



Chapter V Valley Wings News



Chapter Directors:
Garry & Maxine Alexander
253-770-3866

Meets 1st Thursday 6:00pm
Auburn Eagle Lodge
702 M St SE Auburn

From the Chapter Directors:



It's warming up but ever so slowly, so let's hope a real Spring and Summer might be on the way. We had a good turn out for our May gathering. Nice to see all who attended. Much of our monthly meeting concerned our South Hill Mall Show May 21st & 22nd. We still have chapters that have not yet responded to requests for their interest in promoting motorcycle awareness and safety. .

On Friday the 6th we had a planning team meeting at our home. At this writing we are planning for about 45 entries into our mall show. After a fruitful meeting many arose early and went on our chapter 'Mystery Ride' and picnic lunch. We had nine bikes and one car on this fun event! On Saturday the 14th we went to 'Crazy Larry's' for the ride put on by Chapter 'Q'. Luckily for us all, it was an absolutely beautiful day for the five bikes that attended.

Speaking of Chapter Rides, I want to encourage each of you to support this important aspect of chapter life. Riding together helps to bring us together for fun, which helps to strengthen all of our chapters. If there is a ride that you want to do, Let Jim Johnson, our chapter ride coordinator, know and we can make it happen. It's your chapter and we want to hear from you. On July 16th there will be a 'Ride for the Dogs'. This is for the school that Levi attended before he came to live with us. Then most important of all...Don't forget the 'District Rally' at the fair grounds in Centralia on July 21st through 23rd. Please get your reservations in early. (We would hate to be the only chapter 'V' members camping at this event.)



Ride Safe Have fun,
Respectfully submitted by;
Garry L. & Maxine Alexander

FROM ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS:



As I sit here playing a card game on the computer, I struggle to find something to write about.

Do I put down something that has happened to me personally or, something professionally?

Is it about the chapter? I think that I have something to say about the chapter I guess.

There were a bunch of us that went on a ride with Jim as our ride captain. We went on roads that I didn't even know existed.

We just putted along. Enjoying the scenery and stopping for a picnic. It was not exactly a nice day weather wise. We got rained on

a little. But for the most part it was a very fulfilling ride. It's nice to go on a little putt and just be with friends. A very simple ride with great memories.

This is your chapter. Come join us for a little putt and see how much fun you can have not really doing anything.

Dennis

FROM HONORARY ASSISTANCE CHAPTER DIRECTOR:



Support Your Chapter

To paraphrase one of our past president "Ask not, what my country can do for me, but what can I do for my country". The same expression could apply to SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTER.

As you know, GWRRA offers many amenities, as our motto suggests, and you receive most of these benefits through your CHAPTER.

For the CHAPTER to be able to provide these benefits, it takes a few members to volunteer their time to become officers. The officer's duties are to do the paper work required and guide the members in the direction the members wish to go. Can you see where this article is headed? It means the rest of the members need to get involved too.

When the CHAPTER director brings up the subject of where or what the members want to do, he relies on the response of "all" the members. It's the members who make the decisions of direction, not just the officers. If the CHAPTER director asks for volunteers, such as a rest stop or a Mall Show, he is asking for and needs help. When the members respond, CHAPTER events become a reality.

It works when we have a "TEAM CHAPTER". When each member pitches in and does a little bit, it can make big things happen, it also takes a burden off the CHAPTER director.

Now you can see why the phrase Support Your Chapter is used so much. When an event is coming up we should be ready to pitch in and offer our time and not wait till we are volunteered

Ride with care
Ken & Marion

From the Chapter Educator:



Although you no doubt have missed the Buckley, Advanced Riders Course (ARC) held on May 7, there is still time to sign up for Trike Rider Course (TRC) training held in Tri-Cities on Saturday June 4. It is to your safety and survival that you refresh your motorcycle driving skills. There isn't a better way to hone in those motorcycle skills like there is attending a ARC or TRC training course.

