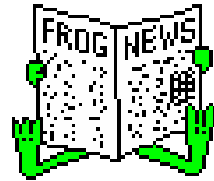




# Chapter V Valley Wings News



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

Meets 1st Thursday 6:00pm  
Station Bistro  
110 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW Auburn



## From the Chapter Directors:



Spring? Has it sprung? Well at any rate, it did the Saturday of the 'Early Spring Fun Run.' It was a beautiful day. Marion & Ken, Sharon & Vic, Ed, Maxine & I had a wonderful ride. A little chilly in the early morning, but the rest of the day was just right!

A planning team had a meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will be working hard in the following weeks and months to have more short day rides. We all like to cycle, so let's go. However, we need everyone in our chapter to get more involved, if possible. Our old sound system will be put on Craig's List, since

we no longer have need of it.

Please remember that our monthly gatherings are now being held at the 'Station' in Auburn on the first Thursday of each month. Dinner, around 6:00PM and the start of our gathering is at 7:00PM. Please come for a visit, food is great.

Our May meeting will be presided over by Ken & Vic. I will be unable to attend, as I will be in day surgery.

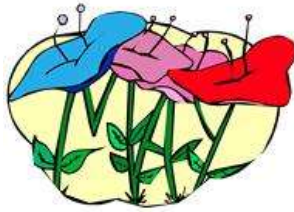
Respectfully submitted

Garry L. & Maxine Alexander

### DID YOU KNOW?

Answer for last month; President Lincoln's son Robert was at the start of Mt. Rushmore. It took four years to complete.

QUESTION FOR THIS MONTH ; What dental practice started in 1910?



## FROM ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS:



Dennis is in Iowa with family will return next month with his comments and suggestion. .

Dennis



## FROM HONORARY ASSISTANCE CHAPTER DIRECTOR:

### Support Your Chapter



Now that the weather is turning more favorable, let's get more serious about riding. A group of us went for a 252 mile round trip ride a week or so ago. Went to chapter 'C' Early Spring Fun Run, a lot of planning went it to their ride and we were fortunate enough to take advantage of their planning. Now it's our time to start planning. I, for one, will be plotting a couple of rides during the summer, as soon as I figure the route, I'll get together with Jim Johnson and get it scheduled.

We need more input from you, our members, pick out a destination, whether it be to see a camel or the wolf pack or some other exotic place. A one day ride or a weekend ride, even a ride to breakfast and back. You come up with whatever you can think of and we will see that it gets scheduled. See or call Jim Johnson, Garry or myself.

Ride with care



## From the Chapter Educator:



From the desk of John Doughty GWRRA Chapter Educator Chapter V

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 intersections. 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

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## CHAPTER V RIDES ON CHAPTER C'S EARLY SPRING FUN RUN

Vic & Sharon Parr

I received a call from Garry Alexander (our Chapter Director) asking me to send out a phone tree message that a group from our chapter would meet at the Denny's restaurant in Auburn at 6:00 AM to take the ride up to the Angel of the Winds Casino near Arlington for Chapter C's Early Spring Fun Run. When I mentioned the meeting time to my better half I could see the look of agony on her face. This woman is not an early riser, but she resigned herself to the fact that Garry promised a nice day and a great ride.

So, that's the way the day started. We donned our heated gear, plugged it all in, and off we went to meet the others. They (Garry and Maxine Alexander, Ken and Marion Harter, and Ed Miller) were chatting among themselves as we arrived. After some welcome hugs and words we were on the road to the gathering place at the casino.

We arrived in plenty of time to begin our registrations, obtain some tickets that allowed us to register at the casino desk and get their tickets for a discount on breakfast and also a welcome gift of \$5.00. All of that gift went toward a gas purchase. We finished our breakfast and went back to start our Fun Run adventure at the first checkpoint. We were given some door prize tickets and an opportunity to dip our hands in the toilet bowl for a treat. Several ladies refused because the guys had left the seat down. Ewwwww!

Our rides took us through some beautiful and scenic countryside. The weather was cool and we could see some of the mountains in the distance. The second check point was at a ice cream store and we threw some darts to enable us to gather some more door prize tickets. Off we went for a leisurely ride to the third checkpoint where we drew some golf balls from a bag to be rewarded some more door prize tickets. More scenic riding brought us to a park where it was potty time and another opportunity for some door prize tickets. Checkpoint four was at a parking area near the Boeing plant – again more door prize tickets and finally a short drive to the last checkpoint.

Door prizes awaited those with the lucky tickets and barbequed hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, and drinks were consumed by the now hungry participants. Early registration gift certificate was presented to a young man and many more door prizes were given out. The 50-50 monies 109166 were won by some lucky person (none of us, sad to say) and we were given a heartfelt thanks by the Chapter C Director. With full tummies and a feeling that we had enjoyed a well planned event we headed back home.

Many thanks to Chapter C for putting together a great event. We look forward to attending again next year and we hope that more from our chapter will join us.



