

GOLD WING TOURING ASSOCIATION



WASHINGTON STATE NEWSLETTER

Late October, 2010



SIMPLY STATED

Hello All,

Summer may be over and it definitely feels like Fall out there but that doesn't mean that GWTA Washington State isn't busy. The last couple of months have been filled with lots of fun and excitement between the Ride For Kids event, the Officer's Meeting and Ride for Erin Bryan in September and then the Wing Washington Banquet this month. In this month's newsletter (what's left of the month, that is) we'll be highlighting all that was discussed at the State Officer's meeting. Here's what else we've got for ya:

- ☞ Upcoming Happenings on page 4
- ☞ Wreaths Across America on page 5
- ☞ Rider Education and Safety on page 6
- ☞ Golden Heart Awards on page 7

Are you on **Facebook** (daily like me, or maybe just once in a while)? Well come and check out our page (search for GWTA Washington State) and join the group.

Have you got the word out to your members to get a **Family of the Year** nomination put together? Chapter Z has and I know that others have people they'd like to recommend. Email a biography and photo to us at statedirector@gwta-wa.org no later than November 30th.

When was the last time you checked out your **Washington State Website**? For some, it's been an eternity and for others, just this morning. If you haven't been there in a while (www.gwta-wa.org), you're missing out on all kinds of good information. Our enormous thanks goes out to Denny Wright for all the hard work he puts in to making us shine! Please take a few minutes and peruse all it has to offer!

~ *Steven and Cameron Gillit* ~
Washington State Directors`

Highlights from the State Officer's Meeting held on September 18, 2010

Our future is sooooo bright, ya have to wear shades! You'll definitely be able to find one of your State Staff at the rally in our new **NEON** attire!!!! Check out our group photo on page 1. But first and foremost... Hurry, Hurry, Hurry! Come one, come ALL to the Carnival!

STATE RALLY 2011: *JUST* in case you haven't heard... The 2011 Washington State Rally will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Port Townsend!!! The theme: Carnival! All Chapters are invited to set up a game / booth on the Midway so get those creative hats on! More details to come soon!

In addition, the **Region staff** has graciously accepted the task of hosting a dunk tank. So warm up your pitching arm and get ready to get some people wet!!

Logo/Pin Design Contest: We know there are many of our members with lots of creativity so now's the time to show 'em your stuff. Get creative and put together our 2011 Logo!! Here are the details of what's needed in the design:

- * The acronym GWTA or words Gold Wing Touring Association
- * Washington State Rally or Gathering
- * Port Townsend
- * 2011 (or the dates June 30-July 3, 2011)

We will be accepting your designs from now until October 30th. At that time, your design will be put on our state website for voting. Voting will take place for just two weeks, November 1st through November 15th. The winning entry will receive one (1) free rally package (rally registration, Saturday night dinner and a t-shirt).

NEED HELP? The Washington State Staff is here to help you attain your goals and we want to prove it. One example is while chapter announcements were being made, a chapter said they wouldn't be able to have their event because they didn't have enough people to man their check points. Well, many of you have already heard that we'll be working our staff pretty hard throughout the year. So Steve offered them up... to assist them in manning their check points if needed. If ANY chapter is in need like this so that they can continue to have their yearly ride/event, then just call... **WE'RE HERE TO HELP!** Please let us know and we'll work out something (maybe you need someone to just sit at registration promoting GWTA while you work your ride. We can be the extra **RAH RAH** you need)! We're hoping this attitude is contagious because we like it when chapters team up and help each other too!

Chapters Working Together: Speaking of this, there *was* a date conflict with Chapter's U and Z events being on the same day in 2011. Well, they challenged one another that if one was to change their date to another weekend, then each chapter would make every attempt to attend the others event. Thank you Chapter U for stepping up to the plate and changing your event date and helping make this all work out!!!

Continued >>>>

Highlights from the State Officer's Meeting held on September 18, 2010

Continued

State Wide Event Promotion: The State staff are putting together a state wide advertising promotion with a flyer that will have your chapter's event and location on it. Our goal is to post it in every place we can think of that has a bulletin board (motorcycle dealers and clothing shops, WalMarts, Dairy Queen, etc.). We have a few members already requesting them as soon as they are printed to take them to their hot spots. Let us know and we'll get them to you too!

Tools of the trade: Every Chapter Director received a binder with copies of the TA Way, Bylaws, Rider Education and GWTA Benefits Guide. A small supply of Tri-folds were given, with more to come as we come to your chapters. These are tools for you and for recruiting.

Tri-Fold Contest: Do you have a GWTA promotional tri-fold/application? Where? In your bike, car, wallet, purse? We sure hope so because over the next few months, staff members may walk up at any given moment and ask you for one. We would love to hear that you gave it to a new member but if not, show it and you will be entered into a drawing for a prize to be given at the State Rally next year! You must have the form with YOU, not borrowed from someone else (TIP: it's a great idea to fill out your info on the tri-folds for your prospective new members then they are certain to get with your chapter and you get the credit too!)

