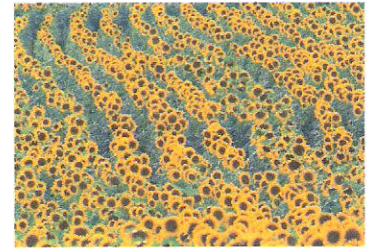


ROGUE VALLEY WINGS

NEWS LETTER

September 2007



Labor Day

Rogue Valley Wings General Meeting August 18, 2007

The meeting was brought to order by Larry Balloy at 9:30 am. It was held at Harts Café in Grants Pass and 11 members were in attendance along with 2 guests.

Larry explained there was a chapter campout going on which accounted for the low numbers in attendance. He also suggested a ride out after the meeting to Doe Pt. Campground to see everyone. After visiting with our members he suggested they continue on to Ft. Klamath. Chapter M is doing kick off for their chapter and joining the Shascade Wings who are doing their yearly campout there.

Next year Gold Rush XXI will be in Billings MT. July 14 - 18 2008. Hotel reservations can be made now. The Phone number is 406-248-7701 ext. 7519. Remember to say GWTA. There is also a Good Sam park and a KOA available for camping. Gold Rush is fun. There are seminars, games on bike: games off bikes, lots of opportunity for rides and ice cream. If you have never gone, this is a good time as Montana is fairly close to us. Region A will be the host next year but we haven't learned yet what we will be asked to do. I'm sure we will hear soon.

Craig Alberts the Washington State Webmaster and Assistant Chapter Director for Chapter V has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and has gone through brain surgery. We have heard no more about it but wish him well and will gladly pray for the whole family.

Scott Peabody's father passed away in July and we wish his family well.

The State Meeting will take place in Sun River over Labor Day. Topics will include shirts, awards, and plans for our state rally. Jobs will be assigned.

Meeting adjourned.

Carmen Warren, Secretary



Michael's Run 2007

Last year I had the privilege of meeting Ken Brigham a.k.a. "Badger", Black Sheep Harley Davidson For Christ M/M Chapter Director, at one of our local rides.

He explained to me that they had an Honorary Chapter Member that could really use a ride. Previously they had the use of a sidecar available but no longer had that availability and asked if I would be willing to take one of their members on a ride. He explained to me that Michael has Spina Bifida. I said "Of course, just contact me with further information". "Badger" did contact me and told me about Michael Salvestrin, a.k.a. "Ambassador" and I told him it would be a privilege to give Ambassador a ride on my trike.

Ambassador is the Oregon spokesperson for Children's Miracle Network. I rode the trike out to a meeting place to make sure Ambassador would be comfortable on the back of the trike. All he would say was "Awesome". Let me tell you that each time he said Awesome it made my day. Ambassador was a little nervous on that first ride but this time was different. He knew what to expect and was anxious to go.

Next year he'll probably want the keys.

No matter how excited he was, it was no match for the pride I experienced knowing that he and his family had put their trust in me to give Ambassador a safe ride. Believe me, I had precious cargo. Twice now I've been honored to be Ambassador's pilot and look forward to doing so again next year. Believe me, Michael is Awesome and his family is just as great.

This year we had twice the turnout as last year and only hope we can double this years turnout next year. God Bless you Michael and your Family. Thank you Badger for giving me the opportunity to meet Michael and for the privilege of being his pilot even for a short ride.

To me this was my blessing. Michael told us that his Grandma is ill and asked for our prayers. Michael, your request is our command.

Don Coons, GWTA Oregon State Safety Director

AND THEN CAME THE RAINS

I know that all who attended the Chapter A Fish Lake campout 16/19 August 07 had a fantastic time even if it did rain Saturday night. Neither rain nor sleet nor snow can ruin the day for dedicated and fun loving people. It was a weekend of laughter, games, fun, hikes, campfires and food. Some of us took the ride over to Chapter M's camp sight and kickoff at Fort Klamath on Saturday.

Go to the chapter WebPages, <http://www.gwta-oregon.org/A.htm> to view all the photos.

Last I heard there will be a fish and chips ride to Crescent City next weekend and we're looking forward to another great outing.

Everyone ride safe, be careful but have fun and keep smiling

Don

What is the GWTA RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM??

Rider Education: Purpose and Goal

The basic purpose and goal of the Rider Education Program is to make the motorcycle environment safer by reducing injuries and fatalities. The National Rider Education Program was developed to provide GWTA members with a quality Rider/Co-Rider Awareness Program and to develop projects according to the needs of the members. Understanding that motorcycling is in itself a sport with its own risk potential, multiplied by varying factors, environment and our attitudes. Our concern is to help our members identify and rectify risk, through risk management. Namely, proper skills enhancement, but equally, if not more important, attitude. Through commitment, education and applications, we can reduce our accident rate significantly. Listed below are several benefits of a fully implemented GWTA Rider Education Program.

- Prevents Accidents.
- Reduces Injuries.
- Reduces Fatalities.
- Reduces Insurance Premiums.
- Helps prevent adverse legislation pertaining to Motorcyclists.
- Improve the motorcyclist's image with the general public.
- Generally improves and enhances the enjoyment of tour riding.

We are anticipating reaping positive benefits from the GWTA Rider Education Program. Through the efforts of the Rider Education Directors and the participation of the membership, we will reach toward our goal of establishing the safest motorcycle environment possible.

The R.E.P. defines a path of learning that builds on itself. A path of learning that generates a desire to make motorcycling more enjoyable, thereby keeping the fun in motorcycling and by taking some of the fear away from being out there on the roads, due to not knowing what and how to do something to avoid a catastrophe.

Besides the Rider being prepared, the greatest lack of education in motorcycling deals with the Co-Rider. The first step is to make the Co-Rider an involved participant in the operation of the motorcycle. The Co-Rider Seminar hasn't been designed to teach a co-rider how to operate a motorcycle, but to inform and teach the importance in knowing the basic ins and outs in the everyday operation of the motorcycle, i.e. Where is the C.B. radio: How do I turn it on: What channel do I use and why: Where is the throttle and how does it work: Where is the clutch and why is it important to me, the Co-rider: The three brakes on the motorcycle (Three? Don't forget the engine braking!): The engine cutoff switch and why it is important..... the list goes on and on.