MAY - Motorcycle Awareness Month - THE ROADWAY INTERSECTION - 23% of intersection accidents results in death

The new riding season is here READY-OR-NOT and the roadway intersection provides motorcyclists challenges that perhaps the other vehicle driver might not experience. Visibility is the key to our survival while entering intersection. It is up to YOU to be seen by others. It is up to YOU to make the other drivers aware that you are there.

The intersection is a dangerous and perhaps a deadly place according to the State Farm statistics for the state of Washington where twenty-three (23) percent out of sixty-five (65) percent of the intersection accident results in death. It is imperative that we drivers of motorcycles take due diligence to use whatever methods we have at our disposal to compete for this available space. The phenomena we are experiencing are being generated by the masses of people as they drive their vehicles traveling over the roadways today.

There are many vehicles on our roadways that people are oblivious to what is around them. The drivers have become just plain numb due to the enormous volume of traffic so much so that this volume tends to create invisible vehicles. When a driver has full concentration and is performing the duties as a driver, they are sometimes hard pressed to recognize even full sized vehicles moving about the roadway much less a vehicle that is smaller, faster, and less obvious a vehicle such as the motorcycle. Drivers are

subconsciously visualizing through the space occupied by the motorcycle rather than acknowledging that the space has something in it. To explain why this may be happening we only have to identify the many things that distract the driver from the task of driving. Driving, for a large number of people, has become automatic and these automatic responses appear to need no conscious input from the driver. In reality, today more than ever, there needs to be personal commitment to do everything possible to avoid these potentially lethal drivers. Not only is the driver overwhelmed with the sheer volume of traffic, the driver has become saturated with technical gadgetry creating distractions of greatest magnitude.

Distractions have definitely taken away a portion of our concentration level that is much needed to survive in today's driving environment. The radio (music, talk, and citizen band), the MP3 players, CD players, and yes, even some cassette tape players are still out there. All these media variations put a driver's attention and mood into various states of tranquility or in some cases extreme hostility. Then there is the expanded communication levels with BLUE tooth, cell telephone, texting, global positioning devices (GPS), and believe it or not, watching video players while driving. Let us not forget the book, newspaper, or map reading that goes on while driving. Or how about the hair dryer, hair styling, shaving, and cosmetic primping that also takes place while driving. Of course, there is the eating, drinking that also goes on all during the confines of the automobile or truck, and ALL while driving through the intersection. Scary huh?

Adding a flashing headlight to your arsenal of weapons will enhance your visibility. A flashing headlight is a small investment to pay if it gets the attention of a distracted driver coming at you or pulling up behind you. Modulating headlights are legal in all 50 states by Federal Standard 49 CFR Part 571.108 and Executive Order 12866. Canada has their own laws regarding modulating headlights similar to the United States - Canadian Motor Vehicle Standard # 108. Lighting gets you noticed at the intersections and on the open roadways. Ensure that your headlight is on, running lights on and all working and your accent lights are functional and turned on. Make sure your taillights are in working order and do not forget about your directional signals. Your pre-ride check should identify if something is not working and allow you a chance to fix it before it makes the difference between being visible or non-visible.

In addition, wearing high visibility vests for both rider and co-rider. Adorn brightly colored helmets or choose WHITE as the most visible color according to many safety studies. Ever notice what color helmet our law enforcement folks wear? Add reflective tape to your helmets and jackets. Wear bright accent colors on your cloths, motorcycle, and helmet. All of these suggestions are helpful additions to becoming visible to that other driver. As a side note, consider a WHITE helmet as your next investment and take notice the next time you see a group of motorcyclists heading down the road. Notice what color helmet is standing out among all the other dark motorcycle colors. Notice the WHITE helmet through the black road or pavement. Notice the WHITE helmet through the green foliage and trees. Notice the WHITE helmet standing out among the dark colored motorcycles and other dark colored vehicles. Notice the WHITE helmet is still seen through the gray buildings back ground, busy traffic signals, cluttered traffic signs, multiple advertisement bill and reader boards.

