



Official Newsletter of
Chapter WA-L
Tri-Cities, Washington
"The Looney Tunes"



Gold Wing Road Riders
Association
Region I — WA District
June 2011

ACME TIMES

Phantom Writer

Well, June has finely arrived. Maybe the weather will also change. It did for Desert Spring Fling 2011. Friday there was some doubt. It started off with rain. Then as the evening arrived, the winds came up. I said to myself, great another 2010 spring fling. Wind and rain. But that was soon to change. Saturday morning, the wind was still here and the campers told me about their night in their tents. Combined with the train whistles, not much sleep that night. Around noon, the wind stopped and the sun came out. That lasted till Sunday evening. As we were standing in line for dinner, there was thunder and lightning all around us. But very few rain drops.



Desert Spring Fling was a great success. The entertainment, Bahuru Marimba Band, was excellent. Many thanks goes out to the VFW Post 7952, Cook-Erickson Post, for presenting our Colors to us at opening ceremonies. To Steve Prince, for giving up his time to explain to the military veterans some of their VA benefits. To the work crew, awesome job. Without you, this years rally/convention could not have happened. To all those that attended Desert Spring Fling 2011, a BIG THANK YOU goes out to you especially to a 9 year old young lady name Jennifer who went from a shy girl to a bright shining star.

Continued on page 3.....

RIDER EDUCATION

BY Tom Denny, Rider Educator

Rainy Days

By Tom Denny, Chapter WA-L Rider Educator

People, non-motorcycle people that is, always seem to ask me the same question when I'm talking with them about riding, "What do you do when it rains?" they ask. The answer of course is always, "I get wet." If you do much riding at all you are eventually going to ride in the rain. You don't have to like it but since no one has figured out how to stop the rain, you better get ready for it. Riding on a wet road is going to happen to you so before it does you should think about what you're going to do and how you are going to do it.

Should you worry about your safety when riding in the rain, is it dangerous? Actually, the answer to that is, yes. Statistics indicate that more injury-accidents occur on wet roads than on snowy or icy roads. So statistically speaking riding on a wet road is dangerous but you can improve your chances of having a safe ride if you take the proper precautions. Water on the road will reduce your tire's friction, or traction, and increase your stopping distance as well as make it easier for your brakes to lock up your wheels (for those with non-ABS machines) and cause a skid. Simply reducing your speed will shorten stopping distances and proper braking technique will help avoid wheel lock-up. Those two actions alone



Continued on next page.....

will greatly reduce the danger of riding in the wet.

When braking on wet roads apply both brakes at the same time, just as you would normally do but just not as much. Progressively apply more front brake as the weight transfers to the front wheel and be on alert for front wheel lock up. If your front wheel locks up or slides, immediately release the front brake, when the tire has regained traction, re-apply the brake. If your rear wheel locks and slides while braking, leave it locked until you come to a complete stop. If you slowed down when it began raining, like you should have, you hopefully won't have to brake aggressively on a wet road.

If the first thing you do when rain reduces your ability to see and wets the road your on is to slow down, what is the second thing you should do? After slowing down, the next thing you should do is increase your following distance from the vehicle in front of you. Always give yourself more time to react when visibility and traction are compromised. Canada and England have recently started campaigns to convince their residents to make their minimum following distance three seconds under ideal conditions, rather than the universal two seconds of old. If visibility and road conditions are poor then increase following distance as much as necessary. In some cases you may find that ten seconds or more may be appropriate for a safe following distance. Keep your head up and your eyes moving, watch for potentially dangerous situations developing in your path of travel. Try to anticipate trouble in time to avoid it.

Generally speaking, motorcycles hydroplane their front wheel while trikes hydroplane their rear wheels. Hydroplaning happens when a tire gets lifted off the road surface by water and results in a complete loss of friction, yes, a complete loss of friction. Hydroplaning is to be studiously avoided. Higher speeds increase the chance of hydroplaning while slowing down reduces the likelihood of hydroplaning. Proper tire inflation will also reduce the odds of a tire hydroplaning, an under inflated tire hydroplanes at a lower speed than a properly inflated tire. Another thing to be avoided is changing direction or braking while traveling across painted surfaces like crosswalks, fog lines and lane markers. They are smooth and can get very slick when wet. Watch out and stay off of them as much as possible.

