

# GWRRA Chapter "E" WA

Friends for fun, safety and knowledge

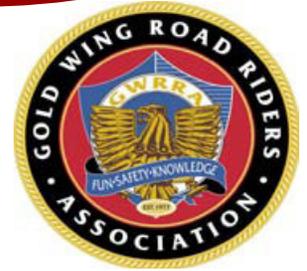


Gold Wing Road Riders Associations:

Big Sky, Region I & WA District



**SEPTEMBER, 2007**



## Message from our Chapter Directors:

Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that Patty and I were panicking at the thought of becoming your new "Chapter Directors". How could we possibly follow an act like Ernie and Sue? Now, just short of completing our three year tenure as your chapter directors, we find ourselves a bit apprehensive about moving up to a district position.

So.....how did we get here? In an effort to convince Patty and me that we were the right "couple for the job", Roy McKenzie merely stated "I've been watching. Look at what you have done with chapter E". While his complement allowed me to bask in a minute of ego bliss, I soon returned to the realization that what he observed was not what Patty and I have done, rather he was observing a unique group of people that we call Chapter "E". It has been all of you that have made Patty and I stand out.

Early on, as we began our tenure as your chapter directors, it was the example and leadership set forth by Ernie and Sue Sigyarto and the support and guidance given by Neal and Karen Agachinsky, who stayed on for a year as our "Assistant Chapter Directors" that got us off on the right foot. Then with adding two of the most amazing people we know, John and Barb Smith, as our second set of "Assistant Chapter Directors" and the continuation of the best "Chapter Educator" in the district, Mark Caldwell, we were off to a great start. We thank all of them for making our job so easy and fun.

In addition, we want to thank so many of you who have stepped up and made such a huge difference! To the most reliable couple in the chapter, Jim and Karen Roberson, who did an amazing job as our "Couple of the Year" (COY) and then for stepping up as our "Chapter Educator's". To Karla and Leah for introducing us all to some really fun restaurants and changing our dinner socials into dinner experiences. To Ernie and Sue for all they do as our "Cares and Concerns" couple. So many of you have been the recipient of their thoughtfulness and in some cases Ernie's mischievous pranks. To Mark Slavin for taking on our chapter stores and getting it re-organized. We know this was a difficult and frustrating task and you did an amazing job. To Laurie Slavin, who took on our newsletter and added her creativity which gave it a new look and its present format. To Rick and Sue Gustin, who as our "Chapter Historians" lugged those picture albums around for us and of course for opening up their lake home for our July Chapter picnics. Also to Joe and Freda Downs for sharing their home and Sultan tree farm for our Labor day weekend picnics. The Frisbee Golf amongst the trees has become one of my favorite chapter games. To Bob Thurgood for putting so much effort into getting the "Lighthouse Tour" off the ground. I also would like to thank our ride coordinators, Rodney Townsley, Jim Pelican and Jimm Burk for their input over the years. Their efforts may not have been very visible to you, but their behind the scenes input was invaluable to me in selecting chapter rides and routes.

*Continued next page*

Our next meeting is:

Saturday, October 20th

Denny's

at

Canyon Park

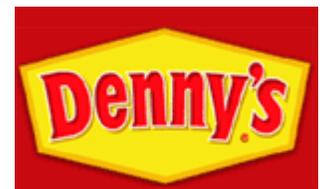
22833 Bothell Everett Highway

Breakfast

Meeting Hours:

Breakfast at 8:00

Meeting at 8:30





# Rider Education

## Being A Good Team Member Part 3

By Jim & Karen Roberson

Last time we continued going over riding in a group. This article is a continuation of this theme.

Again, let's start off by describing again the characteristics of a good team member. In the GWRRA *Team Riding Manual* the following characteristics are very important.

- ⇒ *Assumes a responsibility to ride with and work with the other team members.*
- ⇒ *Maintains steady speed and spacing.*
- ⇒ *Stays alert and announces to the other team members any obstacle, condition or potential hazard.*
- ⇒ *Riders should always be aware of the other team members and maintain the formation and spacing.*

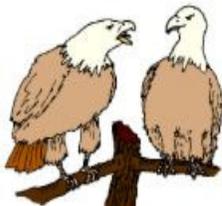
This is the third and last in our series of articles on being a good team member. In the first article we described some of the characteristics of being a good team member; next we covered techniques for riding in a group. This article is on communication, encountering obstacles, lane changing and other things encountered on a group ride.

Most important is the need for effective communication particularly between the lead and the drag. These riders control the group and need to keep the rest of the group informed. The Team Riding Manual says "Members of the team can never be "over informed"". This goes for bumps in the road, upcoming turns, necessary route changes, other riders personal needs, etc.

