

# Chapter V Valley Wings News



Chapter Directors: Joe & Patti Diambri 253- 740-7224 Meets 1st Tuesday 6:00pm Rainbow Cafe 112 E Main Auburn, 98002







# From the Chapter Director

## **Spring Has Sprung?**



They say Spring Has Sprung, well can someone tell me where? I think the only thing that has sprung is the water mains! We have had a record amount of rainfall which causes our bikes to sit idle for many of us, but of course there are some that won't let the rain stop them from riding! Now they also say that April Showers bring May Flowers, well if the rain doesn't let up the then the flowers won't be able to grow they will drown!

Started the month out with our normal chapter meeting (normal as they can be) with A good sized group. After having a little bit of problem with the server being a bit overwhelmed the month before, we talked with the owner and got that hopefully under control.

Well we now have another rest stop done and accounted for. First of all, we want to thank all of you that volunteered your time to help out at the rest stop, and a special thanks to the Harter's who are always there to store the goods, open and start the coffee, then close it up again and store it back up! As most of you know this is our only means of funds for our chapter and so the more people we get involved the better as it is your chapter! It would sure be nice if we could get it so that no one had to work more than one shift during the few day that we man the booth, but it always seems like it never works out that way! We for one enjoy working it as there are all sorts of people that stop in which makes it interesting. We had a bit of a glitch this year which was not caused by any of us in the chapter, but the people responsible (D.O.T.) for opening the booth up didn't get it opened as early as needed. We for one had to wait almost 2 hours for someone to show to open it! For those of you that are new to this, I believe we got a bit spoiled as we had a DOT worker named Sue who was always there to open shop, keep it cleaned up and running smoothly. Now that she is gone they depend on numerous different workers to keep it up and running. On another note, we have another rest stop coming up in May and have a few spots still open and in need of help. So, with that said if you were thinking that you may want to give it a shot then check out the openings. I know that there were a few of our newer members that did just that and enjoyed it!

Maintenance Workshop was our last festivity for the month. We had quite a few bike s in the shop this time with many different things being done, with oil changes, lights, and general maintenance. Lots of work and even more watching and guide service. During the month for having a workshop we don't have a social as we combine them together for the month. Special thanks go out to Sharon Murphy for making her Lasagna for all to enjoy! For those of you that didn't make it, you missed out on some food. As usual there was enough to feed an Army and lots of variety.

Now it's time for our weather to change so we can get our bakes out for some fun and chapter rides!

## Joe & Patti Diambri



#### **ASSISTANT CHAPTER DIRECTORS:**

#### **Lean Forward**



The Title "Lean Forward" might seem a little odd, NO it is not referring to a slogan used by a Cable TV network, Lean Forward is referring to a method of gaining more visibility when riding. It is a practice that I use often when riding in heavy traffic on the freeway. We use our turn signals and do a head check when we want to change lanes as we should. The scariest situation we could find ourselves in is changing lanes into a car in our blind spot.

Our mirrors are a valuable tool to help us see what is behind us. The downside is that we can't adjust them as needed when we are at freeway speeds. My recommendation to solve this problem is to Lean Forward. By leaning forward it changes the angle in which our mirrors show what is behind us. It is like moving them outward to give us a better view of our blind spot area. Being extra careful that the lane is clear before moving over will help us to avoid a possible disaster.

Keep proper distance, when in any riding condition, following too close leaves your reaction time too limited. I have been guilty of this at times but I try to keep well back of the car in front of me so I have time to react to conditions ahead. When your speed goes up, increase the following distance between you and the car in front of you.

Ride safe and remember the things you have learned in classes and through experience. The weather is slowly improving so you should be on your bike more, get the cobwebs off your riding skills. Do some parking lot practice to hone your skills. Keep the shiny side up.

Jeff & Cindy Duffield



## From the Chapter Educator:







## May Newsletter -

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 and mitigate the danger. 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 3 to use whatever methods we have at our disposal to compete for this available space. The phenomena three we are experiencing are being generated by the masses of people as they drive their vehicles traveling over four the roadways today. There are many vehicles on our roadways that people are oblivious to what is around them 0. The drivers have become just plain numb due to the enormous volume of traffic so much so that this three volume tends to create invisible vehicles. When a driver has full concentration and is performing eight the duties as a driver, they are sometimes hard pressed to recognize even full sized vehicles moving dash about the roadway much less a vehicle that is smaller, faster, and less obvious a vehicle such as the zero motorcycle. Drivers are subconsciously visualizing through the space occupied by the motorcycle one 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. Cell phone usage, texting while driving, 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 are the newest ways to communicate such as BLUE tooth, cell telephone, texting, global positioning devices (GPS), and believe it or not, watching video players while driving. And there is reading the book, newspaper, or map while driving. Have we have seen drivers using their hair dryer, or styling their hair, shaving, and cosmetic primping that takes place while driving. Of course, probably the first distractions when driving were eating and drinking that goes on all during the confines of the automobile or truck. ALL of these examples while driving through the intersections?

