

**GOLDWING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON CHAPTER A SEATTLE**

**Weekly News Letter
Happy May Day!
May 1st, 2016**

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Please check out our sponsors at the bottom of this email. You might also want to check out Chapter Stores run by Gary Beard. He has better prices on filters than what you probably will find in a store...while supplies last.

Want to write something for the weekly newsletter? Or maybe you just want to pass on something really cool that you think I should write about? Either way just let me know by replying to this email and giving me as much information as you think I or you would need.

We need a new Chapter Director. If we don't the chapter will fold sometime this summer. WA District, Garry Alexander to be exact, has stepped in as interim chapter director but only for a short time WA District tries to find a new CD. Like I said, sometime this summer if someone hasn't stepped up they will shutdown Chapter WA-A. Our 35th anniversary was September 2015.

This is the chapter that started everything in the NW including the NW U.S. (I believe WA, OR, ID), British Columbia and Alaska. In the beginning ALL of that territory was maybe not technically but you could really say was Chapter WA-A. Which easily made it the chapter with the largest area of landmass of any chapter that has ever existed. Only GWRRA itself was bigger.

You could run the chapter as you want as long as you make it fun for the Chapter Members. Yes it would be a lot of work but I'm willing to help if you want. To a limited degree. I'll continue doing the emails if you want. Charlie Butters will continue to be the Treasurer and web manager. Myself as well as everyone else can help keep the Facebook page up to date.

We aren't here to TELL you how to run the chapter. As long as it is fun for the members that is the main thing. If it is fun for them they will back you. You just tell us what you want in the newsletters and weekly email updates and the website and Facebook site and, well, for now, you will do the rest unless you can find someone or some ones to help you do more.

It is a great job where you aren't paid. It can be a LOT of fun and you can feel very rewarded for taking on this position. If you are at all interested and want to talk about it, feel free to talk to me or to ask me for names of previous WA-A Chapter Directors or Garry Alexander's contact information.

I promise that you will both love and at times be very frustrated. But when it is all said and done, you will be VERY glad that you took this on.

I think you probably haven't seen me write up anything that looks like an add in the non-sponsor sections of these main "GWRRA Chapter WA-A Weekly Email for" emails. But this one you just might want to read and maybe do.

Cars went from those old headlights where you had to replace the whole headlight assembly. Finally some common sense happened and you only had to replace the bulb while vehicle companies got to change the shape of the headlight to have a chance to add a lot more style (at least with the headlight part of the vehicle) to headlights.

We went from incandescent bulbs that were invented in the 1800s to HID (High Intensity Discharge) headlights first done by BMW in the 1990s, to finally LED headlights first done by Lexus in 2008.

Now there have been ways to change to HID bulbs in our GoldWings but drivers coming your direction hated them because the light wasn't focused where it should be. I've been wanting to change my Wing to LED headlights for years now but there just hasn't been an option to do that which works well.

While, as far as we know, Honda isn't changing GoldWing headlights over to LEDs, you can do it yourself.

There is a GREAT website for the novice to expert do it yourself person (man/woman/other) who wants to change their oil to doing major repairs on their GoldWing. Anything from the original 1000 cc GoldWing to the newest 1800 cc GoldWing. If websites weighed anything then I would be able to say that there is literally tons of information on this site.

Plus once a month, if you subscribe to this magazine and learn about a whole lot of other things. And the website itself has, like I mentioned, do it yourself things from simple to VERY complex. No I'm not getting anything by writing this up other than just sharing information that I think is very cool. Here is the blurb that he wrote up which just might intrigue you to read the whole article.

Modern Headlight Technology: Halogen to LED

Headlights have come a long way since the beginning of the Goldwing. Single-bulb headlights with fixed, round reflectors emit a weak glow in comparison to today's GL1800 array of bulbs and computer-designed reflectors.

But even the modern GL1800 still uses 1950's technology in terms of the bulb itself. The halogen-filled incandescent bulb consumes a lot of power, most of which is wasted as heat, instead of emitting it as light.

