

Washington State Chapter
November, 1997

Happy Thanksgiving !!!

October 12th- Meeting Minutes

Cafe Veloce provided a great dinner for us to sit down, relax, and have a beer. Don't worry, we're not turning into HD riders! Kirby Drawbaugh, Chris Harnish, Jim Holzberger, Bob Kramer, Theresa Scheerens, Mike Hansen (possible new member), and myself attended. As you can tell, the turnout was small. Mat attended in spirit - he dropped off some pictures was wasn't able to stay.

We told tall tales about the trips we made this last summer, and worked on recruiting Mike. He lives up north in Bellingham, bought a new '97 F3 and was looking for a club to ride with. I think he was convinced that we are a safe, and reasonable club, even after hearing our stories of this year.

My mammoth 25K mile season in about 7 months has come to an end. That's more than twice what I normally ride, and 4 times the average rider. One staggering tidbit that I calculated - I spent over \$2,000 on tires and only \$1,000 on gas for the season. OUCH!

The idea of gag gifts was shot down (in not so many words). As Jim put it - those that want to rib someone, will get a gift anyway. I agree with Jim, and have a LONG list of stuff to buy! I already picked up something for Chris (literally)!!!

Ski trips are up in the air and we'll plan those as the weather makes us more antsy by dumping the white stuff on the foothills.

Talk of attending the '98 STAR in Taos, New Mexico was brought up and I think interest will grow as the June date grow nearer. Mileage from Seattle appears at just over 1400 one-way so we're looking at 3-4 days to get there, 2-3 days spent in and around Taos, and another 3-4 days to get home.

For next year, instead of Montana, we are talking of planning a trip to Laguna Seca around the July 12th World Superbike Races. The details have yet to be determined, but I'll keep y'all posted. I'm getting jazzed already!!!

The Christmas party at Kirby's will be Potluck. Kirby and Adelle went through a lot of trouble preparing everything last year, and this year, he still offered to put up with us again. WHY? I don't know.

I'm sure Buster can't wait for a group of hooligans to raid his domain again! More details about the party, including a map, will be sent out early in the December NL.

Winter Preparation - by Jim Holzberger

With winter fast approaching, it's time to do some maintenance to ensure that our bikes are ready to go come spring. There is nothing worse than putting your bike away dirty and wet into a shed for 4 months. The result is predictable - dead battery, gasoline that has gummed up the carburetors, corrosion on all exposed metal, acids in the crankcase, etc.. Now is the time to get your bike ready for next year.

Thoroughly clean your bike, get into all the nooks and crannies, apply a generous coat of wax. Replace any fluids that have been in your bike for more than two years (coolant, brake fluid, fork oil). Change your oil and filter. Add a fuel stabilizer to the tank, run your bike for awhile to get the stabilized gas through the lines and carburetors. Drain your float bowls. Remove your battery and be sure to give it a trickle charge every couple of weeks (the "Battery Tender" will do this for you, just keep an eye on the acid level).

If you follow this regimen, your bike will be in the same shape come spring as it currently is. Additionally, you may want to take this time to perform a full service that includes valve adjustment, spark plug replacement, carburetor synchronization, air filter replacement, re-torqueing of critical fasteners, inspection of steering head, swingarm and wheel bearings, inspection of brake pads, tires, chain and sprockets. Replace or adjust items as necessary.

Your factory service manual is the best guide to all of this, of course the dealers are not very busy at the moment and would be happy to do much of this for you. If you wait until the first sunny weekend of spring you'll find your dealer has a backlog of service work.

Like the FRAM guy says - "Pay me now or pay me later".

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Website Update

Many of you have already checked out our local site. That's great! For those of you that haven't, or haven't recently, DO IT!

I've uploaded a lot of pictures of our Montana adventures and I realize that download time may be slow so be patient. Sorry for not having these up earlier, but the images got lost in the shuffle somewhere.

The site will shortly be undergoing major changes. Mat and myself are hoping to provide a lot more links, for example to motorcycle manufacturers' web sites for viewing new models and specs on bikes. New pictures are constantly being uploaded and we hope to be able to sort through old pics and organize them better. I would like to get a yearbook type page with headshots of our regular members. Another idea is to possibly provide maps with highlighted routes and mileage charts for rides around the Pacific Northwest, listing good twisty roads with little or no enforcement.

Now that there is some down time (no rides), this allows us to be creative in working on the site. Feel free to drop either one of us a line about any thoughts you have to make our site better. Happy viewing!

Snail-Mail

With the introduction of the website, and the fact that most of us have internet access, it begs the question: Do you still want to receive newsletters through the US Postal Service?

I know that there are still a lot of people that aren't electronically connected so your status will not change. Many of the members have E-mail, and also

visit the web site on a regular basis for the newest information and read the NL's there. I'm simply proposing that you allow me the chance to cut back on paperwork and focus on efficiency.

Please E-mail me at hytry.d@portseattle.org if you would like to comment on any of the above as well as anything else you have in mind. I would like to hear from you. Of course, all other information will continue to be sent out by conventional means.

Motorcycle Show

The Seattle Motorcycle Show is January 2-4. As of yet, we are not committed to a booth and therefore are probably going without for the 2nd consecutive year.

Many new, exciting bikes will be displayed, and again, my pocketbook will be securely stashed away. I thought that by now I'd be looking for a new bike, but I love my RR just as much now, as I did on day one!

Pace Yourself - by Nick Ienatsch (see attached)

As promised. Enjoy...

Upcoming Events

December 6 - Kirby & Adelle Drawbaugh's Res. - 7 pm
HSTA Christmas Party - Pot Luck

January 2-4 - Seattle Motorcycle Show
Convention Center, Seattle, WA

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