

July 21st, 2008
Chapter A, Seattle

The cAPErs

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE:

July 16 Social at XXX in Issaquah. A picture perfect night for an outdoor ice cream social was taken advantage of by a large gagle of APEs. The Holts, the Bowmans, the Urbans, the Coes, the Harveys, Dad, Tug, Jonesy, Ranks, Boxcar, Kevin Allen, Dave Steckler, Bob and Merle, Benny, EZ-Bre-Z all showed up because of the sun, or maybe the excellent socializing, or maybe they were anxious to dine with Al Fresco...doesn't matter, the evening was fun. Steckler walked away with the evenings take of almost \$40, and all were happy except for Mike Briese, (the evenings late arrival) who was disappointed that he didn't have the opportunity to partake in the game of chance (maybe it was destiny that you *did not* use up your 'ticket pickin' luck this night Mike...more on that later.

WELCOME.....NEW CHAPTER A PARTICIPANTS

Jimmy Holt and Crystal Messier. We all welcome you to our Chapter A family. If you have any questions, please feel free to call upon me at any time or any of your new APE family. You are hereby welcomed and encouraged to join in with all of our functions, events, rides, socials and gatherings. I ask only ask 3 things in return...#1 ALWAYS RIDE SAFELY... #2 HAVE FUN...and #3 MAKE SOME GREAT MEMORIES FOR YOURSELVES. WELCOME APES!

NEXT

July 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th WASHINGTON STATE RALLY IN LYNDEN...

MY OH MY....What a RALLY: Where do I start???

It started off on Thursday morning when a group of die-hard APEs make the trek to Lynden to stake ground at the Fairgrounds. Les and Stephi, Hooters , Mike and De, and Greg and Janet (that's all that I know of) picked a perfect spot, right in the center of the rally universe, just across from the BBQ and eating area, the closest location to the exhibition hall or pavilion and very close to the critical utilities (bathrooms). Everyone who attended any of the dinners or activities had to amble past our APE oasis for the weekend. Our area featured flying banners which streamed across our APE posts and of course our Chapter A banner was proudly displayed for all to see. The APE outside perimeter was scattered with all imaginable types of nocturnal habitats from tent trailers to tents to mesh rooms to huge RV's. The infield was furnished by the popular *Al Fresco* (picnic tables) and featured dining areas for the sun lovers as well as a station for the shade seekers. Ample seating was provided by the many trailer toting travelers. Many of our shiny Wings acted as a chrome sentry to our rally abode just off the narrow paved lane, but with over 24 Wings from Chapter A, there was not room enough to host everyone adjacent to our APE-filled area, which gave us no other option than to spill into other vacant spots. If that wasn't enough activity for the first day, Stephi broke out the 50/50 crazy stuff and the entire APE crowd of De and Mike, Hooters and Stephi and Les commenced to peddle tickets to the early arrivers. Friday the 18th, more APEs arrived to the swelling venue. I led a group (the Bowmans and the Dolls) from the Snoqualmie Parkway area north following (although not exact) the route of the
NEXT

Mystery Ride last year. Back roads all the way up with a stop at Big Lake Café and Bar for lunch..an excellent choice on Hwy 9 if you are ever in the area. We arrived to Lynden a little later than expected around 2:30pm but the scenery on the way up was more than dandy with numerous deer sightings and a plethora of road types. The weather up was overcasty with about 30 seconds of light mist...cool but PERFECT.

The final few miles will be etched in my nasal passages for a long time as we sashayed through the fertile farmlands between Everson and Lynden, we encountered just about every method to spread natural, liquid, organic fertilizer known to man.....country livin at its smelliest.

All day Friday, various teams took the 50/50 can and SOLD, SOLD, SOLD again...at this point, attendees just figured that when they saw Chapter A walking their way, honking the “unbelievable” horn, wearing the goofy headhear...they had better reach for their wallets. Friday evening at about 9pm, 77 Goldwings fires up in all their lighted glory and with a fire engine and police escort, took a 45 minute parade around the city of Lynden. The parade route was protected by police and other city officials as well as GWRRA members and even some APEs.

Residents greeted the honking and radio blaring GW participants with waving American flags, flickering porch lights and grateful waves and accolades. There was not a sleeping child in Lynden at that hour...file that one away as another great memory with the Chapter.

Saturday the 19th, by now, most of the APEs had arrived, some making cozy room in the campsite area, others partaking in hotel accommodations in Lynden, nearby Ferndale, Blaine or Bellingham.

The official count was to be 44 APEs for the Saturday festivities:

**Les and Stephi, Janet and Greg, Mike and De, Boxcar, Hooters, Ben and Chanze, Sam and Dee, Chis and Patty, Bob and Merle, Dad, ST and Betty, Rick and Robin, Gary and JoAnne, Sue and Joe, Jeff and
NEXT**

Yvonne, Mike and Pen, Ken and Anne, Ranks, Tug and Sarah, Dave and Meredith, Kevin and Jennifer, Tim and Angela, Bill and Theresa, and Jimmy Holt and Chystal Messier...I think I got you all...if I missed you, please let me know!