## Motorist Awareness Division/Program



This past month has been extremely busy for me since I have personally visited many schools, driver's training organizations and even some church groups. Many have shown an interest in the presentations but have a reluctance since any type of driver education has been eliminated due to budget restraints. Other schools feel they might be a good fit for the Health or Shop classes. Some schools require a volunteer form to be completed for a background check. Takes me back to my security clearance days with the military and previous employers. No matter, I feel it is worth the effort.

I have been fortunate that the Federal Way School district has a driver's education program and currently I have given presentations to almost 300 students. Our own summer activities will take away more opportunities, but I'm hoping for more presentations when school starts this fall.

The month of May is Motorcycle Awareness month. What better time to be pro-active in getting word out to current drivers and those who will soon join the crowds on the roads. The Washington chapter "V" of GWRRA is hosting an All Motorcycle Mall Show on the weekend of May 18-20 at the South Hill Mall in Puyallup. Plans are for several vendors and presentations that will show our dedication to safety through training and education.

We must be aware that there will be even more motorcycles on the roads in the future due to economics. Gas prices are changing a lot of our lifestyles. Hopefully with the information we can share with the riders they will have a safe, fun-filled ride.

Vic Parr

Motorist Awareness Program Liaison



## From the chapter couple of the year:



Well, fellow riders – here we are in the midst of Spring. I think the cold weather is past and snow in the lowlands is no longer a threat. Just the replacing rain. Sure makes the dry days a welcome sight doesn't it – especially if it is on the weekend.

We joined several other Chapter V members on a ride to Chapter C's Spring Fun Run. The meeting place for our group ride was at oh-dark-oh-clock and my honey felt the need for the heated outfit. We had to try out the new connections that Dennis Murphy helped me install anyway. Everything worked just fine and

we had a very enjoyable time at their event.

Our chapter ride coordinator (Jim Johnson) is begging for ride suggestions from our members. Somewhere special you would like to share on a group ride? Maybe just a little picnic. These are all events that help to bring our chapter together. Maybe we will encounter someone who would like to join us for the ride, and who knows – become a chapter member.

Our upcoming Mall Show could be a means to meet new friends also. Sharon and I will be overseas in Turkey during that event, so the rest of you will have to be the substitute Couple of the Year and wear your welcoming smiles. If you attend, be proud of your chapter and display our green colors.

Smile often and ride safely.

Vic & Sharon  
WAV Couple of the Year



## FROM THE CHAPTER TECHNICAL ADVISOR:



Again Dennis will be back next month with his wisdom and helpful hints on **"how to"**

Dennis.



## FROM THE CHAPTER SECRETARY



### Chapter WA "V" April 5, 2012 Gathering

Chapter Directors, Garry and Maxine Alexander held the Chapter "V" gathering at The Station Bistro in Auburn. Special guests tonight are Betty Willard and Sam and Robin Stuart.

Sam and Robin spoke to everyone on the upcoming "Run for the Dog's". This annual ride is for the benefit of Dogs of American and a very worthy cause. Maxine's own Levi came from Dogs of America.

John Doughty reminded everyone to "check your tires". As we get ready for the riding season, we need to prepare ourselves both physically and mentally. Practice sharpening our skills. Contact John for information on upcoming training classes. Special Olympics is on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and volunteers are needed.

Future and Upcoming Events include:

- April 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Chapter "V" is hosting the Federal Way rest area. There is a sign up sheet for volunteers.
- April 14<sup>th</sup> is Chapter "C" Early Spring Fun Run. Some of our Chapter members are going to attend. This is always a wonderful ride.
- May 6<sup>th</sup> is Chapter "M" Fun Run
- May 12<sup>th</sup> is Chapter "Q" Crazy Ride
- May 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> is Chapter "V" Mall Show. Please register as soon as you can. This helps us to know how many to expect and decide how to place the bikes in the Mall area.
- May 20<sup>th</sup> is Brother's Power Sport's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Armed Forces Ride
- May 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> is Chapter "L" Desert Spring Fling. We have members planning to attend.
- July 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> is the Washington District Convention in Grandview, WA. Each Chapter is coming up with a game to have at their campsite. Chapter "V" still needs to decide on a game. Please give your ideas to Garry. Everyone is encouraged to attend this wonderful event.

Our Ride Coordinator Jim and Ruth Johnson are "still in the woods" so on Jim's behalf Nick Ferderer made the request for rides. If anyone has a ride in mind or someplace you want to go to, please let Jim know. So far he has had no input. Where do you want to ride to?

Nick Ferderer spoke on how he replaced the foam on his motorcycle seat for a reasonable price through American Cushion. Just replacing the foam made a huge difference in the comfort. He brought the old motorcycle seat in to show everyone how the foam wears and becomes hard over time.

This months drawings:

Michael Smith - Chapter "M" Fun Run Registration

Marion Harter – Chapter "B" Harvest Run

Maxine Alexander – Chapter "R" Blue Mountain Rendezvous

Garry Alexander – Chapter Member Color Drawing

Jan Ljunggren – Chapter Marble Game (no green marble)

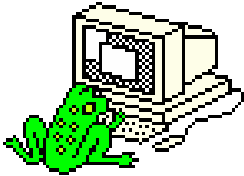
Carmi Jorgensen - 50/50 Drawing

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Jan Ljunggren



## FROM THE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER EDITORS



May is noted for the month of flowers after April showers. Let's hope for a little more sunshine this month. and a lot more activity within our chapter. With more activity there should be more reporting to the editor with some good stories. (I'll keep typewriter warmed up) Without new articles how do we hide (your) the mystery membership number, it's worth a dinner at the current month.

