

Washington State Chapter February, 1998

Motorcycle Show

The show was a great success and we expect to see a lot of new members in the coming months. Many females were interested and there were quite a few people that were browsing for a club to ride with when they purchase new rides this spring. Overall, I think we'll gain a lot of new prospects for the coming season.

For those of you that weren't lucky enough to get to the show, I will try to gloss over everything there was to see.

BMW - shows off the new R1200C cruiser as well as the K1200RS and the R1100RT for sport touring. The police cycle was quite threatening.

Buell - offers the S1 Lightning as a giveaway bike and shows off its S3 Thunderbolt with 101 ponies. Painted frames and colorful wheels caught my eyes.

Ducati - new bikes include the 900FE and the ST2. The usual 916, 748, and M900 were on display as well. Odd to see a 916 with a passenger seat!

Harley Davidson - celebrating 95 years of making bikes, offers three new models: XL1200S Sportster 1200 Sport, Road King Classic, and Road Glide. The usual Wide Glides, Springers, and Road King were also displayed.

Honda - hot new models include the 1998 Shadow Aero, VFR800 Interceptor, and the newly updated 900RR. The all yellow is my favorite!

Kawasaki - the 1500 Nomad and Vulcans are shown as long distance cruiser, while the faster and lighter ZX rockets (-9R and -6R) should entice any sportbike rider. (See Jim's review of the 9R - Jan '98)

Suzuki - the fuel-injected GSX-R750 and TL1000R made me drool. Nuf sed...

Triumph - the Thunderbird Sport exhibits Triumph's old styling, but still offered are the Daytona, Sprint, and the Trophy sport-tourer models.

Victory - had on display a cut-away model of it's 1507cc V-Twin that is truly impressive.

Yamaha - the first bike you saw when entering the show was the YZF-R1 and soon to be in the hands of Jim Holzberger. Lucky man - what a ride! One question - are you taking it off road? ...or behind Bob?

Special thanks go out to all those that helped man the booth this year. Jim Holzberger, Dan Meekhof, Bob Kramer, Chris Harnish, Mat McDanold, Kirby Drawbaugh, and myself were there. Extra effort on the part of Jim and Dan to set-up and tear-down the display was greatly appreciated. It was unusual that we had more volunteers than open time slots so some volunteers were turned away. Thanks guys - we appreciated the generous offer of your time.

♥ *Engagement Announcement* ♥

The coming season looks to be just as exciting as last years, but I may not do as much riding as I was looking forward to due to my recent engagement. I'm not complaining, it's a good thing...

Those of you that I talk to on a regular basis are aware of the details, but for the others - if you check back to the October '97 newsletter, you'll see me mention Mark's passenger Dawn on the ride to Leavenworth. Well, after getting to know each other, that same Dawn, has accepted my proposal to become my wife. The big day is to happen early August, 1998.

STARreview

Many have seen what I had to say on Page 7 of the January, 1998 STARreview. I would like to explain, that I am not resigning, yet... I enjoy writing the NL for you folks, and so far, I haven't had any complaints. Don't start now :-)

I've received positive feedback that members would like to see candid write-ups on club rides without the censorship of activity. Well, to be honest, there may be some that are shocked to read about what really goes on, and I don't feel comfortable publishing the "truth".

Those that are present on club rides KNOW what goes on, and continue to come out for rides week after week. I fully believe that we cater to all riding styles and allow riders to grow in ability at a level they are comfortable with. I do not plan on changing my ways in riding, and/or writing style so if you're curious, I encourage you to participate on club rides to see what it's really about. Safety ALWAYS comes first!

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STAR '98

Triumph has submitted a letter of intent and will be bringing no less than 4 bikes to Taos for demo rides.

The 1998 raffle bike is a fuel-injected 1998 VFR800 Interceptor! Buy your tickets when they become available... I know I will!

January 17th - Club Ski/Snowboard Trip

Dan, Bob, Mark, Dawn, and myself made a trip to Steven's Pass. The weather didn't agree with our plans (read: cold and windy), but the powder was DEEP! At lunch, Mark attempted eating a 3lb sandwich. Though, he only got 1/2 way we were all still impressed!

Daytona '98

For anyone who is interested in information on Daytona, March 1-8, please contact Chuck Headrick, Florida State Director, about the Saturday night dinner on March 7th. He can provide you with tips on accommodations and any other useful information you may need. More information on this event will be published in the upcoming STARreview.

More Corrections

☒ Double check the details of June 6-8 (Oregon Outing II), August 14-16 (Oregon Camp-Out), and September 19-20 (Packwood Pursuit) for the corrected meeting **times**. The new schedule reflects the correct information (see **Revised 1/9/98**).

Schedule Clarifications

Many of you have asked, "What the heck (or similar expletive) is '**Mounties by Moonlight**' all about?"

For lack of a better description, it is a late night party run to downtown Vancouver, BC. The plan was to experience the night life in the downtown area, staying overnight, and then doing some touring the next day, possibly up to Whistler, returning late on Saturday. Nobody, most certainly not I, said we would be drinking! I don't plan on having a drop of alcohol.

Also - on July 17th, the Cannonball Rally is starting from Seattle, and going to Savannah, GA. Exactly 100 riders have paid \$1000 to enter this cross country "race" and the top five finishers will receive cash awards ranging from \$1000, up to \$30,000! The predicted winner will have rode 3000 miles in around 30-32 hours. Do the math - they won't be going slow and we want to be waiting along the I-90 corridor around North Bend to cheer them on as they fly by. No ride is tentatively planned for that day, but it should still be exciting to see these banzai riders in action.

Upcoming Events

February 21 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - **12 noon**
Club Meeting / Ride to be Determined

March 14 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - 8 am Meet
Club Meeting / Ride through Snoqualmie Valley

March 28 - Mitzel's in Monroe - 8 am Breakfast
Ride to Granite Falls

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