Your defense can include 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, wear 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 a WHITE helmet is seen through a black road or pavement. Notice the WHITE helmet through the green foliage and trees. Notice the WHITE helmet stands 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 more lighting, 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 the suggestion list above 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.

GWRRA Chapter Educator – JOHN E. DOUGHTY



# **Greetings from Chapter Couple**





At the end of this month is the annual Chapter L Desert Spring Fling held at Benton Franklin County Fair Grounds in Tri Cities. This is a fun 3 day event for camping and riding along with some GWRRA favorites. This will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> one and Cindy's second one if the birth of our 3<sup>rd</sup> grandchild doesn't keep Cindy home. The fairgrounds are really nice with

lots of green grass to set up your trailer or tent on. Chapter L does a great job of putting this event on with good food and organized events. The light parade is a big hit and well worth the preparation because it is a 30 minute ride through town passing lots of spectators who come out of their houses to see the bikes. There is a bike show and sometimes bike games. This year there will be a tour of the Hanford Nuclear Reactor (paid in advance) and most likely a nice day ride. Sunday night dinner has some good entertainment before the prizes are handed out. Like a mini District Rally, always good weather and a great way to spend Memorial Day Weekend. Hope to see you there.

Jeff and Cindy



#### **Motorist Awareness**

### MAY – MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH



Ah, yes – May. The month where April showers help bring forth the flowers. How nice it is to look at and smell the flowers! But, let's do it in a safe manner, huh? Sometimes we get too distracted by Mother Nature's beautiful displays that we make a spectacle of ourselves. That may be a mass of flesh and metal in the ditch – along with those flowers.

Some of you may not know that April was Distracted Driver Awareness month. How convenient it is that the month of May follows as Motorcycle Awareness month. Distracted drivers are now becoming a major reason for more

motorcycle accidents.

Are you now or have you ever been a distracted driver? Let's look at some examples and be honest with yourself in your answers:

- 1. Have you had passengers in your vehicle that through their actions have taken your mind away from driving safely (heated discussions with adults or trying to correct youngsters)?
- 2. Have you ever read books, newspapers, maps, etc. while driving?
- 3. Have you ever done any cosmetic maneuvers (apply makeup, shaving, plucked eyebrows, etc.) while driving?
- 4. Have you ever changed radio stations while driving?
- 5. Have you ever made changes to your GPS while driving?
- 6. How about the biggest distraction now talking or texting on your phone while driving?

I must confess that (beside # 3) I have been guilty of all of the above. Have I been trying to modify my driving habits – you bet I have. Especially after seeing some of the results from distracted driving in the news.

Remember – if we are guilty of these distracted actions, then you can be certain that the person next to you on the highway is keeping you company. Be an aware motorist.

# From Jeff, Chapter Ride coordinator

#### No Ride for April



Due to our Spring Maintenance Workshop and Social, we did not have a Chapter Ride for the month of April. We had a great turn out for the workshop. Not a large number of bikes being worked on but a large number of Chapter members present to enjoy the day. Our area has been very wet this past month so finding a dry day would have been tough. May should be better. Due to the First Aid / CPR class we will not have the planned ride to Centralia on the 20th. The Chapter Z Mall show is going on that day and will be an outdoor

bike show for the public to see the bikes. June will bring 2 Chapter rides, The Chapter D Duck Hunt and the Chapter Q Crazy Mountain Ride, so be prepared and ready to go. We will be meeting at the Auburn Denny's at 7:30 am to go as a group to these events. If you live south of Auburn and don't wish to meet us there, go on your own.

Jeff







#### FROM THE CHAPTER TECHNICAL ADVISOR:

**Greetings Fellow Wingnuts!** 

Well, it's been a busy month with the workshop and all.

There were a lot of people at the Harter's. More than enough food and thanks to Sharon Murphy we had way too much lasagna. I have to say that she is one awesome cook. We also had chicken from Fred Meyer and I thought it was pretty good.

A lot of time goes into talk of oil and filter changes and also checking the tire pressures. But, does anyone think about the rear end of the drive train? It's incredibly easy to change the fluid in the final drive and should be done on a regular schedule just like the rest of the maintenance on the bike. It's easy. Much easier by putting the bike on a lift and airing up the suspension. Put the bike on the center stand and take out the top fill bolt on the final drive. Put a small drain pan under the final drive and take out the smaller drain bolt on the bottom of the housing. Drain the fluid and put the bottom bolt back in and tighten. Grab your gear oil and fill back up until the ledge of the top bolt hole. I usually turn the wheel to get the new oil around the inside and then put the top plug back in. Super easy.

