From Your Chapter Director...

Sorry, this is short. 2003 is over and bring in the New Year of 2004.

We brought our New Year in at the Fort Casey Inn with (4) four couples from chapter "P". It was a wonderful weekend with a dusting of snow, games, good food and great friends.

The calendar events are filling up and our ride planning meeting is January 25th after the general meeting.

So keep an eye on the calendar for events coming up.

Ride Safe & Have Fun

Donnie Willis
Happy New Year!!

It’s hard to believe another year has come and gone. I hope you all had as wonderful a Christmas as I did. It is always so very special when all of my children, significant others and grandchildren are together for the holidays.

The new year is here and time for planning another year of fun times and putting miles on the bike. I think I’ll stay away from Iowa and Kansas this year, though! :)

Our annual ride planning meeting will be January 25th, immediately after our Chapter P General Meeting. The general meeting is held at the Puyallup Eagles. The Planning meeting will be held at the “Chapter clubhouse”. Please bring your ideas for day rides, weekend outings and fun times.

Of course it also means that our Chapter P Teddy Bear Tour is only 6 months away, June 6th! The year has hardly begun and it’s already going to fast!

Please see, call or email me if you would like to volunteer to help! There will be a sign-up sheet at the general meeting.

Don’t forget, when you’re out shopping, to ask the store manager if they would be willing to donate something to our event.

Contact your local fire station, police, paramedics or medical facility. Find out if they would like some Teddy Bears and how many. Give the Contact name, address, phone number and numbers of bears to me, so we can make sure the bears are distributed correctly!

Take Care & Ride Safe
Bobbi Dunn (ACD)
As I sit here watching the rain come down, and the thermometer hovering at 37 degrees, it’s hard to get into serious riding mode. I do reflect on a great many rides of 2003 and looking forward to whatever rides 2004 brings. Do you realize that in less then 3 weeks the unofficial riding season starts? Green Freeze XVII will begin on the 17th of January. Always a good set of rides put on by Chapter V. This is also a great time to see friends who, like most of us who have been in hiding or have the if I Can’t ride, Why Go Attitude.

With the riding season fast approaching I know that you’ve got the scooter all tuned up, and your new safety chrome that you received from the fat guy in the red suit, has been installed, along with the extra lights and other misc. safety accessories. Of course you’ve checked the tires for good traction, and weather checks along the rim? All the stock lights work? (The safety lights always work).

While installing all your goodies, you of course checked the battery condition, age, and of course the battery level. Plugging in the heated suit and having all the accessories glow, the battery better be up to par or we all know who will be walking. How about the brake and clutch fluids, have you changed them recently? Coolant level? There’s a multitude of things to check out on the bike and honest it takes more time than a cup of coffee and thinking about it.

It’s the better part of a day, if not longer, checking the bike, tightening, fixing, and just putzing around. My biggest fear is if I get down on the ground looking at something (1) will I be able to get back up, (2) will I rock myself back to sleep (3) my coffee’s getting cold.

All B.S aside, it’s a good feeling within, knowing that your bike is as safe and ride able as you can make it. Not mechanically inclined? Take it to a reputable mechanic. Don’t know any reputable mechanics, ask around, there’s always someone that can tell you where to go, mechanic wise I mean.

Another way to do it is to get a good manual or ask a riding partner to come over and just check the bike carefully from front to back. If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it, but if you see something that doesn’t look right, try and find out about it, ask questions don’t assume everything’s O.K, don’t be shy, it’s your behind on the seat and someone might be riding next to you, when that particular piece decides to break, quit working or whatever. Become 1 with your bike. It won’t bite, but road rash hurts!

Becky and I are usually all year riders, except for the obvious snow and ice, so on the most part, our bike is USUALLY ready to ride. I’m a putzer and a tinkerer, but I also trust a reputable mechanic.

Be Wise  Be Careful
Mike
A bit of this and that,
First I hope everyone had a Safe, Enjoyable & Happy start to the New Year.
Next I would like to wish a Happy Birthday to:
Joan Willis {2-2},
Val Baldwin {2-7}
Stephany Wilcox {2-13}
Stefanie Lusko {2-19}
Jared Lusko {2-21}
Michelle Wilcox {2-22}.
There are no Anniversaries in February. As always if I have missed anyone please let me know at Gl1200jh@aol.com.

Next with all the winter weather we have had I would like to share some winter driving tips that were given out by the Kent police.
Perhaps the best advice for a heavy snow or ice day is to stay home. But if you have to get somewhere, you can make the trip smoother and safer by preparing your car in advance.

Before you begin: Know what you are getting into. Local radio & TV traffic reports are a good way to be informed. When the temperature is near freezing, bridges & overpasses may be frozen or have black ice. So please be careful. Prepare your car:

Check these to help prevent breakdowns.
1. Windshield wipers: If they work poorly in rain, they will be terrible in snow, so replace them.
2. Windshield washer fluid: Use the non-freezing type.
3. Cooling system antifreeze: Make sure you have the proper strength and have the radiator and overflow tank filled to the proper level.
4. Battery: Have a mechanic check the battery, charging system and belts.
5. Defroster: Check the front & rear window defroster.
6. Oil: Ensure you have a proper grade of oil for winter temperatures.