So, you know you should slow down when it rains, you know how to brake on a wet road and you know to watch out for dangerous situations and slick surfaces. That takes care of operating your machine but what about taking care of you?

Proper riding gear can keep you warm and dry when the weather is cold and wet. Rain gear doesn't have to be expensive but it does have to be with you to be effective. It can't do you any good if its home when you are out on the road. A comfortable rider is a safer rider. Even on a warm day riding in wet clothing can induce hypothermia. Do not underestimate the effects of hypothermia. It can sneak up on you before you realize it. Hypothermia causes confusion, slows physical reactions and thinking processes, affects judgment as well as reduces coordination and balance. Not to mention that if you are thinking about being cold or wet or miserable, your mental focus is not on your riding. Always carry some rain gear rolled up in your saddlebags or top trunk. It can also be used to help keep you warm should you run into unexpected cool weather.

Even behind a windshield, safety glasses, goggles or a face shield are going to make life safer and more comfortable in the rain. Keeping a coat of wax or rain repellent on them and on your windshield will increase your ability to see when the clouds are falling from the sky. However, even the best goggles can't keep up some rain showers. If you find yourself in a cloudburst of biblical proportions look for a safe place to pull off the road and wait until conditions improve. Don't get caught riding blind.



Consider the water on the road that gets thrown up by other vehicles, it contains sand, dirt and other debris. "Here's mud in your eye," is a toast, not something you want to happen to you while riding so protect your eyes like they are the only ones you'll ever have, because they are.

If the road is very wet, should you ride in the center of your lane where the road appears drier or should you ride in one of the wheel tracks where the standing water is going to be slightly deeper? Hmmm. In general it is a safer practice to ride in a wheel track. While the deeper water definitely makes a tire more prone to hydroplaning the center of the lane usually has a build up of oil on its surface and could be unbelievably slick when it has water on it. Remember, reducing your speed lowers the chance

of hydroplaning so even in the slightly deeper water of the wheel track you're better off, comparatively speaking, than riding on the wet and greasy center track. If you're on a trike, try to split the difference so that none of your tires are on that greasy center strip. If that is not possible then do your best, perhaps another lane or another road. Typically, the roads with the highest use have the most oil build-up in the center track.

How deep does water on the road have to be before you should seriously consider the possibility of hydroplaning? Anytime you can see reflections in water on the road it is possible to hydroplane.

Has it been a long time since it rained last? If you don't know and you suddenly find yourself in a rain shower, go ahead and assume it has been a while since the last rain and pull over where it is safe to do so. Give the rain fifteen minutes or so to wash the accumulated surface dust, crud, oil and dirt off the road. During the first few minutes of a rain shower any road can be extremely slick. Slick enough to allow four-wheel vehicles to slide off corners or skid when attempting to stop.

Finally, how worn are your tires? This is an especially important thing for trike riders to keep in mind. The wide contact patch of lightly loaded low pressure tires on the rear of a trike make hydroplaning a serious consideration. But its not just hydroplaning that is a concern. Testing has shown that braking performance of automobile tires on wet roads declines quickly when tread depths fall below 6/32 inch deep. In one test tires with a tread depth of 2/32 inch, the legal limit of wear, were tested against new tires of the same type, brand, size etc. on the same car at the same track under the same conditions. In repeated stops from 70 miles an hour using an ABS equipped vehicle, the worn tires took 378.8 feet to stop, almost twice as far as the new tires did at 195.2¹ feet! Have you checked your tires for wear recently?

Riding in the rain may not be the most pleasant riding you'll ever do but with planning and preparation it doesn't have to ruin your day or your ride. Remember, the safest move you can make when the road surface is wet is to slow down.

Ride safe.