We know that the lead and drag need to coordinate lane changes with the drag securing the new lane and notifying the lead that the lane has been secured and providing any necessary traffic information. The lead must also notify the team in advance of an upcoming turn, exit, etc. by announcing the turn or exit well in advance of the event. This is especially important if there is more than one team in the overall group and there is traffic between the lead group and the other groups. This way there are no surprises for the rest of the riders.

When approaching a hill with limited sight distance, the lead should announce single file and starting with the lead, each rider will transition to the center of the lane (increasing the spacing to allow for a minimum 2 second following distance to the preceding bike, until the group reaches the top of the hill and can see the oncoming traffic. The lead will then give the signal to resume staggered formation. The same process should occur when entering a town with on street parking.

When encountering an obstacle such as a pothole or rocks in the road the lead should announce the obstacle and its relative location on the road. This again helps the other riders.



I will end this article with a quote from the Team Riding Manual. *Finally, an important part of any team ride is consideration. Have consideration for all members of all teams. Always give consideration to the other vehicles on the road. Even more important, have consideration for your own safety and the team. Have consideration for your own capabilities, skills, health, physical fitness, and feelings. Never drive beyond your comfort level! Enjoy your Team Riding. ...and be careful!*

## Chapter E Library

Please contact Jim & Karen Roberson if you are interested in borrowing something for your reading or viewing pleasures.

- Book: Street Strategies by David L. Hough
- VHS: Co-Rider from GWRRA (2002)
- VHS: Part 1: Helmet Effectiveness (Hurt Report)
- VHS: GWRRA & Safeco present Touring & Braking / Trailering (1996)
- VHS: Basic Maintenance of the 1500 Goldwing with Andy MacDonald
- VHS: Advanced Maintenance for the 1500 Goldwing with Andrew MacDonald
- Report: Impaired Motorcycle Riding: What Motorcyclists Think About Alcohol and Motorcycling, February 2001
- Book: Proficient Motorcycling by David L. Hough
- VHS: Gary Sanford's Slow Speed Cycling Seminar
- Part 2: Co-Rider from GWRRA (Pre-2002)
- VHS: Buying Motorcycle Helmets (Snell Memorial Foundation)
- Report: Fatal Single Vehicle Motorcycle Crashes, October 2001
- Report: Drowsy Driving and Automobile Crashes



## Chapter E “Whistler Wun”

By Dave & Sheila Chavez

Thirteen of us wrangled our bikes in at a respectable 0900 on Friday morning, Sept. 10th at the Canyon Park Starbuck's for our first 2-niter Chapter Ride up to Whistler, BC. Along for this “inaugural ride” were Bob & Patty, Dave & Sheila, John (with the Silver Bullet) & Barb, Jim & Karen Roberson, Bob & Carolyn Reagle, Ron & Lana Jo Peck and Jimm Burke. The skies were ominous but holding by the time we left at a little after nine. Bob Reagle had meticulously planned the ride going straight over to WA-9 and up into Canada through the Sumas, WA crossing. Bob also led the group and did a fine job.

After a quick rest & refuel stop at Sedro Wooley & Sumas, respectively, we crossed the border pretty easily and eased our way onto CA-1 West. By the time we reached North Vancouver just before the transition to the Sea & Sky Highway (CA-99N), it started raining watery benefits from the cloudy Canada sky. As often happens with the sudden change in “humidity” around these parts, some of us had to make some adjustments in riding attire & equipment and so we needed to make an unplanned stop just past the bridge in North Vancouver. Bob had no choice but to expertly “test” all of us (smile) by stopping on a very narrow and very steep alleyway just off the road with the “benefits” continuing to fall. Thankfully, we all passed the quiz...way to go John and the “Silver Bullet”. Thanks also to Jimm and his handy trike which allowed him to quickly jog over to push the “walk button” and get us a hard-to-get green light to get us back out of there. After a great lunch stop at Trolls in Horseshoe Bay, we arrived at the Listel Hotel at Whistler Village at around 1715 or so. The hotel was great and Sheila found us some very reasonable rates for this time of year...way to go Sheila!

We all met for a great breakfast on Saturday morning and listened with interest to Jimm tell us of his “bear” sighting during the more quiet hours of Friday night! As he made his way back to his room from evening “refreshments”, he actually followed a full-grown black bear prancing right down through the village shopping area! Fortunately, the bear didn't stop to do any serious shopping and was oblivious to Jimm's presence and so they each went their separate ways.

Saturday morning and early afternoon was spent doing the important and obligatory window-shopping. It was the afternoon that shaped up pretty cool with some major “firsts” for most of the group. Most of us signed up for the zip lining “tour” in the temperate rainforest canopy and Bob and John did some serious “quad-track” off road touring in the hills around Whistler. Lana Jo and Carolyn enjoyed some quiet time and relaxing at the hotel.

