

GOLD WING TOURING ASSOCIATION



Washington State Directors

Hello!

Where is the time going? Here it is March already, which of course can only mean one thing-Lots of riding ahead of us! Green Freeze II was great, a little cold in the AM but no rain or snow and with a heated coat whats a little bit of cold? So now it is March and we start off with Chapter D spaghetti feed and auction. This event is always a great time and helps Chapter D with funds so they can perform all over the state. It also helps with supporting the drill team on play days. Chapter Y and Chapter C have mall shows this month. Green Freeze III concludes with a banquet this month. And last but not least is the Officers Meeting March 27th in Ellensburg at the Best Inn. This meeting is for all members who wish to attend.

Rally News

Wow are we pumped for this Rally! The town has all kinds of fun things planned. We have a very special opening ceremony planned and a lot of new activities that should be fun. We are expecting a very large group this year as there is interest from a lot of folks from all over. Remember if you or your group is planning on getting a Motel room to reserve it before April 1st and tell them you are with GWTA. The list of Motels is on the Web Site www.gwta-wa.org. Camping is free on the school grounds. Be thinking about decorating your campground for the rally. The Theme is Happy Trails.

We also need someone to put on Kids games at State. Betsey Sawyer has had to step back from doing this so it is open. If you are interested in providing help with Kids Games at State, let us know.

State News

First thing please don't forget the officers meeting on the 27th in Ellensburg at the Best Inn call 1-888-889-9870 to reserve a room. Tell them you are with GWTA as we have a block of rooms set aside. After the meeting we will have the usual potluck social and card games. The new state trailer will be at this meeting so everybody can see it and what is available to our members inside it. There will be representatives from Winthrop to talk about the rally and you never know how crazy your State Staff might be dressed. Please try and make sure some one from your Chapter attends. Also it is open to all members but if there is something to vote on it is one vote per chapter.

As most of you know by now Jerry Weltner has accepted the position of National Education and retention director(NERD). Jerry will definitely do STP this year but is not sure if National will let him continue in both positions next year. We are looking for someone to be Jerry's assistant this year and learn the ropes so next year they can either step up and take over as STP coordinator or continue to assist Jerry if he stays on. So please let your chapter members know if this is something they are interested in please get a hold of us right away. We would like to fill this as soon as possible so they can start working with Jerry.

Chapter News

- ◆ Chapter D is not meeting right now because they are out promoting the drill team auction on March 6th. This is always a fun time and something to look forward to. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased from the Drill team coming to chapter meeting soon or contact Randy Kepley.
- ◆ Chapter I have moved their meeting again this month to the VFW Hall which is on Goldie RD in Oak Harbor.
- ◆ Chapter P no meeting this month as they are going up to Chapter S to visit.

State Web Page

All we can say is "Marlin, you're awesome!" Did you know there is now an on-line bike show on the web page where you can enter a picture of your bike and also vote for your favorite? How about the feed back page? As a little note on that I checked the feedback page a few hours after Marlin put it up and there was a message from the Netherlands. Any information you need about Washington State GWTA is on there. Please make sure your members are using it. The Calendar of events, Chapter meeting times and location, email addresses, weather, a search engine, favorite rides, pictures, chapter newsletters, it is all there. Also if you have ideas let Marlin know he is pretty well open to anything (for a price) so go to www.gwta-wa.org

Rider Education

Are you getting the monthly articles that Jim has been putting out? We are hoping to have an ERC course at State. We will have, "Crash Course", the first aid class that Daylon teaches along with the co-rider seminar. Do you need help in setting up Rider Education for your chapter? If so contact our State Rider Education Directors, Jim and Hazel Townsend, at jimmytownsend@msn.com PO Box 958 Toledo WA 98951 PH 360-864-8965. One of our goals is to see Washington State be the leader with the most members participating in National Rider Education program.

National News

Did you pre-register for Gold Rush XVII July 19-22 in Baraboo WI? Flyers are out in Touring News. The pre-registration price went up on 3/1/2004 to \$45 a member between 3/1 to 7/1, non members is \$50. Remember that if you have a single membership and decide to take your significant other it will cost them \$50 because they would be a non member. Another good reason to have a family membership.

Bike Raffle tickets are also available through Region A to sell or purchase. Please help GWTA by buying and selling the raffle tickets. Remember to send your stubs and money to Bob and Helen by the 25th of each month. They will be at the State Officers Meeting in March 27th and will gladly take money and ticket stubs.

Remember if you need liability insurance from National it needs to be sent to Region first and then National. National needs the form 90 days in advance of your event so please send the form and money early.

REGION NEWS

Bob and Helen would like everybody to please bring or send your bike raffle ticket stubs and money to Chapter D auction as they will be attending that event and collect them there. Also if you need raffle tickets please get a hold of Bob and Helen.

Bob and Helen put out a monthly newsletter also which we forward to all CD's. This information is for you to share with your members and is also posted on the web site.

Attached to the email is the flyer for Region A rally in Colville over Labor Day Weekend.

Chapter Rosters

We will continue to email you your chapter rosters as we get them from Regional. Please review not only you roster and expiring members list, but look at the unassigned list and see if any of those members belong to your chapter. **Or** if they live in your area, invite them to a meeting and maybe get them to join your chapter. If you find someone that belongs to your chapter on the unassigned list let us know and we will forward it on.

If anybody has any feedback or ideas, suggestions or comments please let us or our staff know. Also we would ask that you keep our Military Troops in your thoughts and prayers in these trying times.

Tom and Deb Richards
GWTA WA State Directors