¹ <http://www.tirerack.com/tires/tests/testDisplay.jsp?&ttid=85>



Well, sad to say, this will be my last editorial. My two years is up. I have made many new friends. I have seen some leave this chapter to start a new chapter in Oregon, OR-H, with Mark Bridge at the helm. It has been over a year now, so how do you feel?

To my staff, many, many thanks. We have had some downfalls but we have had many more up's. As of June 11th, Lloyd Finley will be at the helm of Chapter "L". Good Luck and God speed toward the future. Good Bye and God speed to everyone. Keep the sunny side up and the tires on the ground.

Alex Piper, Chapter Director



More Desert Spring Fling Pictures



Horseshoe Winners—Mike & Janet

Bahuru Marimba Band



ARE YOU RECEIVING YOUR UPDATES

Mary A. McKinley [mmckinley9721@charter.net] is now distributing email updates for upcoming events, Chapter happenings, and time-sensitive information. Are you receiving your emails from Mary?

If not, please check you junk mail or spam filter and if you find them in there, add Mary's email to your safe sender list.

If you aren't receiving anything from Mary, send her an email at the above address and ask her to include you on her distribution list.



Hank? or just a figment of my imagination?



Tom Watson—Best of Show

Local Riders Attend ARC Course

by Tom Denny

On May 15th several of our members attended an ARC (Advanced Rider Course) here in the Tri-Cities. This class was part of a Rider Course Instructor Certification Program being taught by GWRRA Master Instructor Eric Carlson (Bremerton, WA) and Region Rider Course Instructor Coordinator Tim Mitchell (Naples, ID). This is the class required in order to become a Rider Course Instructor for GWRRA. The new instructors taught the ARC as part of their certification requirements under the critical eyes of Eric and Tim who were making sure that GWRRA's high standards were being met in all aspects of the course.

Chapter WA-L members Mike Messinger, Kelly Humble, Robert & Maureen Edgar, Mike & Janet Turner, Don & Diane Traeger and Herb & Gaylene Powers, all showed up early on Sunday morning under ominous dark gray skies for the classroom portion of the course held at the Fire Training Center in Kennewick. Other students attending the class were from Walla Walla, Yakima, Ephrata and even Battle Ground, WA.

After lunch everyone regrouped in a large parking lot on Stevens Drive in north Richland to complete the riding portion of the class. Though it was a long day it appeared that everyone had a good time as well as improved their riding skills. Mike & Janet, Don & Diane and Herb & Gaylene all rode the practical exercises two-up! Now there are some tenacious Co-Riders. Good job! Chapter WA-L members Gary Domas and Phil LoParco dropped by to observe as well as provide their support to fellow chapter members. Congratulations to all who attended the ARC for making a personal commitment to motorcycle safety.



Membership Enhancement

Passport Program...



The Passport Program is geared to encourage the Members of GWRRA to ride their motorcycles more to GWRRA events, rallies, Chapter gatherings, etc.

The Passport books have 64 pages, with 4 spaces on each page, for Members to get stamps/initials for each place they visit. GWRRA is providing this special website for this

Program.

To capture those special travel moments, use this Passport when you go to GWRRA events like Wing Ding, the Trikes & Bikes Rally, your Region or District rally, or a seminar or OCP, etc. At each event (at any GWRRA booth), the Chapter Director, District Director or Region Director will apply a special stamp or initials (one per event) to recognize your attendance. After completing the entire Passport, send it to the Home Office by July 31, 2012, [for a chance to win one of several prizes](#), and have your name placed on this page. The winners will be chosen randomly from all entrants.

Paul Hildebrand, GWRRA's founder, states that "I am looking forward to seeing this Passport Program bring riding and camaraderie back to the forefront of GWRRA!"

Have any of you started your Passport Book? I am now on page 5 of mine and it is a lot of fun to bring it to events, have it stamped or signed and then take a minute the next month and see just how busy you can get in GWRRA. It amazes me each month the amount that one can do being involved in our WA-L Chapter and all the surrounding chapters. We seem to have something going on each weekend.

