

August 4th, 2008
Chapter A, Seattle

The cAPErs

LAST 2 WEEKS AT A GLANCE:

(An apology for the missing cAPErs of last week, computer problems prohibited reports of APE happenings...now to catch up)

July 23rd Social at XXX in Issaquah, a sparse but still sociable gathering outside on the picnic benches. Most were making final plans for the Mystery Campout a mere 3 days away.

July 26th Chapter A Monthly Gathering, RMC Full Throttle Café. An enthusiastic band of APEs this morning for breakfast and socializing. Quickly passing through Chapter business of b-days and anniversaries, old trips and upcoming events to disband to our traveling groups to points unknown. 3 routes were delivered to the APEs to choose from. A short, medium and butt burner. Stephanie & Les and Tim and Angela took a direct route to the overnight mystery venue. I took a group of 6 bikes on the medium route and Tommy Blue Skies led the butt burner set. The Greers and the Bowmans headed directly north on I-5, I led a modified Mystery Route of 07 north past Carnation, Monroe, Granite Falls and Blue Skies took a 3-pass blast over Snoqualmie, Blewett and Stevens to Monroe then north. Final Mystery destination was a tranquil 14 acre campsite alongside the Stillaguamish River between Arlington and Granite Falls on the Jordan Road. The site was equipped with two huge covered tented areas, one of which we used as a kitchen serving area, the other we used as a socializing/dining room. There were two banks of porta potties and very ample flat camping area. A volleyball court was on one edge of the acreage, a HUGE campfire pit with 7 or 8 very comfortable fireside lounging benches were central to the action. A short stroll down the grassy lane led directly to the riverside..a truly beautiful setting provided FREE of charge by Andy 'HOOTERS' Haugens church.

Hooters doubled as a camp steward providing us firewood, power generator and was very generous his help and hospitality..be sure to give him a big pat on the back next time you see him. Thanks Andy!

The three groups made their way safely to the campsite..then set up their sleeping accommodations, before taking time to do some R&R around the camping area. Throughout the day and early evening, others showed up to the campsite. Cookie Paul drove up as did Susan Tuggle and Anne Urban. Meredith roused most of us up for a lively game of Hool-ape-hoop, where the circle of APEs joined hands and proceeded to pass a hoola hoop entirely around the circle WITHOUT breaking hands. I have a couple of choice short videos that you will need to see. After getting our breath back (from laughing) we tested out Benny and Chanze's newly developed game of chance and skill. I didn't catch the name, but you and a partner, join forces against other couples. One partner is blindfolded and with the guidance of the other partner, you guide a trigger activated APE head on a stick, pick up Mike and Ike colored candies and dump them into small cups...communication is key with this game...of which some had plenty... and some, well, good luck. Hopefully we will see this game on the shelves with Monopoly and Clue and we can say we once new the inventors. While we were yucking it up playing games, Tim and Angela were off to get the grub. They had made arrangements with Bodacious Bar B Que to pack "to go" containers with warm corn bread, savory beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, pork ribs, chicken, pulled pork and brisket..it was FANTASTIC!! The food was very well prepared, hot, and there were even a few left overs after everyone got their fill. A fine job by Bodacious, good pick Tim.

With full bellies and the smell of fresh hot coffee wafting though the summer air, we all gathered around the campfire for some laughs and sharing. What campfire would be complete without smores. Heat shields were improvised, extensions were provided and the yummy chocolate/marshmallow/graham cracker treats were enjoyed by the big kids.

As the midnight hour closed in on the tranquil site, we little by little departed to our comfy cozy sleep-sites. DAYBREAK brought the liquid sunshine to the band of waking APEs. Not one complaint was heard, just the shuffling and organized motion of coffee seeking campers to the gathering tent. We joked and laughed about the evenings events and slowly made preparations to break camp. Still with the clouds weeping on us, we all departed in travel pods to the dryer south.

A very big thank you to Tim and Angela for organizing, orchestrating and implementing A very successful Mystery Campout kept very secret, very well organized with everyone taking home some excellent memories. Attending the Mystery Campout were: Patty and Chris, Les and Stephanie, Mike and De, Kenny and Ann, Dave and Meredith, Tommy Blue Skies, Benny and Chanze, Tug and Susan, Hooters Haugen, Cookie Paul, Willie and Penny, Tim and Angela, Don Hatley, Jonesey, Mike Stevenson, Mike Mercier, Mike Briese, Ray Cooper (our new member that decided at the last minute to take a short ride), and Yvonne and myself. Tim & Cindy Streck along with Tims sister and her husband came for the dinner hour...NOW...lets plan for Mystery Ride 09 so we can do it all again!!

Thanks again Tim and Angela for a great time.

July 30, Social at XXX in Issaquah, Sam Grubbs reports that only 8 APEs make the evenings event including the Coes, Jonesey, Hooters, Ranks with nursemaid/sister Debbie and the Grubbs.

WELCOME.....NEW CHAPTER A PARTICIPANTS

Ray and Gail Cooper. They hail from Yelm and have decided that they look best in APE red. Ray mentioned that he decided to join our group because “you guys ride”! You figured us out Ray and Gail...Welcome !

DAMAGED APES:

....reported that our own Boxcar has been spending some days at Valley General. Seems a nasty case of gangrene had found its way into Boxcars gut and prompted removal of some innards. It is reported that he is feeling much better since the discovery and subsequent removal of the nasty stuff. Our hopes for a quick recovery.

...also, Gary Paul Reinke had undergone shoulder surgery on Thursday. Garys sister is in town helping him thought the early recovery. Sounds like he will be a few weeks off the bike (at least)...you can still come to the events and socials GPR! Get well quick and keep up on the meds.

FUTURE EVENTS

August 6th SOCIAL will be at the FULL THROTTLE CAFÉ AT RMC Same APE time, changing the location towards the South end a bit.

Aug’ 9th is the Chapter O Picnic in Gorst, consult the Chapter O Website for directions and details.

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 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