Breakfast was provided by the District with yours truly and Yvonne assisting the pancake/ham/egg eating masses. After the 9am hour, we broke out of breakfast and dove quickly into 50/50 sales again. Mike Hudnell had dropped the gauntlet to Stephi that we “could not beat” previous \$ totals for 50/50 sales...ha! (more to come on this later). This day, various groups split out into different interests and participated in the various functions / motorcycle shows / raspberry festival /motorcycle painting by Dalton/ tattoos (I didn't hear of any tattoo'd APEs) and of course most took advantage of the glorious riding opportunities presented in the area. Tim gave a short tutorial on how to plug a flat tire. Sam Grubbs was nice enough to donate the demonstration tire on the rear of “Black Beauty” (of which he had picked up a nail in on the previous day). Afterwards, Sam decided to donate money to the Dunlop Corporation via a Bellingham tire store. I led a group of 6 to Mount Baker and Artist Point, which had luckily just been opened the day before. If you have not already taken your Wing to Artist Point on Mt. Baker..you need to do it! Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and twisty roads in the Northwest with numerous 10mph 180degree switchback and countless photo opportunities.

NOTICE..the following excerpt is copied from the 2003 “Destination Highways Washington pg 45, relating specifically to DH8 (the 8th best motorcycle road in Washington) “Maple Falls – Mt. Baker and is a strong “R” rated. Skip the next paragraphs if you are easily offended by suggestive verbage.

...the author is recounting...mile by mile, the grandeur of the road and goes on to say.... “A sheer rock wall replaces the forest on your left, while off to the right, the terrain plummets to the river. Excelsior Peak towers to the north as a sharp right-hander allows a quick view up the increasingly rugged valley.

So far below, mere seconds ago, the gurgling, aquamarine Nooksack not cuddles up alongside at 16.6 miles. The pavement drops a grade by the chain-up area, but the change is fairly subtle.”

“Less subtle is the drop in twistiness. The esses become more mellow and infrequent as the ground relaxes its tight grip on the road. Above you, a white topped mountain buries its head in the clouds. Alpine conifers, smaller and less impressive now, mix with birch trees, giving the road a much more open feel.”

“Fortunately, the lack of curvitude doesn’t last. Just before the next crossing of the Nooksack at 19.7 miles, the corners tighten. As you enter a left-hander, Slate Mtn juts up, a giant breast in a tight green sweater, its nipple kissed by low clouds. The road slides sinuously up and around its base, aroused into continuous corners by steep, moist slopes and intermittent, slick rockfaces. You steal glimpses across the valley of Slate’s partner, Mt Sefrit peeking through a flimsy lace of trees”.

....ahem...Okey Dokey....yepie doodle.....Needless to say....this one day ride was worth the price of admission alone!

Returning back from our ride to Mt. Baker, the 50/50 sales were still hot and heavy...pretty much everyone pitched in to do their part for the common good. We had missed our opportunity to join in the talent contest. Angela had written a GW song to the melody of Tiny Bubbles and came with guitar in hand...we will bank this one for another day. 5pm was the BBQ dinner of which Chapter A was also responsible for the SALAD contribution (along with about 4 other chapters) De and Mike Blangy were organizers of the SALAD BRIGADE. We had mac salad, tossed, veggies, 5 bean, potato, coleslaw we had salads from one end of the table to the other...you could have feasted solely on salads and not even had room for burgers on this night...fantastic job organizing the salads DE and MIKE BLANGY. We (as usual) looked great to the entire district. Thanks

After gorging ourselves on SALADS and other stuff, we AGAIN sold 50/50 under Stehpis whip..SELL..SELL.....R-E-P-R-E-S-E-N-T ! At one point, I mentioned to Stephi that she was getting sunburned on her face and she assured me that she was only working herself into heatstroke and that it was not a sunburn. As the evening progressed, the final and closing ceremony
NEXT

was being organized...that only poured fuel to the fire on 50/50 sales. As the rally-goers made their way into the pavilion, most all of the APES took over the ticket sales with Chapter A representatives hocking “last chance”...”get em now!”...”whos’ next?”...it was like throwing a full bottle of Jack Daniels into a crowd of Harley riders at Sturgis! History was going to be made tonite.

