

August 18th, 2008

Chapter A, Seattle

The cAPErs

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Aug 13th The SOCIAL this evening was held again at the Full Throttle Café at RMC. A large group gathered this evening to meet, greet and eat. The MC venue has been getting pretty good reviews. The service is fast, the food is really good and the prices are reasonable. With that said, on the adverse side, it is a little noisy...but maybe we can deal with that. 50/50 was held again and the other half of the Grubb family won tonites take at \$30..Congratulations Sam for buying the lucky number and thanks to all for pitching in. Please remember that the 50/50 sales are our ongoing fund raiser for the funds that it takes to make this train move down the track. Thanks for playing each week and congrats to all the lucky winners.

After the SOCIAL we departed the rather noisy restaurant for the peace and quite of the RMC parking lot...now vacant of MC's and cars (after business hours). Although we were missing many of our staff and officers, we still had a nice group of APEs interested in the clubs current standings and eager to participate in sculpting the future for us all.

Among the topics of discussion and to recap:

Treasurers report by Blue Skies Chillquist...Approx \$5,100 in our account. "About normal says Tom...not too much and just enough to keep us going and help fund our yearly events" (more on that later).

Upcoming events..we discussed the past years events and the rides and events coming up. We made some decisions on a few events but need to wait until the District Leadership Meeting (which everyone is encouraged to attend). The exact date of this District Leadership

Meeting is still up in the air...projected to be the end of Oct or early Nov...I will advise. The biggest decision was that the Chapter A MYSTERY RIDE HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR JULY 11TH Mark your calendars to be on hand for this MAJOR event. We will be asking for assistance from EVERYONE in Chapter A. This is our big BIG event, which happens every 2 years and we want to do it right. JULY 11th...please stand up, go to your calendars, and mark it down now....I will wait until you return

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Ok thanks.

Weekly SOCIALS: MARK THESE DATES DOWN

August 20th , Gene Coulon Park in Renton on the SE end of the Lake Washington. Pack and bring your dinner or buy it at Kidd Valley or Ivars Fish and Chip House...same time as usual. Parking might be tight so be ready to walk a bit. There is shelter, so if the weather is wet...you will have cover.

August 27th. Cedar River Trails Park in Renton From I-405, take Exit 2, towards Renton/Rainier Avenue. Continue one mile northbound on Rainier Avenue, past 2nd Street. Turn east (right) at the traffic light at Airport Way. Airport Way bends to the left and becomes Logan. Turn west (left) on North 6th Street and follow it to the end - this leads into the Cedar River Trail Park. Once in the park, turn north (right) on to Nishiwaki Lane. Go to the end of the street and park. **Pack your dinner to this one...no restaurants in the immediate area.**

SOCIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER WILL BE FURNISHED BY CHRIS AND PATTY JOHNSON

SOCIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER WILL BE FURNISHED BY CHANZE AND BENNY BETCH

SOCIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER WILL BE FURNISHED BY GARY AND JOANNE BEARD

SOCIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WILL BE FURNISHED BY LES AND STEPHANIE GREER

SOCIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY WILL BE FURNISHED BY KENNY AND ANN URBAN

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR VOLUNTEERING TO MAKE SCRUMPTIOUS CHOICES ON YOUR GIVEN MONTH.

Phone tree: It had been suggested that APEs without the benefit of the WWW should get a phone call to advise of weekly events or pertinent information. I believe that the Coes and the Holts are the only ones that need to be called...Chris and Patty Johnson volunteered to provide the ringy dingys. If you know of anyone else that requires a phone call, please advise me so that we can make sure everyone is in the loop.

Incoming CD: My year as CD is up at the end of this year. National GWRRA has changed the required tenure of a Chapter Director to one (1) year to allow other willing and wanting individuals to get the opportunity to lead the group. There was no individual at this social that had a burning desire to take the APE vine and help swing the group. I will offer it up to any individual in Chapter A. If you have a desire to step to the front of the Chapter A APE group. Please let me know so that we can discuss the details.

Give it some serious thought please. At the very minimum I will need someone to enter the Officers group as ACD with the intent of taking the

vine by the end of 2009. I *will* pass the banana at that time to the next Chapter Director. I will be approaching a few of you in the near future to discuss this opportunity.

Mystery Ride: As mentioned above, JULY 11th is the Mystery Ride Event. The following MR functions will need to be covered by the entire APE group. Please volunteer for a post so that we don't have to "volunteer" you: (this is a ChAPEter event...everyone needs to pitch in and help out if it's going to be successful).

Prize Coordinator; someone to help organize the gathering of prizes, goodies, gift certs, grand prize, set up "hunting grounds", monitor the prize intake etc etc.

Advertising Coordinator; someone in charge of a group of people for the purpose of canvassing local business, MC related businesses, area GWRRA chapters, GWTA chapters, MC related groups, sport shops, handing out flyers, bulletins, generally spreading the word of our Mystery Ride 2009 to maximize participation. Etc etc.

Check point leads; responsible for managing your checkpoint crew, assuring safety, hosting games, being a cheerleader etc etc.

Registration and Check-in posts; we need people to organize the smooth flow of participants both at registration and check-in. Someone who can take care of the many details of moving (hopefully) masses of people through the lines quickly and efficiently with a friendly smile.