I have to tell you, your adrenalin does some interesting things when you go hurtling from treetop to treetop hanging from a thin cable more feet off of the ground than you want to think of. I would have given anything to read some minds as they handed out and then strapped on our harnesses and helmets just before we loaded up in the bus! From appearances though, everyone was giving the “no problem” look as the tour guides talked about the technique we needed to use...like all of us had done it before. Yeah right!!!

As it turned out, everyone in the zip line group demonstrated their Tarzan & Jane side like they had grown up doing it! We had a blast! We all unanimously want to do it again!!! Bob and John lucked out by going out with just the tour guide and no one else. They had the mountain to themselves!

Saturday evening we all met for some Chapter camaraderie and talked about how much fun we had as we each feasted on our personally selected meals at Whistler's version of a Mongolian Grill. Next time, we won't let Ron select his own meal!!

But, too soon it was time to check out and re-wrangle our bikes at 1000 on Sunday morning for the ride back home. I led the group home and, as good fortune would have it (smile), I was able to give the group my own skills “test” by doing a gymnastic-like U-turn exit. Coming out of the village, you could only turn up the mountain North instead of South and down the mountain. On the plus side though, the U-turn made it an official ride!!!

The weather and scenery was fantastic for the ride back. The border crossing back into the U.S. at Sumas, WA was a breeze for the most part and ranged from “where are you from” to a careful passport scrutiny along with an up close and personal conversation with a Border Guard. We stopped for a late lunch and a ride & border crossing debrief at Bob's Burgers in Sumas; then we made our way back to Chapter E-Ville by late Sunday afternoon.

By all accounts the trip was an absolute blast with an “I'm glad we went general consensus”. The verdict, Chapter E will do the “Whistler Wun” again!!!



## Chapter Mileage Contest 2007

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the mileage contest. Here are the stats for our summer riding season 2007. Many thanks to Scott & Karla Edwards for organizing the contest and the great awards.

### And the winners are:

Total miles ridden:	118,603
Average Miles:	5,391
First Place: Jimm Burk	10,020
Second Place: Bob Watson	9,980
Average: Bob Reagle	5,951
Lowest: William Estes	1,392



### Here are the totals for the rest of our group that participated:

Annette Burke:	7,486	David Steik	3,010
Dave and Sheila Chavez:	7,332	Bob Thurgood	1,727
Karla Edwards:	7,394	Rodney Townsend	9,252
Scott Edwards:	8,428	Jim Wartchow	3,439
Leah Gray:	3,641		
Rick and Sue Gustin:	2,498		
Don Hopkins:	2,325		
Steve Lee:	3,254		
Ron Peck:	2,045		
Jim Pelican:	3,423		
Jim Roberson:	4,391		
Ernie and Sue Sigyarto:	2,125		
Barb Smith:	7,523		
John Smith:	9,109		



Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

We would like to thank everybody who supported the 2007 Ride for Kids held on September 9, 2007. We couldn't have asked for a nicer day weather wise. Because of the generosity, enthusiasm and support of so many people we raised over \$100,000 for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. We had a fantastic turnout!

Thanks again to all of you great folks.

Dick & Ginny Styrker



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## "Pakit Rack"

Fit's 2001 to 2005 GL-1800. Like new. Complete with Bag, cover and mounting hardware. Contact John Smith if interested.

# Chapter E Ride Calendar

## September

- 2 Labor Day Picnic
- 9 Ride for Kids
- 15 WA-E Chapter Meeting (3 Pass Mountain Loop Ride)
- 22-23 Whistler Ride (BC Canada)
- 27 Dinner Social - TBA - 6:30
- 30 Oyster Run - Anacortes

## October

- 6 WA Dist. Leadership Workshop - Moses Lake
- 20 WA-E Chapter Meeting (Fall Colors Ride)
- 25 Dinner Social - TBA - 6:30
- 27 South Hill Mall Show
- 27 Smith's Halloween Party

## December

- 2 WA-E Christmas Party
- 8 WA-D Festival of Lights - Montesano
- 9 Jingle Bell Run
- 15 WA-E Chapter Meeting

## November

- 15 Dinner Social - TBA - 6:30
- 17 WA-E Chapter Meeting (Planning Meeting)

## IMPROMPTU RIDE IDEAS

- \* Light House Tour
- \* Boulder Caves - East Side Mt Rainier
- \* Mt. St Helen's Ride
- \* Wacky Tour
- \* Three Pass Loop
- \* "Apple" Tour by WA-V
- \* Hood Canal Loop
- \* Mount Baker
- \* Lake Chelan Loop

