still working correctly and really didn't have a problem.
These are not the heated liners but pants to go over jeans or sweats or whatever.
They plug in and have heat all the way down the front of the legs and around the hips. They are waterproof
The one thing that I really like about the new style is that the pant legs at the bottom are much smaller around. They have Velcro at the bottom for keeping the air out. The old ones had too much material to try to bunch up for the Velcro to work well.
Check them out at Californiaheat.com
These are the 12v Fusion outer pants. $315.00
Excellent product and well worth the money. Especially on cold and rainy days.
--Dennis

SNIPPETS

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2027 GWTA WA State Campout at Squaw Rock Campground Sept 10-13.
Squaw Rock RV Resort and Campground
15070 WA-410, Naches, WA 98937
(509) 658-2800
http://squawrockrvresortandcampground.com
Be Sure to Leave a Voicemail And Be Sure to Mention "Goldwing" Campout

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GWTA Gold Rush XXXIX July 12-15, 2027

Located at the Carsen Valley Inn in North Minden Nevada.



The 2027 theme is "Prospector".
Registration Form available on GWTA.org.
https://gwta.org/event/gold-rush/ click on the pdf.

Can't log in? Contact John Hunrath in Oregon. hunrath@comcast.net

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Chapter WA The "Q" Crew

1st Saturday Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am. Please RSVP to CD
Sandstone Café & Quarry Bar, 273 Sussex Ave W, Tenino, WA 98589

hapter Director (CD) Steve Henson (360) 489-5275

Chapter WA "C" Evergreen Wings

2nd Saturday Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am
Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett, WA 98203

Chapter Director (CD) - Howie Dickerman (206) 571-3273
Assistant Chapter Director (ACD) - Mike Zmiarovich (360)582-7259
Treasurer & Secretary - Bill Shepherd
Ride Coordinator – Walt de Fisser
50/50 Coordinator – Karen Tift
Safety Coordinator – Bob Tift

Chapter WA "U" Okanogan Valley Wings

3rd Saturday Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am…Please RSVP to CD for Location

Chapter Director (CD) Teri Mitschelen (509) 429-1751
Asst Chapter Director (ACD) Mel Caylor (509) 322-2546

Chapter WA "A" Seattle Wings

4th Saturday Breakfast 9am Meeting10am
Rainbow Café 112 E. Main St., Auburn, WA 98002

Chapter Director (CD) - Jocelyn Piechowiak (206) 249-6310
Assistant Chapter Director (ACD) - Dianna Hemmi (253) 686-3309
Treasurer – Jerry Garman
Webmaster - Mike Briese
Mechanical/Technical Advisor - Dennis Murphy
Ride Coordinators – **OPEN, a shared position with Mike Briese**
Sunshine Committee - Jocelyn Piechowiak, Veronica Lowe
Stores – Joe Leon
50/50 Coordinator - Dianna Hemmi

WA Chapter A Seattle Wings 2026 Calendar of Events

Updates and Changes will be announced by email between newsletter publications.

Start	End	Event	Location
04/04/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
04/11/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
04/25/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Puppy Ride, a hairy east King County Route
05/02/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
05/09/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
05/23/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Mystery Ride by Michael Piechowiak
05/30/2026		Five Aces Ice Cream Ride	Snow Goose, Kickstands Up: 84th and 212th in Kent
06/06/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
06/13/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
06/20/2026		Extra Special Ride by Mike Briese	Details in Email sent out 06/19/2026
06/27/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Cle Elum, Cottage Inn for Lunch
07/04/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
07/11/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
7/13/2026	07/16/2026	GWTA GOLD RUSH XXXVIII	DoubleTree by Hilton, Bay City Michigan
07/25/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Steven's Canyon Rd
08/01/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
08/08/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
08/22/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Chapter Q Bike Show in Morton 10am to 2pm
08/29/2026		Five Aces Ice Cream Ride	Details to Be Announced at Meeting
09/05/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
09/10/2026	09/14/2026	GWTA State Campout at Squaw Rock Campgrounds	Naches, WA, RSVP Goldwing Group (509) 658-2800
09/12/2026		Visit Chapter C CANCELLED	
09/26/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
09/26/2026		After Meeting Ride	TBD
09/27/2026		Anacortes Oyster Run	Kickstands Up: 6am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
10/03/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
10/10/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
10/24/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	Reverse Puppy Ride, a hairy east King County Route

10/31/2026		Five Aces Ice Cream Ride	Iscreamery, Gig Harbor. Kickstands Up 11am
11/07/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
11/14/2026		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
11/28/2026		Monthly: Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Rainbow Café, downtown Auburn WA
		After Meeting Ride	TBD, weather permitting
12/05/2026		Visit Chapter Q Breakfast 8am Meeting 9am	Kickstands Up: 7am McDonalds at SR512 and I5
12/05/2026		Olympia Toy Run 10am to 1pm	Group Ride details to be announced
12/05/2026		Holiday Party 3pm	Bill Crain's house
12/12/2025		Visit Chapter C Breakfast 9am Meeting 10am	Kickstands Up: 8am Chevron, 84th and 212th in Kent
12/27/2025		No Monthly Meeting. Enjoy your Holidays.	
01/01/2027		New Year's Day Ride	Kickstands Up at Rainbow Café, Crain's Corner lunch

The Famous WA "A" 5 Aces Ride

"Chapter "A" has been enjoying Ice Cream since September 1980.

