

February 26, 2008  
Chapter A, Seattle

# The cAPERs

I can hardly believe that we have just smoked another month ! Sure, I know, February is a short month but this one just *fleeeew* by. Maybe it is the steadily decreasing rain. December rainfall was 9.08", January rainfall was 4.19" and February, (thru Saturday nite) has only logged 1.24"....nice trend !

Welcome to the last cAPERs issue of February 2008. The activity level jumped up a notch this past month, and the activity schedule is filling fast...more on that a little later.

## **PAST ACTIVITIES:**

### **Road Captains Course;**

Greg and Janet Beeck did a great job on the Road Captains Course. 14 Chapter A Apes joined in the fun and education. Not only were there some "first timers" taking the course, but also Road Captain veterans like Tom Chillquist, Dave Otten, and Tim Bowman. We had spirited conversation, lots of questions and great answers to assist all of us in riding safer while in groups. As I have mentioned before, the course that Greg Beeck led us through, is the same course implemented by all the other GWRRA chapters. The benefit to those that take the course, is that we can take part in any other chapter "group ride" ..anywhere in the nation...and we will be able to perform seamlessly with their riding group.. making for a less stressful, safer and more enjoyable ride for everyone. Attending the course were: Janet Beeck, Dave Otten and Roz, Sam Grubbs, Kenny Urban, Dave DeSiga, Tom Chillquist, De and Mike Blangy, Kevin Allen, Tim Bowman, and Yvonne and myself...congratulations to the graduates. Following the classroom course was a "practical application" road course. It was done in about 4 segments, a new lead and drag selected for each segment. It included

merging on and off freeways, changing lanes at freeway speed, properly handling merging traffic, traveling through the heavy city traffic, parking lot etiquette, hand signals, CB protocol, route planning, hazard warning, etc etc...it was a very fun and worthwhile course. Basically the new road captains took us South on 167 to the new Sumner exit, through the industrial area, through Sumner, up 410 to Enumclaw, North to Maple Valley then back to RMC. Thanks again Greg and Janet.

#### **WEBSITE:**

While we are on the Greg Beeck bandwagon...our new webmaster has brought our new website back to life. [www.gwrra-waa.org](http://www.gwrra-waa.org) Greg is still working on fine tuning the site, but it shows great promise and we should all be very excited about our new window to the World. Be sure to pass the website address along to potential new Chapter A participants...and be sure to shake Greg's hand for putting this site together. It takes hours and hours....and hours of time, research, creativity and dedication to our Chapter for Greg to take on this challenge. I know that he has had assists from Tim Bowman and Tom Chillquist along the way...as for me, well I just figured out how to work my TV remote. Thanks guys !!! **CHECK IT OUT** and watch for newly updated information within the next few weeks.

#### **MARCH SOCIALS:**

Mark your calendars for the upcoming March offering of gastronomical goodies from your selectors, ACD's and Chapter Couple, De and Mike Blangy;

March 5<sup>th</sup>, Billy McHales 241 SW 7<sup>th</sup>, Renton (Wal Mart shopping center lot)

Mark this nite **BYOB** (Bring Your Own BIB)

March 12<sup>th</sup> Galliano's 14201 Interurban Ave S, Tukwilla

Momma Mia...those are some *aspicya* meataballs !!

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Longhorn BBQ, 25415 104<sup>th</sup> Ave SE Kent (Kent East Hill)**

**The dang ribs here are fingerlikken GREAT !**

**March 26<sup>th</sup> Skippers, 901 SW 148<sup>th</sup> St Burien**

**I love seafood.....when I “see food” I love to eat it....(Tom, yes they will have plenty of coleslaw for you !)**

**Good job De and Mike, you mixed it up good and spanned the South end nicely. OK, I will wait, go get your calendar.....get your pen.....I am still waiting....OK now, please mark these dates and locations on your calendar...share some good food, lively conversation and make some memories with us.**

**FUTURE EVENTS: (KEEP YOUR CALENDAR OUT) see above ^**

**March 8 First Aid/CPR class will be postponed until fall due to lack of interest.**

**March 8 and 9, Chapter D Mall Show at the Southshore Mall in Aberdeen**

**March 15, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final GWTA GreenFreeze run dinner Hinshaws 9am**

**March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16 is the Chapter E Surf Watch in Ocean Shores.**

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Chapter A Gathering. Same APE time..Same APE place.**

**(we will be switching in MAY to 8am)**

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> is MAINTAINENCE DAY AT DON HATLEYS GARAGE  
(more details including time and address to follow)**

**Remember to bring the correct fluids that you are changing out and make sure you have containers to carry the old fluids back with you. Also plan to bring a side-dish to accompany the hot dogs and hamburgers. A sign up sheet will be circulated within the next couple of weeks.**

**March 22 is also the Chapter Z Oldies Dance at the Poodle Dog in Fife. They ask that you RSVP if you plan to attend.**

**FORWARD PLANNING EVENTS:**

**April 4<sup>th</sup> ....Kenny Urban has planned 3 possible routes for his overnight “Joint Chapter visitation R, L, and M...he will depart on Friday April 4<sup>th</sup> am, run his excellent route, and stay at the Red Barn in Prosser, then attend the Saturday Joint breakfast meeting...returning to Seattle Saturday afternoon. Please contact Kenny Urban if you intend on joining him...sounds like miles and miles of fun.**

**July 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> is the WASHINGTON STATE DISTRICT RALLY IN LYNDEN WASHINGTON. Please make your hotel reservations now, or make your camping plans now. We have already slaughtered 2 months of this year...time goes by fast, especially when we are ramping up our motorcycling activies..plan ahead so we have a great APE presence at the rally. Remember, Chapter A holds the honor of being the largest Chapter gathering at Wing Ding 07...and that was a thousand miles away...let’s gear up for this one.**

**Speaking of the District Rally. I have had ZERO, ZILCH, NADA, NIL response from the idea of having “Family Reunion T-Shirts” made especially for the District Rally. This is a District “*suggested*” chapter by chapter activity. I am asking for your input again...do you wish to participate as a Chapter in this event ? Please let me know....either way...what you wish to do.**

**Finally, I want to thank you ALL for joining in on the fun last Saturday at the Monthly Gathering..and “Roast” for Tim Bowman. Tim has been...and continues to be a huge supporter of mine throughout the CD transition. Tim is still very involved with Chapter A special events and assists on many levels for all of us. His leadership and dedication in the past will always be appreciated and if he thinks for one minute that he is done with being involved with the future success of this Chapter he is sadly mistaken. Thanks also, to those of you who shared your memories with Tim, that you had experienced throughout past years. Thanks to Neil and Lois Anne for taking the time in your air-conditioned World to also speak to Tim and the group on your motorcycling history..I am sure you just scratched the surface of the good times you have shared. We could have gone on for another hour, but I was afraid that Tims swelled head was going to burst my half-helmet into shards of plastic, tragically impaling those sitting too close. Watch for photos of the “man of the hour” on our new website.**

- \*Please make your District Rally reservations pre-register for the rally**
- \*Please provide feedback on the “T-shirt” issue**
- \*Please send me brief ride reports**
- \*Please ride safe**

**See you Wednesday at Billy McHales**

**Roll On !  
Jeff and Yvonne**