

GWTA Columbia Wings April 25, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Welcome

Attendance:

- Members- 18
- Guests-Randi and Doris Kobernik-Oregon State Director
- Calvin and Evelyn Carroll-GWTA Board of Directors
- Bob Dawson-Chapter T (McMinnville)
- Sam and Sharon Brown

Rider Safety:

- Welcome back Pam and Chet from their long trip to Arizona.. "It's colder up here". Pam rode her new HD TriGlide.
- Rider Skills Practice sessions are next month.

Newsletter:

- Marti wrote a very nice profile for this month. Anyone else interested?

Long weekend rides:

- Olympic Peninsula-5 couples/10 bikes signed up.
- Cove Palisades-Sun River cabin is \$385/nite with enough room for 4 couples. After some discussion, Dave will check on hotels in the area.

State-

- Randi gave a presentation on his vision of the future for the state and GWTA. Attached is an audio recording. Here are some highlights

National:

- A brief history of GWTA and the state organization. (Check GWTA's history in the May newsletter.)
- The focus of GWTA is touring, friendship, family activities and motorcycles.
- The concern of National is declining membership.

State:

-State Event:

- The Primary focus of the state staff is the State Rally, this year at Valley of the Rouge State Park in Grants Pass on Aug 21-23. Pre-registration ends on May 30.
- In addition, there is an informal event called the Beach Bash at Heceta Beach, Florence. RV Park on July 17-19. Camping is \$5 per night. There are hotels nearby.

-Growth and Retention:

- Nationally, 3700-3800 memberships with 1700 of those memberships being Lifetime (one-time payment). National income comes from membership dues and raffle tickets. Only 2 paid positions, mostly volunteer.
- Attendance at events is down. This is true for all MC clubs due to the economy.
- A lot of chapters have a very high average age (70's) which means that as those older members drop out due to health issues, there are no younger members to replace them. Eventually, the chapter folds.

The state would like more feedback from the 35-65 age group, that is where future members will come from.

-Community involvement:

Support local events and charities
State-Local food banks
Chapter B-Homeless shelter
Chapter M-Hope Equestrian Ride, where autistic kids get to ride horses.
Chapter A-several local charities

-Plan your future:

-Recruit new members

Connections with local MC dealers
Ad in local paper
Flyers
Handlebar hangers
Chapter Director responsible for recruitment

-Interact with other chapters

Plan joint events
Support each other's events

-Have a rider safety/training program

Encourage involvement in GWTA Rider Ed program
Attend other training such as Team Oregon.
First Aid/CPR training

If you have any comments for Randi, his contact information is on the Oregon State website.

-State Website presentation-Dave Bennie, State Webmaster

-Dave gave a presentation concerning a proposal to move all the state and chapter websites to a common provider with increase band width and save money. It's up to each chapter to decide. (We will be discussing what our chapter will do at May's meeting.)

Chapter Meeting for May:

-We will have a roundtable to chart the chapter's future.

-Important topics will be discussed and decisions will be made. Don't miss it.

Upcoming Rides:

-Today's Ride-Tulip Festival in Woodburn.-10 bikes rode.

-Law Enforcement Memorial Ride-May 2nd-Leaving Latus Motors in Gladstone at 10:00am

-Washington Chapter L get-together-May 2nd-Potluck at Riverside Park, 11:00am.

-Breakfast Ride-May 3rd-Oregon covered bridges-meet at Mac's Place in Silverton-9:00am..

-Rose City 500-May 9th-Leaving WD Jackson Armory near PDX, last back out at 8:00am.

Other Events:

Jewelry Show, May 2nd-Monarch Hotel, Clackamas Town Center

Door Prize and 50/50:

Door Prizes-Gift certificates from Wingman and BHY.

-Pam Reynolds, Beth Stoner, Evelyn Carroll and Sharon Brown

50/50-\$26

-John Hudson