## GWRRA Washington District Gathering Sites

Day	Time	Chapter	Location	Day	Time	Chapter	Location
1st	Thu 6:00 PM	"V" Auburn	Eagles of Auburn, 702 M St. S.E., Auburn	2nd	Sat 8:00 AM	"C" Everett	Petosa's Restaurant, 3121 Broadway, Everett
1st	Fri 7:00 PM	"Q" Puyallup	O'Farrells' Family Restaurant, 1100 Meridian, Puyallup	2nd	Sat 8:00 AM	"L" Kennewick	Country Gentleman Restaurant, 300 N. Ely St., Kennewick
1st	Sat 8:00 AM	"M" Yakima	Branding Iron Restaurant, 61311 Hiway 97, Toppenish	2nd	Sun 8:30 AM	"D" Aberdeen	Duffy's Restaurant, 1605 Simpson Ave., Aberdeen
1st	Sat 8:00 AM	"R" Walla Walla	Fountain Café, 190 S. Main, Milton Freewater, OR	3rd	Thu 6:30 PM	"S" Ephrata	Golden Corral, 930 N. Stratford Rd., Moses Lake
1st	Sun 9:00 AM	"B" Bremerton	Bremerton Eagles, 205 6th, Bremerton	3rd	Sat 8:00 AM	"E" Bellevue	Denny's, Canyon Park, 22833 Bothel Everett Hwy., Bothell
2nd	Tue 6:30 PM	"H" Lynden	Fairway Family Restaurant, 1726 Front St., Lynden	3rd	Sat 8:30 AM	"G" Gig Harbor	Cottesmore Life Center, 2902 14th Ave. N.W., Gig Harbor
4th	Sun 8:30 AM	"F" Tacoma	IHOP, 7445 S. Hosmer, Tacoma	3rd	Sat 8:30 AM	"K" White Salmon	Charburger Country, 4100 W. Cliff Dr., Hood River, OR
2nd	Fri 6:30 PM	"Y" Enumclaw	Krain Corner Restaurant, 39929 264th S.E., Enumclaw	3rd	Sat 8:00 AM	"P" Longview	Monticello Hotel, 1405 17th Ave., Longview
2nd	Sat 5:30 PM	"Z" Centralia	Denny's, Exit 82, Harrison Ave., Centralia	3rd	Sun 8:30 AM	"I" Olympia	North's Grand Buffet, 2915 Harrison Ave. N.W., Suite #255, Olympia
4th	Sat 9:00 AM	"A" Seattle	RMC's Full Throttle Café, 3701 E. Valley Highway, Renton	3rd	Sun 8:30 AM	"N" Spokane	Golden Corral Buffet & Grill, 7717 N. Division, Spokane

# UNITED STATES MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION

**Chapter Director**

Bob & Patty Spencer

**Store Managers**

Rick & Dori Myres

**Treasurer**

Charlene Lee

**COY**

OPEN

**Ride Coordinators**

Jimm Burk

Jim Pelican

**Visitations**

Mark Caldwell

**Asst. Chapter Director**

John & Barb Smith

Dave & Sheila Chavez

**Chapter Educator**

Jim & Karen Roberson

**Historians**

Rick & Sue Gustin

**Designer**

Penny Rosenow

**Dinner Socials**

Leah Gray

Karla Edwards

**Lighthouse Photo Tours**

Bob & Thess Thurgood

**Newsletter Editor**

Sheila Chavez

**Membership Coordinator**

Patty Spencer

**Web Page**

John Smith

**Caring Concerns**

Ernie & Sue Sigyarto

**Camp Host**

Jim Vey



Together, we can make a difference!



## National, Region I & District Staff



**National**

**Executive Director**

Melissa Nordeoff  
[mnordeoff@gwrra.org](mailto:mnordeoff@gwrra.org)

**GWRRA International**

**Operations Director**

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[rallybum@cableone.net](mailto:rallybum@cableone.net)

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 Phone (800) 843-9460

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**Asst Region I Director**

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**Region I Educator**

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**Region I Leadership Trainers**

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[mbriggs60@msn.com](mailto:mbriggs60@msn.com)

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Mike & Peggy Hudnell  
 360-426-0213  
[DD@gwrra-wa.org](mailto:DD@gwrra-wa.org)

**WA Asst Dist. Directors**

To Be Announced

**WA Asst Dist. Directors**

To Be Announced

**District Educators**

To Be Announced

**Web Sites:**

**WA-District:**

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

**Region I:**

<http://www.BigSkyRegionI.org>

**National:**

[hppt://www.gwrra.org/](http://www.gwrra.org/)



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