

## Washington State Chapter March, 1998

### **February 21 - First Club Meeting**

Well after an exciting winter (very mild by comparison), we had our first meeting of 1998.

A whopping 6 people showed, which pales in comparison to last years 16. I scheduled the meeting at noon, remembering that last year it was still too cold at the normal meeting time 8am (remember this, there will be a quiz later.) Well, the weather put a damper on things and rained until just before the meeting, and then just after.

We didn't discuss much, but had a rare conversation with Bryce Ulrich. He has retired from Microsoft and is taking a mini-vacation (like 12-18 months) and is going to tour the US to see what all is out there. Some riding with the Ironbutt guys is on his schedule and he'll be keeping a log via his homepage at <http://home.att.net/~bryceu/>

Jim (expectant father of an R1) brought pictures of his baby which is due the end of March. Mark was brave enough to ride the RR and had a weird incident occur after the meeting.

Tooling along I-5, a car pulled alongside, flashed a badge, and motioned for him to pull over. Mark saw that it had CA plates and with no lights and/or siren, decided to slow, but not pull over. The car passed ahead and kept going. I told you it was weird! Can you say possible "Bike-Jacking"?

Mat showed for moral support, nothing new there. Jim and Mat entertained us by describing the wet riding capabilities of the Ninja RC bike and that they suck on wet pavement.

Dawn and I rounded off the rest of the bunch, and with planning our wedding and buying a home at the top of our priorities, we're keeping very busy.

I know that this season will be just as exciting as last and our trip to California for the World Superbike Races will be the highlight.

I hope to get the opportunity to ride with many new members this year and that the turnout will be just as good as last year. I'm also working on putting a ride together with I-90 Red Riders (HRCA) for some diversity in our two clubs. I'll keep you posted when their ride schedule comes out. Till then...

### **www.rideHSTA.com by Steven Shane**

Greetings folks, this is Steven Shane, your newly appointed webmaster. ([s.shane@pobox.com](mailto:s.shane@pobox.com)) What's a "webmaster" you ask? Well, I'm the lucky bum who attempts to make all your Internet desires for the HSTA come true. In early 1998 the HSTA took steps to increase it's presence on the World Wide Web. This means we now have a permanent home and it resides at [www.rideHSTA.com](http://www.rideHSTA.com). If you happen to swing by, here is a small sample of the many delicacies that await you.

- ✓ Updated rides & Rally information.
- ✓ Contact numbers and emails for any officer or HSTA event you could hope for.
- ✓ Interactive maps to all your favorite destinations.
- ✓ Printable membership forms for new or renewing members.
- ✓ History and Ride reports of your favorite HSTA memories.
- ✓ Links to local HSTA and hundreds of cycle related websites.
- ✓ A complete listing of the HSTA video library.
- ✓ Browse the HSTA Country Store and all it's goodies.
- ✓ View the official STAR 98 site and preview the splendor that Taos has to offer.
- ✓ and so much more.....

As your webmaster I am committed to making our new site work for you. By this printing we should have well over 5000 visitors who have explored our lifestyle, so if you ever have a request or suggestion please don't hesitate to contact me. If you would like your own local HSTA website, we can accommodate you. If you run across a motorcycle related site, let me know and I will add it to our library of links. And remember, the next time you run into someone and they want more information on our club, let them know that everything they need is at [rideHSTA.com](http://rideHSTA.com).

### **More STAR'98 Details**

- ✓ 3 time World GP Champion Freddie Spencer will be a guest keynote speaker.
- ✓ Over 200 have registered for the event already.

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### ***Dual-Sporting*** by Dan Meekhof

You guys should all get dual-sports. I rode over 150 miles of mostly dirt roads, had a great time, all for about \$3 of gas. I got 60 mpg on my first tank full of gas. I get almost exactly the same 150 miles till reserve that my Hurricane gets and probably has the same half-gallon reserve, so my range is better on the XT than on the Hurricane.

I was able to climb some gnarly logging roads that I would have thought were too rough for my skill level a couple of months ago. The XT is very user friendly which encourages you to try difficult terrain. It is a better dirt bike than it is a street bike. I was going pretty fast on some of those dirt roads, without any worries about police. (Yes Chris, you do have to watch out for the deer.) I saw three yesterday and four last week.

The XT is fast on some of the beat-up little twisty roads that are common in this area. I went toward Mt. St. Helens and got on FR-26, which doesn't look like it will be passable again this year. There are several places where a dirt bike is about the only thing that would be able to make it through. Mostly, it is because the dirt, either above or below, the road keeps drifting downward toward the ravine.

Anyway, I was able to go about as fast as anything (except deer) on that road. I eventually turned off it and took another road for about 20 miles to a popular fishing spot along the river. There are enough dirt roads off in that direction that someone like me could easily get lost, I did take a couple wrong turns. Did I mention, no cops out here in the woods....

### ***Farewells***

Elbert Silbaugh: who is passing the Membership Director baton to Cory Estes.

Bryce Ulrich: who will be touring the U.S. for the next 12-18 months aboard his ST1100. Check the STARreview for details and his website for future updates - <http://home.att.net/~bryceu/>

### ***Welcome***

Leonard Lloyd – Western Regional VP

Cory Estes - New Membership Director

<http://www.RIDEHSTA.com> - see article by S. Shane

### ***Events At-A-Glance***

March							April						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

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

April 11 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - 8 am Meet  
April 25 - Mitzel's in Puyallup - 8 am Breakfast

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