Basic Supplies: You may never need these but they are great if you do.
1 Sand or kitty litter: These may be useful if stuck on ice or snow.
2 Tire Chains: When driving in heavy snow or ice or slush, chains may help keep you on the road, but you must drive more slowly.
3 Extra windshield wiper fluid: The car reservoir can empty quickly on a sloppy day.
4 Flares: For alerting other drivers when you are stuck or pulled over. These can be a life saver.
Sunshine Corner Cont’d

5 Gloves and stocking cap: If you have to shovel snow, add fluid or assist a motorist.

6 Other items: A small shovel, blanket, flashlight, book, toilet paper, food and bottled water.

Get a Grip: Correct tires can make winter driving easier and safer. Hiway tires are generally summer tires for wet or dry pavements. Snow tires are best for ice, snow & slush because the rubber remains pliable in cold weather. All season tires are another good choice. Studded snow tires are NOT RECOMMENDED because the studs become tiny sled runners and increase stopping distance on any surface.

Slow Down: When driving, patience is a virtue, and in winter driving conditions patience can be a lifesaving virtue.

Prevent vehicle theft: Don’t let your car warm up while you get another cup of coffee. Every year several vehicles are stolen in Kent this way. Don’t make it easy for a thief. For more information call 253-856-5877.

Till next time drive Safe, Jo Hunt

Trivia Questions

Here’s January’s Trivia questions. Bring your answers to the January general meeting. If your answers are picked from the hat and you answered them both correctly, you will get a free breakfast.

We now know it as Tacoma Motor Sports. Before Tacoma Motor Sports it was known as Tacoma Honda. What was this Tacoma motorcycle store known as before it changed its name to Tacoma Honda?

What were the names of the 2 Hinshaw boys? One took over the motorcycle dealership in Auburn. One started the Auto dealership in Auburn
1/8/2004 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

From all those that attended, the Fort Casey weekend was wonderful. A good time was had by all, we would like to make this a yearly event.

Connie Brown our treasurer read her report on where we stand financially.

Jo Hunt our sunshine person said "Happy Birthday" and "Happy Anniversary" to all those that had birthdays and anniversaries in December, since there was no meeting.

Mike Wilcox the ride guide reported:
1. January 17th is the first Green Freeze ride
2. The 2004 Ride Planning meeting will be after the general meeting on January 25th at the Chapter clubhouse.
3. Hotel rooms have been reserved for Ritzville and Cooley Dam for this year’s ride to Lind, WA for the Combine Demolition Derby. Contact him if you want a room, costs, etc. We will be leaving on 6/11 and returning on 6/13.

Mark Morrison, our webmaster, has made some changes to our website. He would like to hear from you about what he has done. Any suggestions or comments would be greatly appreciated. Mark is very anxious and excited about being a new member lets keep his enthusiasm going.

Barb Dunn has copies of all the other chapters and their meeting dates and places. See her if you would like an updated version.

It was voted on and passed that our chapter would put together two baskets for the drill teams auction. There will be a sign up sheet at the general meeting so be sure to sign up for something, they both will be baskets filled with baked goods.

It was voted on and passed that since our newsletter will now be posted on the state website, that we do the newsletter at the beginning of the month, instead of the current time. So that's what'll happen, you'll need to get your articles, recipes, bits of humor in by the general meeting date.

Business Meeting for February will be at Barbara Dunn's, at which time we will inventory our supplies for the Teddy Bear Tour.
TBT Logo: Bring your logo suggestion to the January General Meeting. At the meeting, we will vote to determine which one will best represent Chapter P. The winner will receive a free breakfast.

Letter to Businesses requesting donations: Barbara has the letter in MSWORD format on CDs for anyone who would like to have one. She will have them at the general meeting. The CDs also contain the 2004 Teddy Bear flier.

We already have our Grand Prize for this year, two nights stay at the Fort Casey Inn.

We will need volunteers to help with the TBT event, at registration, check points and at the finish. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the general meeting.

If you have collected door or silent auction items, bring them to the general meeting. May 6th is the deadline for collecting door prize/silent auction items.

Don’t forget to contact your local fire station, paramedics, police to see if they would like some Teddy Bears and how many. Also, if you know of a medical facility, which could use some Teddy Bears, let Barbara know.

On February 22nd, after the general meeting, we will be riding/driving to Boehms Chocolates in Issaquah. The owner indicated last year, when we presented him with his plaque, that he would be willing to donate again this year.

There will be pictures of the Harley-Davidson Scooter, which is our raffle item this year, at the general meeting and tickets for you to take and sell.