Special recognition was given this year to our Chapter Couples. **De and Mike Blangy** were recognized with a District Certificate for their roles as Chapter Couple and our Chapter A, APE family also awarded them with a plaque for their friendliness, kindness and positive contribution to the Chapter..**Great job De and Mike, you deserve it!**

Chapter A (with over 10% of the weekend rally population) was the recipient of several awards and winning tickets:

- *Ticket winner **Susan Ennaro** won 2nd place \$200 gift cert to Crazy Larrys
- *Ticket winner **Yvonne Harvey** won a lighted Kury Chrome plate holder
- *Oldest Rider was our own **Boxcar**

***HIGHEST NUMBER PRE-REGISTERED**

CHAPTER A, APES

Although we did not win the set of tires or the MC cargo trailer, there was one award left to win for the night. Remember all the talk about 50/50, how important it was for us to make a good showing...that we would be put on the pedestal, in front of all the other Chapters and that our efforts were going to be noticed....well Mike Hudnell probably should not have given Stephanie the aforementioned challenge of “can’t possibly outsell our last rally”...with over \$1600 raised on Saturdays 50/50 sale....we spanked last years total neatly....and that’s not it....our own Mike Briese walked away with 50% of the bounty...that’s’ right, Mike won the big money this year!!!! Congrats Mike...*good thing you didn’t use up your luck on last weeks social.*

*In closing on the rally, I want to thank **Stephanie and Les** for the job they did on 50/50. It surely will be a record that will be tough to beat in the future. We had great participation by many APEs and it was fun mixing it up with other chapters and demonstrating what vibrant Chapter SPIRIT we have.

*Thanks to **De and Mike** for organizing the SALAD brigade... AGAIN we put in another typical APElike spectacular showing and we appreciate your efforts. **Thanks to all the salad contributors...**they were delicious, and we appreciate the contribution. (remember to turn your sales receipts).

Yvonne and I want to thank each and every one of you for participating in this event.

.... to Jimmy, Crystal, Bill, Teresa, Tim, Angela, Kevin, Jennifer, Dave, Meredith, Tug, Sarah, GPR, Kenny, Anne, Mike, Pen, Sue, Joe, Gary, JoAnne, Ric, Robin, ST, Elizabeth, Dad, Bob, Merle, Chris, Patty, Sam, Dee, Ben, Chanze, Andy, Boxcar, Mike, De, Janet, Greg, Les, Stephi and Yvonne, I thank you for your participation, your involvement, and your dedication to our Chapter. **We drove 24 Goldwings to this event. We had 44 of our APE family present**, having fun, getting crazy, taking some great rides and **making some lasting memories.** **Chapter A, Seattle APEs are the BEST !!**

*The Washington State Rally
was successful because of YOU!*

Social July 23 will be at the XXX in ISSAQUAH.

July 26th Chapter A Monthly Gathering ...Same APE time...same APE place...make sure your **bags are packed and your Wing is fueled**, because directly after the (brief) meeting we are leaving for(see below)

ROAD CAPTAINS PATCHES:

It's good to have connections at District (Greg Beeck). Greg was finally able to get us our Road Captains Patches which will be awarded at this months monthly meeting on this Saturday. If you took and graduated this great course, please be present to receive your well earned patch.

Saturday July 26th and Sunday July 27th. I CERTAINLY HOPE YOU HAVE ALL SET THESE 2 DAYS ASIDE TO HAVE SOME FUN. MYSTERY CAMPOUT IS AMOST HERE. Tim finally slipped some information about the location. He said that is was definitely within the Washington State borders...probably! So there you go, it really sounds like fun! Plan your weekend to spend it with your APE family just a few days away. Tim did say that PETS are OK no leash needed for the pets.

Kids are also welcomed as usual..no leashes needed. The only real NO NO is....NO alcohol is permitted on the premises. APEs. We worked our tails off last year to

fund this event...THIS IS *YOUR* EVENT, IT IS *YOUR* PARTY. PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME, GREAT FOOD AND MORE... If you haven't done it already, please contact Tim Bowman and let him know how many are going to be attending and having a blast...he needs to make sure there is plenty of FREE FOOD!

August 2nd is the F and G Fun run

Aug 9th is tentatively the Chapter A "Run to Tatoosh"

Aug 16th is the Chapter O Picnic in Gorst

Aug 23rd is the Monthly Chapter A Gathering...featuring Lois Anne and Neil from sunny AZ. you got a memo earlier from Neil with the tentative times.. we will tighten up the ride plans as the date gets closer. Neil is bringing his Wing so wipe your calendars and gather behind "Ol Yeller"..

August 28th is the Idaho District Rally. I sent one of Kennys memos on his plans...leaving on the 28th, and returning on the 2nd of September. Please contact Kenny directly for additional information.

Cell= 206-780-1051

Work = 206-655-3958

Dinner at the top of a mountain

Longest ride on a gondola (in the US)

Ken is leaving Early on Aug 28th

There will be a scheduled ride on the 31st over there

There will be another ride on Sept 1 over there

Ken is returning on Tuesday...call Kenny U and hook up.

DO YOUR TCLOCS BEFORE EVERY RIDE

Stay cool, ride safe

MAKE SURE YOU CONSUME PLENTY OF WATER ON HOT DAYS, WEAR YOUR LAYERS IN THE COOL MORNING HOURS THEN STRIP AS LEGALLY NEEDED, APPLY SUNSCREEN (but be aware that some sunscreens can vaporize and cause severe and instant eye pain).

Roll On!

Jeff and Yvonne

Ps. I have already been sent about 50 photos of this years Rally. Please continue to send me the photos you have...or get them to me on a memory stick (which I will return). I will get them to our new Webstud Sam Grubbs for publishing in the near future.