We have three less marbles in the marble bag. Good luck.

Don't forget, the last Saturday of the month. (it would help before the last day)

Keep the articles coming? (And READ them)

Ken/Marion

## Recipe Corner:

**Sweet & sour Chicken**      This is super good, just ask Ken & Terri

- 1/4 C Soy Sauce
- 1/4 C Pineapple Juice
- 2 Tbl Brown Sugar
- 1 Tbl red wine vinegar
- 2 tsp cornstarch
- 1 tsp powdered ginger (or fresh ginger finely chopped)
- 1 clove garlic chopped fine

Rinse chicken and pat dry.

Use a small amount of oil. Sear chicken thighs skin side down until golden brown.

Remove chicken from skillet and set aside for later use.

In same skillet use drippings from seared chicken combine all ingredients ,heat to boiling, reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes. Add chicken , cover and simmer, for 25-35 minutes. stirring occasionally until chicken reaches internal temp 180 deg at the deepest part of thigh or breast.

Serve with hot rice.(optional)

## CHAPTER BIRTHDAYS



Cory Evons – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Neena Stoner – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Johnny Vallely

## CHAPTER ANNIVERSARYS



Joe & Patti Diambri – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Doug & Sally Lyon – 17<sup>th</sup>

## Did You Know

### Unusual Customs in May

- 1<sup>st</sup> May – Labor Day
- 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> May – 1930 Amy Johnson was the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia
- 6<sup>th</sup> May – 1954 Roger Bannister ran the mile in less than four minutes
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – 1945 VE (Victory in Europe) Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – 1671 Captain Blood attempted to steal the Crown Jewels
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – 1994 Nelson Mandela Became the President of South Africa
- 12<sup>th</sup> May – 1820 Florence Nightingale was born
- 18<sup>th</sup> May – 1991 Helen Sharman became the first British woman in space
- 28<sup>th</sup> May – 1908 Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond books was born
- 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1953 Edmond Hillary and Tenzing Norgay reached the summit of Everest
- 30<sup>th</sup> May - 1431 Joan of Arc was burned at the stake
- 30<sup>th</sup> May – 542 Death of King Arthur

## Washington Chapters Gatherings

Day:	Time:	Chapter:	Location:
1st Thu	6:00 PM	WA-V Auburn	The Station Bistro 110 2nd St SW, Auburn, WA
1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	6:00 PM	WA-Q Puyallup	The Sizzler Restaurant 10701 S Tacoma Way, Lakewood
1st Sat	9:00 AM	WA-M Yakima	Branding Iron Restaurant, Toppenish, WA.
1st Sat	8:30 AM	WA-X Vancouver	Hometown Buffet 7809-B NE Vancouver Plaza Vancouver, .
1st Sat	8:00 AM	WA-R Walla Walla	Smiths Family Restaurant 1425 W Pine St, Walla Walla Wa
1st Sun	8:30 AM	WA-B Bremerton	Eagles 6 <sup>th</sup> ST & Washington Ave Bremerton, WA
2nd Tue	6:30 PM	WA-H Lynden	Fairway Family Restaurant 1726 Front St Lynden, WA
2nd Fri	6:30 PM	WA-Y Enumclaw	Krain Corner Restaurant 39929 264 <sup>th</sup> SE Enumclaw, WA
2nd Sat	8:00 AM	WA-C Everett	Denney's Restaurant 132 128 <sup>th</sup> St SW Everett, WA.
2nd Sat	9:00 AM	WA-L Kennewick	City Grill 300 N Ely, Kennewick WA
2nd Sat	1:00 PM	WA-Z Centralia	PJ's Pizza 1232 Alder St. Centralia, off exit 81, Mellon St.
2nd Sun	8:30 AM	WA-D Aberdeen	Duffy's Restaurant 1605 Simpson Ave Aberdeen, WA
3rd Sat	8:30 AM	WA-E Bellevue	Crystal Creek Café 22620 Bothell-Everett Hwy, Bothell WA
3rd Sat	1:00 PM	WA-P Longview	Sizzler 936 Ocean Beach Hwy Longview, WA, 98632
3rd Sun	8:00 AM	WA-I Olympia	Fatso's Bar and Grill 3205 Martin Way East Olympia, WA
3rd Sun	8:30 AM	WA-N Spokane	Golden Corral Buffet & Grill 7717 N Division St Spokane, WA.
4th Sat	8:30 AM	WA-A Seattle	Old Country Buffet 25630 104 <sup>th</sup> Ave SE Kent, WA
4th Sat	8:00 AM	WA-O Port Orchard	Airport Diner 8803 Stet HYW 3 SW Port Orchard, WA

A QUICK REMINDER

CHECK TO SEE IF

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE