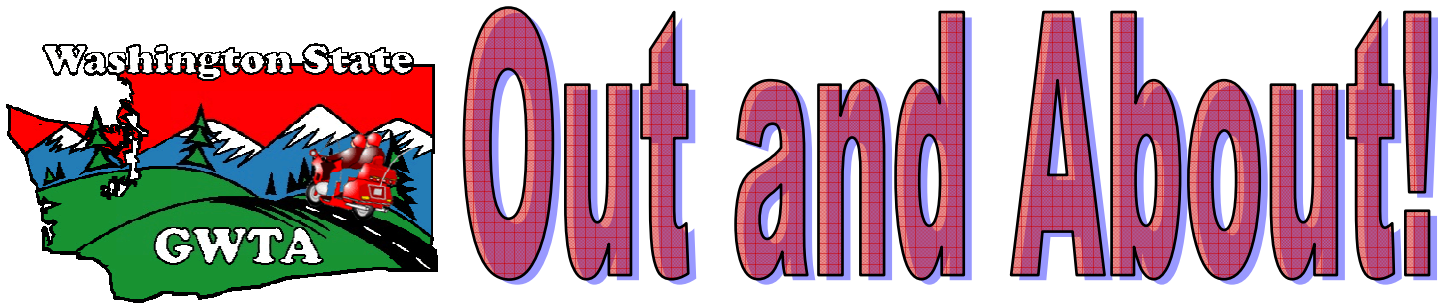
R.E.D. Contest: Speaking of contests... when Ron Matthews (a.k.a. R.E.D. - State Rider Education Director) spots you being good he will issue you a citation! This is the best ticket ever! Wear your safety gear and your citation gets you entered into a drawing for a prize to be given at the State Rally in 2011! If you want help with Rider Ed, then Ron's your man! See his article on page 6.

State Stores: We are in the process of revamping the state stores page. What would you like to see out there to purchase? We can't promise everything, but we will definitely look in to it!

Speak Up! We want to hear from you! Do you have an idea, suggestion, comment? We can't make GWTA better without you! Don't be shy! There is one caveat when giving us a complaint, however... you must be sure to accompany it with at least one solution. The more solutions the better. We will take your ideas to our staff and let you know the outcome.

Email us anytime at statedirector@gwta-wa.org or pick up the phone (253-208-9867).

Here's to keeping the frown upside down,
Steve and Cameron :o)



Our sincerest apologies to Chapters E and V for not getting our newsletter out earlier in the month of October to make mention of your events.

We attended the **Wing Washington Banquet** for Chapter E and what a great evening it was!!! The food was great, the camaraderie was superb and the prizes were awesome; even though Cameron's ticket was never called... :o(LOL

Chapter V's **Vampire Chili Bite** was also a success with 14 people donating blood to Cascade Regional Blood Services and people getting their fill of many home made chili's to boot. Sunshine topped off the day!!!

The remaining chapter meetings in October are as follows:

10/23: Chapter M

Chapter B

Chapter Y

10/24: Chapter S

Coming up around the corner:

Chapter Meeting Updates/Changes for November

Chapter B will **not** be having a meeting in November.

Chapter V will be at a different location for the month of November ONLY (11/7/10). They will be meeting at Trotter's. The address is 825 Harvey Rd, Auburn.

Chapter Z's meeting location for November (11/13/10) will be at the Cedars on the Dungeness (cafe/golf course) at 1965 Woodcock Rd., Sequim. Breakfast at 9:00 meeting at 10:00am.

Into the future:

Chapter's B, M, U and Y will **not** be having a meeting in December.

December 4th: *Chapter I* is having their annual Bottle Auction and Christmas Party. Check out their flyer: http://www.gwta-wa.org/i/Christmas_party_10.pdf

December 11th: *Wreaths Across America*. Meet at Tahoma National Cemetery by 9am to participate in the annual laying of Christmas wreaths to honor and remember our fallen soldiers (see the article on page 5).

Gold Rush, 2011

Boyne, Michigan

July 24th - 29th, 2011

Go to http://www.gwta.org/upcomingevents/gr/gr_info.htm for more information.

Wreaths Across America



To honor our vets and support GWTA!!
That's what we call a WIN/WIN!

Wreaths Across America is a non-profit (501(c)3) organization that was formed as an extension of the Arlington Wreath Project started by Morrill Worcester (Worcester Wreaths) in 1992, where 5000 Christmas wreaths were donated and laid at Arlington National Cemetery to remember and honor our fallen soldiers.

Fast forward to 2008 where over 100,000 wreaths were placed in honor of our service men and women at over 350 locations and over 60,000 volunteers participated.

So how can you become a part of this and how does GWTA benefit? Wreaths Across America™ has made it so easy for us to help make their dream come true that someday every veteran's resting place will be adorned with a wreath. They have given us the opportunity to use wreath sponsorship as a fundraiser for us. You got that right! For every \$15.00 wreath that is sponsored in the name of GWTA - GWTA will receive a cash donation in the amount of \$5.00. We can't think of a better way to support GWTA and honor those who have served to keep us free.