I have enjoyed my tenure as your Membership Enhancement Officer and have made many friends along the way. I want to thank you all for helping me keep our membership rooster up to date for the District and Region. As Lloyd begins his term as Chapter Director he will have a new team to help him out. I wish them the best and as officers come and go, we always seem to have lots of new ideas to keep our chapter going strong. I hope our chapter keeps growing with new members.

Ride often and be sure to have your welcome packets in your bike so that when you meet new people that ride that may be interested in joining the fun of GWRRA you will be able to give them that information.

*Ann Fox
Membership Enhancement Officer*

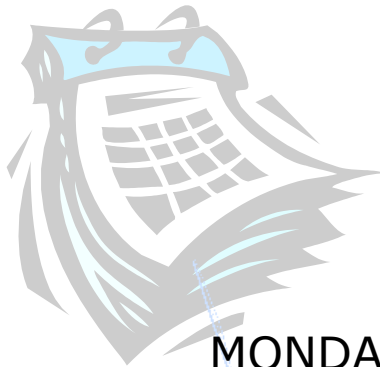


Days & Months

Find and circle all of the Days and Months that are hidden in the grid.

The words may be hidden in any direction.

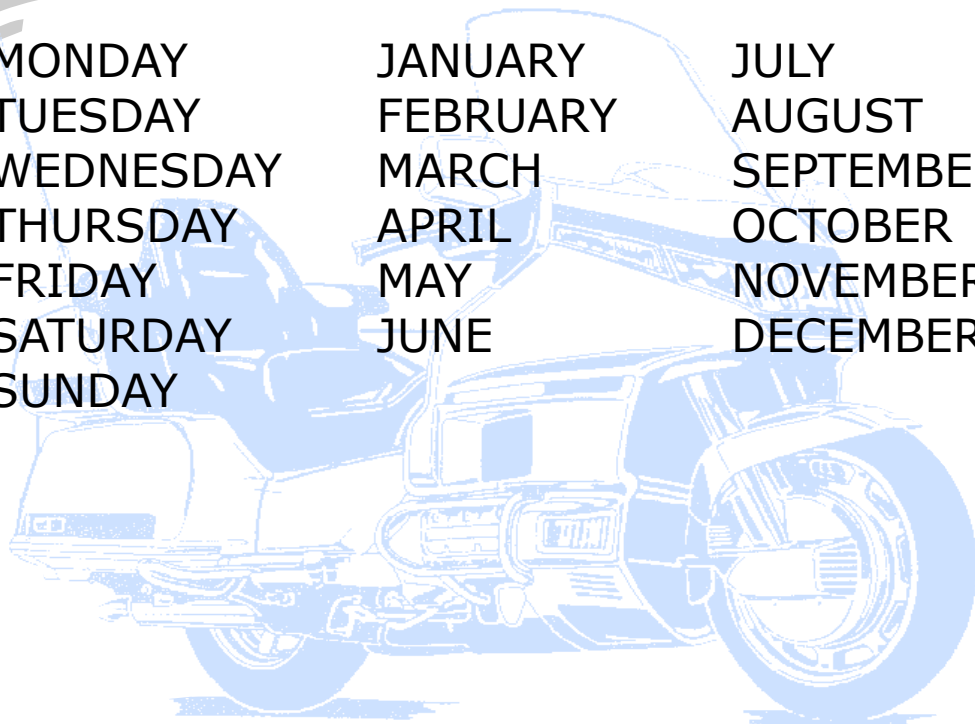
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MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY
SUNDAY

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE

JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER



2011 Washington District Calendar

June

- 3 - 5 Chapter R - Blue Mountain Rendezvous
- 4 Chapter B - Harvest Run
- 11 Chapter D - Duck Hunt
- 16 - 18 Oregon District Rally, Joseph, Oregon.
Contact terryhuffman@comcast.net
- 16 - 18 Wyoming District Rally, Riverton, Wyoming
Contact dada@bresnan.net
- 25 - 26 Chapter M - Fun Run

July

- 6 - 9 Wing Ding
- 16 Chapter A - Mystery Ride
- 21 - 23 Washington District Rally, Chehalis, WA
Contact dd@gwrra-wa.org
- 29 - 30 Montana District Rally, Helena, Montana
Contact dkrobson1@bresnan.net