Other than adding lights, clothing, and WHITE helmets as part of your arsenal of defensive weapons, there is still more that you can do. By making distinct and deliberate movements as you complete your approach to the intersection. The movements such as weaving, turning your head, or repeated brake light activity should cause enough attention to get those other driver's attention and tell them that you are there.

Do things that break you out of the ordinary traffic doldrums. Identify yourself and that you are taking up the space. Perform out of the ordinary behaviors that draw attention to you that will provide you added visibility. By drawing attention to your motorcycle, the attention will allow you to be recognized by those other drivers. As you approach the intersection, start an obvious weave within the bounds of your lane. Begin slowing down well before you plan to stop. Tap your brake lights several times well ahead of where you plan to stop. All of these suggested acts to drawing attention to you and your presence. You have a right to be there. Although you do not take up a full lane such as that of a car or truck, you still have the legal right to use the intersection as any other vehicle does without fear of negligence by the other driver. Although we have the right, there is no guarantee that others will observe that right, so it falls on YOU to be vigilant at the intersection.

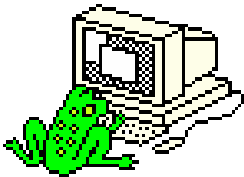
One more suggestion towards surviving the intersection, THINK that you are INVISIBLE to the other drivers. Do whatever it takes to make yourself VISIBLE.

Sincerely,

GWRRA Chapter Educator –

JOHN E. DOUGHTY

FROM THE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER EDITORS



I'm still gripping about the weather. Here it is two weeks into May and we have more rainy days than dry. Even Joe Johnson gripped. He said if he had known the weather was going to be this cold, they would have stayed down south for a couple more weeks. But I have faith, a couple more weeks and it will turn to the better.

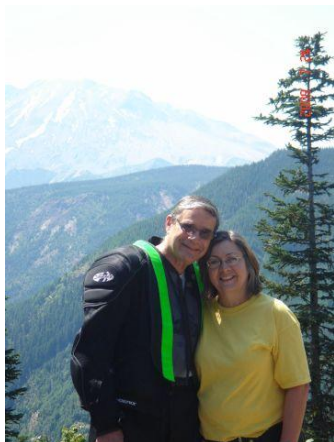
A little more on the positive side! Marion and I are taking some time to head over to the other side of the hump to have some time with two of our kids, and to do a little fishing. Randy tells us that the northern pike are beginning to hit in the Pend Oreille River. So we'll see you when we see you.

Just remember to send your articles to hart96@comcast.net on or before the second Saturday of the month.

Keep the articles coming

Ken/Marion

FROM THE CHAPTER SECRETAY



Chapter V Gathering May, 2011

Chapter Director, Garry Alexander, welcomed everyone and introduced his staff. He gave a summary and update on the results of the Chapter volunteering at the Federal Way Rest Stop over Easter weekend. This year each shift of volunteers kept a record of donations received. That information will be used to help plan for the next time we work at the rest stop. Garry and Maxine invited everyone to a staff/business meeting on Friday, May 6th to discuss the results of the Rest Stop volunteering and to plan and prepare for the upcoming South Hill Mall Show.

Upcoming rides and events include:

- May 14th is a Chapter Q's "One Craaaazy Ride!", starting and ending at Crazy Larry's.
- May 20th – May 22nd is Chapter V's South Hill Mall Show with motorcycle safety as our theme.

John Doughty reminded everyone to "check your tires" and when you do change tires, also change the valve stems. May is motorcycle awareness month. Be aware about your visibility. Always be visible. Matching clothing and helmets tend to blend together. You might think about changing your helmet color to white or yellow. Do anything to be seen and let drivers know you are there.

Dennis Murphy researched some different options for safety vests and brought to the meeting a bright yellow vest from the BMW dealer in Fife. The dealer will give the chapter a discounted price. Many members showed an interest in this new, highly visible vest.

May Birthdays:

Johnny Vallely
Neena Stoner

May Anniversary

Doug & Sally Lyons
Joe and Patti Diambri

Jan Ljunggren

FROM THE CHAPTER COUPLE OF THE YEAR:



CODE BLUE

Have you heard this term before? If not, you might want to know that it is related to a term used in the hospital when a person is in a

near-death situation. They need some experts in with the patient post haste.