It is a very easy process. Go to www.wreathscrossamerica.org. Select the [Sponsor a Wreath](#) button. Scroll down just a bit and select the amount of wreaths you'd like to purchase (i.e. Individual Wreath Sponsorship). A new page will appear - now select the state where you'd like your wreath(s) to go. Another drop down will come up where you can pick the specific cemetery location.

The next step is our **Fundraising Group State**. Choose "**Indiana**" as that is where our National office is. Then choose **INGWTA001** as the Group ID #, about 5th from the bottom (IN for Indiana, GWTA and 001 because we are not so secretly #1). As we mentioned Wreaths Across America™ is a 501(c)3 and every dollar you contribute to sponsoring a wreath(s) is tax deductible. Hey, what more could you ask for?

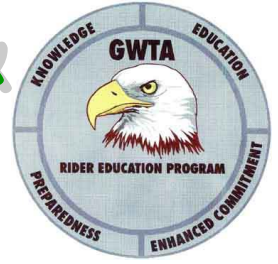
***Please have your wreath order in by
Thanksgiving (November 25th)***

Wreaths Across America™ Mission:

- * Remember the fallen
- * Honor those who serve
- * Teach our children the value of freedom



Rider Education & Safety Corner



Hi All:

I want you to be aware of things around you while you are riding. I get too many emails of a rider down. It does not matter how good a rider you are, there are many factors you have to be aware of. Think about the recent riders that have gone down, I know their rider skills were good, but things do happen.

A few tips: When in traffic, try your best not to ride beside cars or trucks. If you have to look at the driver, keep an eye on the front tire movement. Intersections, be very cautious in all directions even if you have the right-of-way, things can and will happen. You want to look in all directions. From the MSF about the See System.

S **SEARCH** around you for potential hazards.

E **EVALUATE** any possible hazards, such as turning cars, railroad tracks, etc.

E **EXECUTE** the proper action to avoid the hazard.

For those riders that ride year round, remember those leaves are starting to fall and can be slick. Also remember that wet roads bring other hazards as road striping and man hole covers and your braking distance has to be increased. And always remember to wear the proper gear.

While I'm talking about the proper riding gear, I (WA State) has started a contest to get people in the proper riding gear. It goes like this: I have a "citation" that I will fill out if I catch you and your passenger in the proper riding gear (you both have to be in the proper gear) :o) Proper gear consists of: BOOTS, LONG PANTS, GLOVES and COAT (or LONG SLEEVE SHIRT). I will fill out the "citation" and I will keep them. One lucky person's name will be drawn at the State Rally in Port Townsend for a very nice prize (to be determined soonest).

If you have any questions on the contest or anything else regarding Rider Education email me at RED@gwta-wa.org.

When was the last time you checked with your Chapter RED on the riding program and when did you do your last update? If your CD or RED needs the information, let me know.

Get out and ride, be safe and have fun. When you are out there riding, think about things that can help you be a better rider. Email your tips and I can put them out to all the members.

Thank you,

Ron Matthews

State Rider Education Director



Golden Heart



Award

AB IMO PECTORE

(Latin to mean: From the Bottom of the Heart)

The Golden Heart Program is GWTA's way to recognize people who give of themselves to assist our members during a time of trial, tribulation or crisis. Maybe someone just provided aid during normal daily activities without a second thought of their actions, but it meant a great deal to that individual. Recipients of the Golden Heart Award receive a certificate of recognition, an antiqued gold pin (see an example below) and their story published in the

Touring News. It is a GREAT way to tell someone how much they mean to you! Anyone can nominate a member, even if you are the one who witnessed the kind gesture.

A story from Larry and Kay Cohenour, ASD North:

We joined GWTA and Skagit Valley Wings because TA seemed to be a place to get information to restore our GL1000. Years and several motorcycles later, we are still in TA. Why? That first year, no events were planned for October. So, we volunteered to host a murder mystery dinner party. We had a cast of characters, a plot and dinner all planned. Then we got a call... Kay's brother-in-law had passed away. We called our CDs expecting them to be upset because we wanted to cancel dinner. Their first words were "How can we help?" They helped us get airline tickets and said not to cancel. They helped us work it out so the party was still a go. Then another member called, "Do you need me to watch your dog?" Another called, "Do you need a ride to the airport?" They took great care of us and we got to California to take care of Kay's sister. We arrived back home just hours before the party. Kay had written the "script" on the plane home. We JUST knew the party was going to be a disaster and they would never trust us to do anything ever again. We arrived, there was food everywhere and the cast were dressed in the most outlandish costumes. We guess the script was not so good because they didn't stick to it at all! However, we were still laughing WAY into the night. We laughed so hard, for so long, we forgot our troubles.

We were shocked by the out pouring of support from this new group of friends. THEY are why we are still in TA. We were new members and did not know about the Golden Heart Award. Wish we had; they all deserved it!

Honor those who mean this much to you. Request an award for them. Visit <http://www.gwta.org/taway/tawaysec3.htm#Intro> to learn how; or ask your CD; or give us a call.

Larry and Kay Cohenour
ASD North