August

- 4 - 6 Region I Rally, Driggs, Idaho
Contact wnwlrk@msn.com
- 12-14 Idaho Chapter H River Run & Campout
Contact billtrobly@netscape.com
- 13 Chapter O - Whale of a Picnic
- 27 - 28 Chapter Z - Chicken Run/Campout

September

- 2 - 4 Idaho District Rally, Kamiah, Idaho
Contact ponderosads@roadrunner.com
- 2 - 5 Chapter B - Ocean Campout
- 10 Chapter Y - Riddler Run
- 11 Ride for Kids
- 16 - 18 Chapter P - Oyster Feed
- 25 Oyster Run - Anacortes

October

- 22 Chapter Q - Halloween Dance

November

- 11 Veteran's Day Parades - Chapters B, D & L locations

December

- 3 Chapter Q - Santa Parade (Puyallup)
- 10 Chapter D - Festival of Lights

WALK FOR BABIES 2011

Once again chapter L participated in the Walk for Babies in Columbia Park. It's for a good cause and we have fun ridding through the park helping the walkers stay in line and assist any that need help.



DID YOU MISS THE FUN IN MAY?

Good Guy Award ----- Mike Kasko

Oops Award----- Matt Callahan received the OOPS Award... but at the end of meeting, Don Eide left his billfold on table and leaves. Matt wrapped the Oops Award around the billfold. Now Don has it.

Show for the Dough ----- Tom Watson won \$95.

50/50 ----- Joyce LoParco

Breakfast ticket----- Tom Johnston



Phil teaches "Group Riding" techniques with the help of his volunteers!

See You in June!



Tom Watson—Show for the Dough



Matt Callahan—Oops Award - for a little while!

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

2008 GL1800 with only 12,000 miles, some accessories. Titanium in color. Contact Bill Baker 509-430-9214 in the Tri Cities. \$19,900.



FOR SALE: 2002 Yellow GL1800 Gold Wing, 50,000 miles, with radio, brand new tires, new front fork seals, CB radio etc. Call 509-619-3175 Rikki Beaulieu for more information.

FOR SALE: 1989 Wine berry loaded. CB etc hitch, 63,000 miles original one owner bike, they bought it new.. Garaged for 20 years out of the Washington weather. Just an excellent 1500. \$5,000. please call John or Corinne Sweeney. 425-252-0716

FOR SALE: 2006 Honda Silver CBR 1000....loaded! New muffler, power commander, new chain gearing, new tires! Ready to ride! On Craigs List also. 509-222-4258 Mike. \$6,500 firm

FOR SALE: 2007 Yamaha 600YZF Blue sport touring! Always garaged. One owner, about 3300 miles on it! Asking: \$5,800 509-222-4253 Traci.



FOR SALE: Custom made GL1500 seat cover.

Very well built. Will fit stock or Saddleman road sofa (Travelcade). Red thick velour seat area with navy blue marine quality vinyl sides. Embroidery of Indian symbols and designs in seat backs. Matching trunk storage bag. Water repellent coated. Asking \$200.00. If you have a trike, the pair of horse head embroidered fender bras are \$50.00. All in excellent condition. Suzanne Kasko. Chapter WA-L. (509) 585-2129.



Sale items are listed for three months. If you sell your item sooner, please email the newsletter editor. If you need your item listed longer, you need to email and request an extension.

Magentawinger@gmail.com

FOR SALE: GL1200 Limited for sale. 56,000 miles needs to be finished. \$1500 or trade. Gene Myers 509-947-5993

FOR SALE: 2004 HD Roadking standard, black, 22.5k miles, very nice condition \$13,000. 1994 883/1200 Sportster, windshield, custom gas tank & mufflers, saddle bags, tach, hiway pegs & more 28K miles \$4500. 1993 883/1200 Sportster 14k miles new windshield, new chrome primary chain case, highway pegs, passenger pillion pad and backrest. \$4500. Call Gary Lefebvre 509-539-1537.