See you all at the rest area and of course we have the Special Olympics coming up in June. That is always a great time.

Dennis



## FROM THE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER EDITORS



The hidden number for April was Jan Ljunggren and she didn't show for the meeting, sorry Janice but if you want to win you must show up at our meetings. and check the entire newsletter when you're looking for your membership number, it can be rather difficult. It might be spelled out or just printed out as a number or both ways or broken up in an article. If you find your number its good for a \$10.00 dinner refund at the current meeting, honored before 50/50 drawings.

Spring Workshop/Social Gathering April 22, 2017

It was a very successful day for both Workshop and the Chapter Social this past month. There were twenty members present for the social and six bikes that were worked on in one way or another. Altogether there were at least eleven or twelve bikes that showed, including mine which was under cover.

Help Support Your Chapter - By Being There

Be careful out there. Ken/Marion



## **CHAPTER BIRTHDAYS**



Jeff Duffield 17 Neena Stoner 10

#### **CHAPTER ANNIVERSARYS**



Mike & pen Briese 28 Joe & Patti Diambri 26

## Is That Right!

I can totally keep secrets. It's the people I tell them to that can't.

If you see me smiling it's because I'm thinking of doing something evil or naughty. If you see me laughing it's because I've already done it.

My girlfriend told me to go out and get something that makes her look sexy... so I got drunk.

# **Monthly Calendar Events & Rides**

If you need any 2017 month/events - go to chapter V web page http://www.gwrra-wav.org

May 2017									
<u>30</u>	May 1	2 6 pm - 8 pm Chapter V Monthly Meeting	3	4	<u>5</u>	6Chapter M - Annual Fun Run  3 pm - 6 pm Chapter V Planning Meeting  ARC Training - Classroom and Range Sessions			
7	8	9	10	11	Chapter 'N' Camp	Chapter 'V' Rest Stop Fundraiser Chapter 'N' Camp Out			
Mother's Day Mother's Day  Chapter 'V' Rest Stop Fundraiser	Chapter 'V' Rest Stop Fundraiser	Chapter 'V' Rest Stop Fundraiser  5:30 pm - 7 pm Chapter V Social	Chapter 'V' Rest Stop Fundraiser	18	19	Armed Forces Day  9 am - 5 pm			
Chapter 'N' Camp Out	22	23	24	25	26	Chapter Ride			
		(data)	<u>6-7</u>		20	Chapter L Spring Fling			
28 Chapter L Spring Fling	29  Memorial Day	30	31						

Day:	Time:	Chapter:	Location:
1 <sup>st</sup> Tue	6:00 PM	WA-V Auburn	Rainbow Restaurant 112 E Main Auburn WA 98002 WA
1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	9:00AM	WA-M Yakima	Branding Iron Restaurant Toppenish WA 98948 WA
1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	10:00 AM	WA-X Vancouver	Hometown Buffet 7809-B NE Vancouver PlazaVancouver
1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	9:00 AM	WA-R Walla Walla	Smiths Family Restaurant 1425 W Pine St Walla Walla WA
1stSat	8:00 AM	WA-B Bremerton	Airport Dinner 8803 Stet Hwy 3 SW Port Orchard WA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	6:00 PM	WA-H Lynden	Fairway Family Restaurant 1726 Front St Lynden WA
8 <sup>th</sup> Day	1:Oclock	ABCXYZKEFA	Anytown dash just south of here
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	9:00AM	WA-L Kennewick	Red Lion 2525 North 20 <sup>th</sup> Ave Pasco WA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	6:00PM	WA-Z Centralia	Ramblim Jacks Ribeye 1335 Rush Rd Chehalis WA
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	8:00 AM	WA-Q Puyallup	Little Rock Restaurant 17106 Pacific Ave S Spanaway
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	8:30AM	WA-D Aberdeen	Duffy's Restaurant 1605 Simpson Ave Aberdeen WA
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	8:30 AM	WA-E Bellevue	Kenmore Lanes 7638 NE Bothell Way Kenmore WA
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	1:00PM	WA-P Longview	Sizzler 936 Ocean Beach Hwy Longview WA 98632 WA
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	8:00 AM	WA-I Olympia	Hawks Prairie Restaurant 8306 Quinault Drive NE Lacy WA
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	8:00 AM	WA-N Spokane	Golden Corral Buffet & Grill 7717 N Division St Spokane WA
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	8:30 AM	WA-A Seattle	Old Country Buffet 1816 S 320 <sup>th</sup> Federal Way WA
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	8:00 AM	WA-O Port Orchard	Airport Diner 8803 Stet Hway3 SW Port Orchard WA