In the early 1990's, BMW pioneered the on-road use of a xenon-filled metal halide bulb that created a bright electric arc instead of relying on the glow of a heated tungsten filament. These are commonly called high-intensity discharge, or HID bulbs, and used far less power than halogen bulbs while producing several times more light. These bulbs (and the rather

bulky ballast systems that they require) have been available as aftermarket upgrades for many years. Factory-installed HID lights are extremely effective, aftermarket HID lights are less so, due to the fact that the light-emitting arc is not located at the focal point for which the headlight reflector was originally designed. These aftermarket upgrades tend to scatter light outside the designed area, dazzling and blinding oncoming drivers.

The next headlight technology was LED - light emitting diode. First employed in a car by Lexus in 2008, LEDs use a very small amount of power, and can emit tremendous amounts of intense, focused light. Aftermarket LED bulbs have however been lackluster - creating tremendous heat requiring fans and heatsinks, and emitting less light than even standard halogen bulbs.

That is, until now. LED technology has marched on, and I'm extremely excited that the very first LED aftermarket bulb that I would consider putting in my Goldwing is now available. With low heat output, not requiring fans, and putting out tremendous light precisely at the reflector's focal point, these lights obliterate all the downfalls of HID bulbs. I fully expect that this new generation of LED bulbs will obsolete the existing HID aftermarket bulbs within a year or two.

I got my hands on a set of these new LED bulbs, and was able to test them in a Goldwing headlight enclosure. I did comparisons of OEM halogen, HID and these new LED bulbs, and wrote up the results - with lots of pictures! If you've been waiting for LED technology to advance to a usable state, check out this review: [SocialMotoGear Pathfinder LED Headlights](#)

Charlie Butters has graciously stepped up and has chosen the locations for the rest of the dinner socials for April and all of them for May. Thank you very much Charlie.

Wednesday Dinner Socials

This Wednesday's Wednesday's Dinner Social will be on April 27th at [IHOP at 1044 Supermall Way, AUBURN, WA 98001-6537](#). Maybe we should call it "WeHop". Sorry. :)

Dinner socials start at 5:30 pm. I hope to see you there! Let's have fun together.

In May we'll be going to:

5/4 - [IKEA, 601 SW 41st St., Renton](#) or [IKEA Restaurant](#)

5/11 - [Azteca, 32015 23rd Ave S., Federal Way](#) or [Azteca Mexican Restaurants](#)

5/18 - [BBQ Pete's, 6621 S 211th St #106, Kent](#) or [BBQ Pete's](#)

5/25 - [Habit Burger, 12900 SE Kent-Kangley Rd, Kent](#) or [The Habit Burger Grill](#)

I hope you will come to as many socials as you can.

2016 Chapter WA-A Maintenance Day on:

Saturday, May 21st, 2016

The Address to Ken Harter's house is:

Our address as requested;

1604 216th Ave E
Lake Tapps (Bonny Lake) WA 98391

Just off of 18th street
Located at the end of 216th Ave E, left side of the col-de-sac.
A large garage with an eagle on the door.

Monthly Meetings

Since the Kent "Old Country Buffet" closed I called around and we are now located in the "big room" at the **Federal Way "Old Country Buffet"**. Right now it is reserved under "GoldWing". Note that we get the group discount and that the tip will be included in your bill.

Our meetings will still be on the 4th Saturday at every month. 8:00 am for breakfast and the meeting will start at 9:00 am.

Let me know if you have any questions.

We have multiple positions available within the Chapter which are:

Chapter Director:	Open
Treasurer:	Charlie Butters
Asst Chapter Director:	Open
Rider Educator:	Open
Ride Coordinator:	Open
Social Media Manager:	JoAnn Beard
Newsletter:	Open
Stores:	Gary & JoAnn Beard
Good Will Ambassador:	Open
Webmaster:	Charlie Butters
Chapter Couple:	Open
Historian:	Open
Photographer:	Open
Membership:	Open
Phone Tree:	Open

If you are interested in any of the open positions above please contact [Garry Alexander](#) What's the saying. "The more the merrier".

See our web site for Web Site Links to our sponsors

<http://www.gwrra-waa.org> & [GWRRA WA A](#)

Bill Olson

GWRRA WA-A Family Member

Let's have fun Together!