Silent Auction lead; someone who can work with the prize coordinator to receive prizes, produce our auction sheets and administer the efficient execution of the silent auction at the closing ceremony.. The silent auction is our single largest contributor of funds for this event.

The MYSTERY RIDE activities will need to begin NOW...starting with the gathering and accumulation donations and prizes. We are asking each of you to think about the geographical area around where you live and where you work. Approach your employer, (Boeing employees may be exempt from this) if they are willing to make a donation or contribution towards this event. Please start now, so that we are not in "panic mode" directly before the event.

My thanks to all who showed up for the Social and stayed for the Staff/Officers meeting. We have all witnessed the demise of too many Washington Chapters over the past couple of years. The primary overwhelming reason for their failure, was the lack of interest, and participation in the Chapters *every day* activities. They failed to understand that EACH INDIVIDUAL of the Chapter, and their contribution...no matter how small, is vital to maintaining a healthy, vibrant and perpetuating social club. Thank you for your participation.

More on the MYSTERY RIDE IN THE cAPERs to follow.

Aug 16th Lunch on the Island was enjoyed by 3 Wingers, the Beards, the Dolls and the Harveys, met at the SB FW truck scales promptly at 9am and departed South. First turn was the Fife exit where we took SR900 into Tacoma then across Ruston past restaurant row and bobbing Salmon fishers in the mirror smooth bay. Motoring past construction sites, once the home of red bricked, toxic spewing smoke stacks, through the almost 2 lane tunnel, past the zoo entrance to the ferry landing. We headed to the front of the line where we had time to enjoy some conversation and coffee prior to boarding. The trip across was unremarkable in travel but extra-remarkable in scenery. Our arrival to the South end of Vashon proved more of a challenge to the skipper than he was planning. After getting sideways in the landing and a bit up channel of our mark, he brought the ageing vessel to portage. Our circumnavigation of Vashon begins. My Garmin GPS is a fun and wonderful device and it is USUALLY spot on...USUALLY. Our route took me a couple of hours to build, at home in the comfort of my home, strategically planning precise turns, maneuvering meticulous moves, and discovering scenic drives...well count em' 7 U-Turns later we successfully covered just about every road, lane, drive, alley and dead end street on the EAST side of the island. U-Turns were the theme for this day. Fortunately, the Dolls and the Beards devices also showed similar passable routes, but alas the roads were phantom. The silver

lining from this....we 3 will now match our “3-point turn” expertise with anyone in the group!

Our lunch table was set at the Point Robinson Park. The site of one of the oldest lighthouses in the state, built in the very early 1900’s. Picnic goodies were consumed about 75 yards from the lapping waves of the south sound and looking across to Des Moines Marina. We started at 9am from the truck scales, we lunched, we motored and at around 2:30 we had discovered most of the roads on the east side of Vashon. In the warmth of the sun, we decided to save the west side for another day. From the north end of the island, we Winged directly back to the south end. Again, we went directly to the front of the line and after about 30 minutes we boarded the ferry back to Tacoma. Upon arriving, we took the scenic route through the zoo...a really nice ending to a long and very memorable day.

The next time we nav the Vashon, we will do it from the north end and head south...join us for the trip and make some memories or your own.

No other ride reports sent in.

Come join us for our next APE adventure and create some memories.

FUTURE EVENTS

August 20th, Social on Wednesday... as mentioned above, Gene Coulon Park in Renton.

Aug 23rd is the Monthly Chapter A Gathering...featuring Lois Anne and Neil from sunny AZ. Neil is planning on leading the APEs on “Ol Yeller” to Hood Canal...his plan is to circumnav the canal counterclockwise then back through Union and back home. Lets get a big band of APEs together for this beautiful ride..I know Lois Ann and Neil would like to see a dozen APEs in his rear view mirror.

August 27th Cedar River Trails Park in Renton...see address and driving directions above in red.

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.

August 29th is the Chapter B..."Be at the Ocean" go to their website for further details.

Sept. 13th is the Chapter X Fundraiser...these guys are having difficulty raising funds to keep the chapter afloat..if we could get a contingent of APEs together to make this event, it would be good to show them our support.

September 13th is the Chapter L Bowling Challenge in Ea WA Check their website for further details and registration.

Sept. 14th is the Chapter Z Chicken Run. Check their website for further details and registration.

Sept. 19-20 is the Chapter P Oyster Feed, please check their website for details and registration.

SEPTEMBER 28TH IS THE ANACORTES OYSTER RUN. LETS GET A BIG GROUP ORGANIZED TO ATTEND THIS FUN EVENT. We are probably going to be having breakfast at the Eagles Club...please let me know if you are planning on attending. With our usual large group we should have 2 ride leaders and 2 tail gunners. Lets do some advanced planning on this. Early helmet time for this one.

October 25th is Chapter Q Halloween Dance, check the website for details and registration forms. Costume suggestions?

There are still dozens of rides and events in the remainder of the riding year...keep up the momentum.

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).

I will be out of town on business on Aug. 20th and we will be on vacation on Aug 27th.

Roll On!

Jeff and Yvonne