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara/Bobbi Dunn at 253-864-9199 or email at bob-bidunn@comcast.net.

Hope to see everyone at the January 25th meeting at the Puyallup Eagles. 8:00 AM breakfast, 9:00 AM meeting.
INTERNET PURCHASE SCAM

This is a true story.... just happened---

A friend of mine has had a light bar for a Honda Goldwing 1100 posted on the internet for a while. He traded emails with someone with an address in South Africa, who said that he wanted to buy the item.

A Bank of America Cashiers check showed up for $1400 to have the item express shipped to the address, and the remainder of the money returned to him in a money order or bank check. The check was deposited in my friends bank account (they have a long history with the bank) and the money was made available within a few days.

The item was taken to a shipping company last Monday ($500+ to ship to South Africa for 35 lbs) with a money order for the remaining money (minus purchase price).

Today, the bank called and said that the cashiers check was counterfeit and withdrew the funds from their account (apparently they added the money to the account before checking to see if it was really good, and they had enough money in the account to cover it). Ouch... out $1400.

The good part.... because of the snow we have had, the part and money order had not been picked up yet from the shipper. My friend got his part back, they were refunded the shipping cost and were able to put the money order back into their account. They were VERY lucky!!!

So be careful out there and make sure Cashiers Checks are good before giving the item and any “refundable” monies to a buyer! The fastest way is to take the check to a branch of the bank it was drawn on.
I was born in Sandpoint, Idaho as George (Bud) Brown Jr. My father was in construction so we moved several times in my first years. I have one older brother and one younger sister. We settled in Spokane where I graduated from high school and joined the military. I spent thirteen years in the Army--stationed in Paris, France; Ft. Lewis; Ft. Ord CA; Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo, and Vietnam.

I first got interested in motorcycles in Spokane when a couple of buddies & I used to go hill climbing. I graduated from dirt bikes to street bikes with a Honda 350XL with trail tires, so I could ride street or dirt. Connie & I met in Spokane & married in 1978. Twenty-five years later we have 3 boys, 3 girls, 6 grandsons, 6 granddaughters and a (?) on the way.

Connie was born in Benkelman, Nebraska. She moved to Montana when she was 9 months old. She graduated from high school and moved to Spokane to attended OSC. Connie has 2 older brothers and had one older sister. She grew up in the country & instead of riding motorcycles she rode horses.

We have lived in the Seattle-Spanaway area for nineteen years. We both work for The Seattle Times Company. I work in operations & Connie works in circulation. Now we ride a 1100 Goldwing--wineberry in color. We joined GWTA in June of 2003 and met the Chapter "P" gang & the rest as they say is history !!!

Bud & Connie Brown
RECIPEs!!....

Hawaiian Bread

2 1/2 oz can crushed pineapple  { undrained }
10 oz package moist flaked coconut
4 eggs {beaten}
4 cups flour
2 tsp. salt
2 tsp. baking soda

Preheat oven to 325


Rum Cake

1 cup chopped walnuts
1 package yellow cake mix with out pudding (Devils Food works excellent too )
1 package (3 3/4 ounces) instant vanilla pudding (chocolate for the Devils Food Cake)
4 eggs
1/2 cup cold water
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup dark rum ( I used Captain Morgan's spiced rum)

Glaze recipe to follow

Preheat oven to 325 Grease and flour a 10 inch tube or 12 inch bundt pan
sprinkle walnuts over bottom of pan Mix all remaining cake ingredients together. Pour batter over nuts Bake in Pre heated oven 1 hour or until done. Let cool in pan on rack
Then invert after completely cool on serving plate

Glaze
1/2 cup (1 Stick) butter
1/4 cup water
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup dark rum (more Captain morgans)

Melt butter in small saucepan. Stir in water and sugar Bring to boil and boil 5 minutes stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in RUM cool slightly
While glaze is cooling, Pierce top of cake using a skewer, or long tined fork, Now slowly pour glaze mixture over top and sides of cake repeat this until the cake has absorbed the entire glaze mixture. You can use a pastry brush to make sure the sides are coated as well , after complete cake is covered with glaze, place cake in refrigerator for about 1 hour or until glaze has set up before serving.
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List Your For Sale Items Here!
Just contact your Newsletter editor to add those hot for sale items here and to our web site.

Winter is here and it gets very cold outside. The homeless are in need of socks. I crochet hats and gloves for them, but socks are needed. If the feet get cold the whole body is cold.
Please donate if you can. Thank you, Connie O’Rourke (253-661-3195)

Support those who support us
Visit
Taber’s Precision Cycle
Just off the Highway in Gorst
4231 Olympic Ave. W, Bremerton, WA 360-405-1664

Hinshaw’s Motorcycle Store
Just off Hwy 16, near the Supermall
16`` W. Valley Hwy., Auburn, WA 253-249-7180

Crazy Larry’s Motorcycle Accessories
8024 So. Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 253-588-8155