Early this past Tuesday (April 26) I was working in the Federal Way Rest Area coffee shop when I experienced a very dizzy feeling and then went limp for a short period of time. John and Neena Stoner inquired if I was OK and I responded “yes, just a little dizzy”. Not too long after that I mentioned to them that I was going leave early and go home. As I was traveling southbound on I-5 in my car I began to feel dizzy again, so I pulled over to the side of the road and dialed 9-1-1. I was rushed to the emergency at St. Francis hospital in Federal Way for further monitoring and evaluation. Not too long after my wife (Sharon), brother (Gerald), and son (Brad) arrived I started having the severe dizziness again. When I opened my eyes all my visitors had been replaced by other emergency staff. This was due to the call of “Code Blue” and resuscitation procedures were started. Twice more this action occurred until I was given some medicine that increased my heart rate to keep blood pumping in a better fashion. That same morning I was fitted with a pace maker to regulate my heart beat.

What has this to do with me you may ask. My question to you would be “how prepared are you in first aid emergencies?” Would you have known what procedures to take if I had fainted in your presence? Would I be thanking you for saving my life? Several of us have taken the first aid courses in the past, and I must admit that I need to do a refresher course sometime – and soon. How about you? Work with your chapter educator to plan a group training activity.

Ride safe and enjoy each moment,

Vic & Sharon

WAV Couple of the Year

FROM THE CHAPTER TECHNICAL ADVISOR:



Anybody that knows me, knows that I just love lights. The green Wing, has at last count, I think 56 lights around the back end. I have added fog/driving lights and changed the cornering lights to be on full time. You would think that I have enough lights on it. As LED lights become more widely used it would only stand to reason the the technology is getting better. Now instead of just having LED lights, there are Super LED lights available. The Seattle Police Dept. has Harley Davidson motorcycles. Along with the normal brake lights on the back, they have these Super LED's as brake lights also. I am looking into finding them and mounting them under the trunk. They are very

bright in the daytime but I have been told that they are almost too bright at night. Just what I want. Just enough of an annoyance to get myself noticed. People can't see the semi that I drive. Maybe they'll see me stopping.

Dennis

RECIPE CORNER:

You won't believe how good this is!

Raspberry Bars Maxine Alexander

Preheat oven to 350° F. Line a 9x13" pan with aluminum foil

Crust

- 1 cup unsalted butter
- ¼ cup light brown sugar
- 2 cups all-purpose flour

Method

Beat butter till soft, then add sugar and a pinch of salt (on low) (1 min.) Turn mixer off and add flour. Mix on low speed until incorporated. Then mix on medium till even cohesive dough. Break dough into chunks and spread into lined pan. Bake 20 minutes. Cool on rack about 20 minutes.

Filling

- ¼ cup seedless raspberry jam, whisk until smooth Spread thinly on cooled crust. Sprinkle fresh raspberries on top
- 2 cups fresh raspberries
- 8 oz cream cheese
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 Tablespoon flour
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 Tablespoons lemon zest
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 1lg. egg & 1 egg yolk

Method

Whip cream cheese mixture and add sugar, flour, eggs & yolk, lemon zest & lemon juice. Pour gently and even onto raspberries tilt pan gently to distribute the cheese mixture evenly. Bake 25-. Minutes till barely set. Transfer to rack to cool one hour. Cover and chill for two hours in fridge. Use the foil in bottom of pan to lift from pan. Peel foil carefully and cut into squares. Sprinkle powdered sugar (optional) Enjoy.

CHAPTER BIRTHDAYS:



Neena Stoner

Johnny Vallely

CHAPTER ANNIVERSARYS:



Jeff & Paula Hardwick

Douglas & Sally Lyons

Did You Know

Gem for the month of May is the Emerald.
Flower of the month is Lilli of the Valley.

Do you have a gem of trivia or information you would like to share?

.