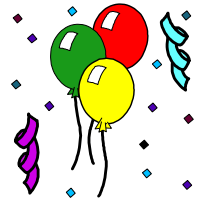


Washington State Chapter
January, 1996



Happy New Year!!!

H.S.T.A. Christmas Party

Kirby, Adelle, and Buster were excellent hosts of the 1996 HSTA Christmas party. The snacks were excellent, my compliments to Adelle.

Attendees were the usual regulars that show up for most of the rides throughout the season, minus the Yukon-man, Mat. A new member came along to get involved and it seems like he's already planning his sick days for next year -- funny how one can plan to be sick on coinciding days of our ride schedule, hmm...

We developed the 1997 schedule on the reverse side, and though it seems ambitious, I plan on making the most of the season.

Everybody seemed to get something at the Christmas party, too. Mark got Susie, Kirby got \$10 which in turn he gave to Bob, Bob got \$10 (see previous got), I got to take dictation and the honor of writing this to all of you folks, Dan M got half a motorcycle fairing from Elbert (I guess he already has the other half in his closet), and last but not least, Buster got baked on catnip (very amusing).

Club Ski Trip

Dan Meekhof has graciously offered to house any skiers planning for attending the first annual (oxymoron) HSTA ski trip on Saturday, January 18.

Please call Dan @360-494-5046 to let him know that you are coming, so as to not overwhelm him with more skiers in the winter, than riders in the middle of the summer.

White Pass will be the destination, and I think an off season excursion is just what we need. Besides, I'd prefer sliding on a ski slope over sliding on an off-ramp in the middle of winter like I did two years ago. Word of advice -- Just cause it looks nice outside, it's still winter, and the roads (and tires) don't warm up that quickly. Makes me, and my insurance company, cringe just thinking about it...

The Motorcycle Show

As many of you have already heard, there will not be an HSTA booth at the Seattle Motorcycle Show this year. All of the available spaces were sold out.

I know I will see a lot of you at the show just browsing for your next ride. I'll be eyeing the new CBR1100XX but I've already decided that it is not the bike for me. The cost, along with the comfort factor at higher speeds, have dissuaded me from pulling out my checkbook and saying, "Wrap it up!" Thanks, but I'll stick with the 900RR for another season. (Santa - you forgot to bring my wheels!)

It's a shame that we won't have a representative there to suck in new members. That means more work for all of you to bring your buddies to the rides and show them what a good time we have on weekends.

I guess the positive outlook is that now we have one day to browse new motorcycles, and another full day available for skiing. See you on the slopes!

Findings of Lewis County District Court

Mark, Dan M, Matt, Bob, and I all got tickets back in September when we were travelling along Highway 12 near Packwood. We weren't doing anything terribly wrong at the time (70 in a 55, that should be a 65 zone), but the officer obviously had nothing better to do than to pull us over first thing in the morning and issue tickets.

We were going to throw our souls on the mercy of the court, when to our surprise the judge had already made his ruling -- Dismissed!

The officer did not write any notes on the infraction, and therefore the State had no case against us. This goes to show, never just pay the ticket. There is always a chance that the legal system will work for you and that you may avoid earning points against your driving record. Another useful little fact we learned -

NEVER SPEED ALONG HIGHWAY 12!

Honda Sport Touring Association
Washington State Chapter
Dan Hytry, Newsletter Editor
7723 So. Lakeridge Dr.
Seattle, WA 98178-3136

February 8 - First 1997 Club Meeting

This will be the first meeting since the Christmas party so it's a good opportunity to meet people you haven't seen in awhile.

We'll meet for breakfast at the usual location (Kennedydale Denny's off I-405 @ 8 a.m.) and if the weather is fair, we'll break out the bikes and go for a little cruise. It's important that people show up for the club meetings to provide their input for TBD rides, and obtain other information about rides that are on the schedule.

Montanabahn - Bring it on!

Our trip to Montana should be everything that we expect and more. Having talked to a few boys that made the trip last year (same boys I'm going to Alaska with this year) - it's like nothing else! I won't say what they rode, but the initials are the same as Honda-Ducati. I know won't be able to shift out of third gear for fear of losing them. Better yet, I'll set my rev-limiter to 3000.

Sport Rider magazine had a great article on SR's staff ride through the open lands of Montana in the February 1997 edition. I think that one of the interesting points in the article was the chart that depicted mileage at varying speeds (and the fact that they couldn't FORCE themselves to go only 70MPH.)

I would suggest also reading the article on Page 6 of the same magazine. It talks about the "Reasonable and Prudent" philosophy and the fact that we should venture into Montana before its legislature meets again and decides what numerical speed they will enforce.

The 1997 Schedule of Rides

Though not discussed at the party, I included the end of season dinner meeting on October 11. Please make note of it if you weren't at the party. Here it is --

February 8 - 1st Club Meeting of 1997

March 8 - Club Meeting / Ride TBD*

March 22 - Granite Falls / Lake Cavanaugh

April 12 - Club Meeting / Ride TBD

April 19 - Dewato

May 10 - Club Meeting / SW Wa

May 31 - Mt. Baker / Mosquito Lake

June 14 - Club Meeting / Ride TBD

June 28-30 - Montana / Spokane (Big Sky Ride)

July 12 - Club Meeting Monroe / Winthrop

July 25-28 - Western Oregon

August 9 - Club Meeting Federal Way / Mt. St. Helens

August 15-17 - Oregon Camp-Out / Cascade Locks

September 6 - Leavenworth

September 13 - Club Meeting / Ride TBD

September 19-21 - Three-Pass Run III / Packwood

October 11 - Club Meeting / Dinner @ Cafe Veloce

***To Be Determined** by those present