The Famous WA "A" 5 Aces Ride……



At Chapter **"A"** we had **4 months** this year that had an additional 5th Saturday! We at Chapter "A" honor those extra Saturdays with an "**Ice Cream Ride" aka The Famous WA "A" 5 Aces Ride.**

The Chapter is buying!!

Suggestions for destinations are welcome.

In 2027 there will be another 4 Fives Aces!!!

January 30th

May 29th

May 31st

October 30th



Jigidi.com/MrHammel/Ice Cream Sundaes.

DON'T FORGET TO CELEBRATE ON THESE DAYS AS WELL!!!

July 20th National Ice Cream Day

August 2nd National Ice Cream Sandwich Day

August 18th National Ice Cream Pie Day

August 19th National Soft Ice Cream Day

November 11th National Sundae Day

WA Chapter C Everett 2026 Calendar of Events

This Calendar was updated in June 2026 by Howie Dickerman.

Start – End	Event	Location
~~Sat Jun 20~~	~~3 Pass Blast w/Walt - CANCELLED~~	~~Hwy 2, 97, 90 - leave 9am from Monroe Chevron~~
Sat Jun 20	6:30 dinner at Jimmy's Pizza & Pasta in Stanwood	9819 WA-532 Stanwood, WA
Sat Jun 27	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Wed Jul 08	Wed 6:30 Dinner - Shawn O'Donnell's	122 128th St SE, Everett
Sat Jul 11	9am Breakfast Meeting	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
Sat Jul 11	After Meeting Ride to Winthrop with Howie	Plan is to visit Alky Angels campout at Pine Near RV
Sun Jul 12	STP - Bike Support near Longview Bridge w/Vonda	9am meet at Longview Bridge
Mon Jul 13 – Jul 16	Gold Rush - Bay City Michigan	Doubletree by Hilton, One Wenonah Park Place, Bay City
Thu Jul 23	Thurs Day Ride to Artist Point then ice cream w/Howie	9am meet at Smokey Point Rest Area
Sat Jul 25	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sun Jul 26	Day Ride: Winthrop for lunch w/Howie	9am meet at Smokey Point Rest Area
Sun Aug 02	Packwood Fire Dept Fundraiser Beef BBQ	7:45am Mariner Park & Ride, 9am McDonalds Tacoma
Sat Aug 08	9am Breakfast Meeting	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
Sat Aug 08	After Meeting Ride for lunch in Acme w/Bob T	Acme WA
Tue Aug 11 – Aug 13	3 Day Ride to Canada (Whistler, Lillooet, etc.) w/Howie	details to be announced
Sat Aug 15	Ride to Desert Aire (Mike G)	9:00 am depart from Mariner Park & Ride
Thu Aug 20	Thurs Day Ride: Reverse 3 Pass Blast w/Howie	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Aug 22	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Aug 29	Chapter A Five Aces Ice Cream Ride	details to be announced
Fri Sep 11 – Sep 14	GWTA Squaw Rock Campout	Squaw Rock RV Resort & Campground, Naches WA
~~Sat Sep 12~~	~~9am Breakfast Meeting in September CANCELLED~~	~~Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett~~
Tue Sep 22	Tues 6:30 Dinner - Café Veloce	12514 120th Ave NE, Kirkland WA
Sat Sep 26	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sun Sep 27	Oyster Run - Anacortes w/Bob	7am depart from Smokey Point Rest Area
Sat Oct 10	9am Breakfast Meeting	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
Sat Oct 10	After Meeting Ride to Leavenworth	details to be announced
Sat Oct 24	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Oct 31	Chapter A Five Aces Ice Cream Ride	details to be announced
Sat Nov 14	9am Breakfast Meeting	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
Wed Nov 18	Wed 6:30pm Dinner - Grazie Ristorante Italiano	23207 Bothell Everett Hwy, Bothell
Sat Nov 28	Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn	8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Dec 12	9am Breakfast Meeting	Patty's Eggnest, 6720 Evergreen Way, Everett
Wed Dec 16	6pm Christmas Party at Village Taphouse & Grill	1204 3rd St, Marysville
Fri Jan 01	New Years Day Ride (weather permitting) w/Walt	details to be announced
Sun Jan 10	Planning Meeting followed by dinner at El Paraiso	2pm Everett Powersports (upstairs)

More events (rides, social events, etc.,) will be added as the info becomes available

If you have an event to be added, please send the info to howiedickerman@outlook.com

EVERYTHING ON THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Thanks for Reading our Newsletters!

Got an Article, Story, Funny or Buy/Sell/Give Ad?
in word doc not pdf
to GWTA WA State Newsletter Editor:
jocelynpiechowiak@hotmail.com
Call or Text 206-249-6310.
THE END.

