

Washington State Chapter June, 1997

May 10 - Ride to SW Washington

Talk about a nice day for a ride, temperatures near 80, the sun beating down, and not a cloud in the sky - picture perfect for riding! I think we had record turnout for the ride to SW Washington with fourteen (14) bikes, ready to go. Attendees were Jim Holzberger (GSXR1100), Kevin Jaquith (Ducati 900SP), Bob Kramer (F2), Mark Grabrick (F2), Larry Dunn (CBR1000), Chris Harnish (GPZ750), Trevor Norsworthy & son (Honda CX500 Turbo), Stan Kendall (ST1100), Brian (ST1100), Tom Johnson (VFR750), Larry Wacek (VFR750), George Rudchenko (VFR750), Kirby Drawbaugh (900RR), and Me (900RR).

Jim led us through some of the lesser known roads that provide some great twisties just outside of the city limits. This ride definitely has the potential of being one of our regular rides.

After breakfast in Puyallup, we headed south on SR-7 through Spanaway (watch out for low-flying golf balls) and veered onto SR-507 towards Roy. We broke in my new radar detector (HIGHLY recommended for searching out the authorities) along the way and rolled onward to Centralia by way of Vail Loop Road and then Johnson Creek Rd. This is a great stretch of bent highway that must be enjoyed on a sportbike. We headed 5 miles south on I-5, and then proceeded east along SR-6 through Pe Ell, Lebam, and stopped for lunch in Raymond. After gassing up, we headed north along US-101, and made a right turn at Artic and headed southeast towards Brooklyn, but we were informed at lunch that we could only go a little way before the road turned to gravel. It was another one of those great roads that had to end, and darn it if we didn't have to backtrack to 101. Schucks - all those twisties - what's a rider supposed to do?

At the turnaround point, Tom had a minor tip-over mishap but I'm glad to report that he didn't get pinned under the bike and the only real damage was a broken foot peg, which we replaced with the passenger peg and were off again. Mark wanted to prove to us that he lived in Seattle, so while we were working on Tom's bike, he took off his shirt, and blinded us with the sun reflecting off his white chest. Who's got my Ray-Ban's?

Once back onto 101, we continued northward and headed towards Montesano, got on east US-12, and then homeward by way of I-5. Once again, the radar detector went off way before I visually recognized the patrol unit. Surely it saved us from getting stopped, and possibly from dealing with a green award.

I would like to think of myself as an alert rider, but on this trip, I found that it isn't always up to me to SEE the cop. The radar detector was a cheap investment in ensuring the pleasure of riding...

Details on Oregon Coast ride - June 27-30

I am planning this ride, so if you don't like me - STAY HOME! No, just kidding ;-)

This is sort of unconventional in that I am planning to depart for the bulk of the ride on Saturday morning from Seaside, Oregon. Three reasons why...

First, Seaside is gorgeous, and if you've never been there in the summer, you'll love it! Plan on going down early on Friday if you can so that you can enjoy the boardwalk, and the beach. Second, it takes 4 hours to get there, so I wanted to get this time in on Friday, so that we don't lose half a day just getting there, and dealing with the traffic. And finally, I wanted to!

For Friday's ride down, I would recommend that you take I-5 south to Centralia, then head west along SR-6 through Pe Ell, Lebam, and Raymond. At Raymond, head south on US-101. You will encounter an intersection that allows you two routes to the same destination. I would recommend you stay on US-101 towards Long Beach, and follow signs towards Astoria. The other branch will take you along SR-4, but then you must head south on SR-401 to get to Astoria. Once in Astoria, head 15 miles south on US-101 to Seaside.

For those that arrive on Friday - I would like to meet in the lounge of the Shilo Inn at 10 pm. Though it is late, this will give everyone enough time to get there after work on Friday. If anyone plans on arriving early Saturday, please call me so that I can tell you where to hook up with us. We'll eat breakfast together Saturday at 8 am, somewhere to be determined Friday night and hit the roads shortly after that.

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Details on Oregon Coast ride con't

Saturday will consist of going down the coast either until we get sick of following tourists in motorhomes, or until we get to Waldport, whichever comes first. From there I plan on heading east away from the coast and taking the twistiest roads I can find to Bend. This will be the tentative stop for Saturday night. If we are well ahead of schedule, and people feel up for it, Klamath Falls may be an alternate stop site.

Sunday, will be a scenic day and the plan is to hit Crater Lake Nat'l Park as early as we can - most direct route from Saturday's destination. From there, we have many twisty options to get to Roseburg or Eugene for the night. We'll enjoy as many of the side roads as possible trying to stay off any highways.

Monday is going to be get home day. Straight time from Eugene is 5 hours, and from Roseburg 6 hours so this leaves some touring time if people are interested and haven't had enough in the last two days. I speculate that it will be a straight shot home...

Originally when I thought about this ride at the Christmas party, I wanted go down US-101 all the way to California. After some thought, the tourist factor, and the number of small towns that we would have to slow down for, detracted from my idea of a fun trip. I hope this ride has a little of everything for everybody and that I've succeeded in my goal - to provide a great weekend of riding for all.

I will be staying at the Shilo Inn Oceanfront Resort on Friday night. Phone is 503-738-9571. Room rates are \$85 for city view / 1 queen bed and \$159 for ocean view / 2 queen beds. Rooms are limited, but other options are a plenty that aren't this fancy.

I hope to see many of you there. If you have any questions/concerns please contact me...

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e-mail: HYTRY.D@PORTSEATTLE.ORG
206-728-3129 Work M-F 8-5pm,
206-772-2383 Home after 6pm,
206-989-1315 Pager anytime.

Honey - I shrunk the bike!



Upcoming Events

May 31 - Mitzel's in Mill Creek - 8 am
Ride to Mt. Baker / Mosquito Lake

June 14 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - 8 am
Ride to be determined

June 21-22 - Denny's in Olympia (Black Lake) - 9 am
Overnight campout to Sol Duc / Lake Crescent

June 27-30 - Shilo Inn Lounge, Seaside OR. - 10 pm
Western Oregon Coast - See details above

On the net - <http://www.snwsc.com/hsta/main.htm>