FOR SALE: 2010 Wing with 4800 miles. CB, built in MP3, fog lights. Navi XM Comfort machine with no ABS or Airbag. Red. \$19,995 but would consider any reasonable offer. Denny Gustin 509-389-3267

FOR SALE: 2007 Honda ST1300 ABS sport touring bike. Still under warranty. 5050 miles. Great bike--but I bought a Wing! K&N air filter, fuel pressure regulator, Fenda Extenda, sheepskin seat covers, Hondaline tankbag w/ raincover, tail bags w/ raincovers, passenger backrest, 1" handlebar riser, Ybarra pinstriping, custom seat, gel hand grips. Lots more! Sell ALL for \$11,000. Call Don Traeger at 509-585-3756 or ddtraeger@charter.net.



FOR SALE: 1989 GL1500 Wing with 1994 California Side Car Friendship III. (Two Person) The setup has a Compu Fire Alternator, Ring of Fire, Trailer Hitch, Extra Fuel Tank, Full covers for both units. New Hack Top included \$7500. 509-582-4560 Mike.



Chapter L — The Looney Tunes

HOLD A REGULAR MEETING THE 2nd
SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

Join us at

SANDSTONE CAFE

104 W 1st Ave in downtown Kennewick.

8:00 AM breakfast, 9AM we discuss the business of the Chapter, share news & safety information, & have fun!

Your Gold Book contains information that will help you ride like a seasoned member of the group, trailer your bike with safety, and know who to call in an emergency. Keep it handy!

Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

<http://www.gwrra.org/>

Melissa Nordeoff, Executive Director

Region "I" Staff

<http://www.bigskyregioni.org/>

Region Directors	Mike & Peggy Hudnell
Assistant Directors	Dale & Shirley Dufner
Assistant Directors	Terry & Cheri Huffman
Rider Educators	Lee and Anna Nelson
Instructor Coordinators	Tim and Martie Mitchell
Region Trainers	John & Dianne Kester
Region I Ambassadors	Ed & Mozelle Edwards
Region I Ambassadors	Hank & Marilyn Smith
Treasurer & Webmaster	Erv & Phyllis Granahan
Membership Enhancement	Dan & Carmen Weakland
Newsletter Editor	Shirley Dufner
Couple of the Year	Larry & Barbara Kuzma
Couple of the Year Coordinators	Dan & Carmen Weakland
Motorist Awareness	Dave & Sheila Chavez
Webmaster	John & Barbara Smith

Washington District Staff

<http://www.gwrra-wa.org/>

WA District Directors	Bob & Patty Spencer
Asst. District Directors	John & Barb Smith
Asst. District Directors	Gary & Diana Domas
District Educators	Bob & Becky Minor
District Trainer	Mike & Lynn Briggs
Membership Coordinator	Becky Minor
District Ambassador	Garry & Judy Calman
District Treasurer	Deb & Chuck Buell
District Stores	Lynn Briggs
District Webmaster	John & Barb Smith
District Couple of the Year	Mike & De Blangy
District COY Coordinators	Mike & Bijou White

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Brian Shook	June 1
Debbi Knapp	June 2
Rob Sheehy	June 2
Robert Williams	June 7
Tom Denny	June 11
Beth Messinger	June 13
Tom Knapp	June 14
Beth Green	June 14
Vicky Heider	June 16
Dannett Baker	June 18
Pat Ward	June 19
MaryAnn Zakrajsek	June 19
Gene Luczynski	June 20
Michael Messinger	June 23
Phil LoParco	June 29
Brian & Shari Shook	June 2
Bill & Heidi Eden	June 7
Tom & Joyce Didway	June 12
Mike & Suzanne Kasko	June 17
Mike & Beth Messinger	June 18
David & Danett Baker	June 19
Rob & Millie Sheehy	June 19
Daniel & Jeanette Curtis	June 22
Spencer & Pat Royer	June 28

Washington Chapter "L"

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

<http://www.gwrra-wa-l.org/>

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Tom Johnson/Mary McKinley	Ride Coordinator
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Georgia Finley	Historian
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