

Washington State Chapter May, 1998

April 11 - Meeting, No Ride

Due to the weather, only 4 of us made it to Denny's. Jim, the eager father, was the only rider on his R1, and got a little wet. The weather cleared in the afternoon, but that was too late for most of us.

What a slow start to the season!?

April 19 - Ride with HRCA

Jim and I took a look at another local riding club that some of you may have heard of - HRCA (Honda Riders Club of America). They usually originate their rides from I-90 Honda in Issaquah. I am trying to get a schedule of events from them, but have not yet succeeded. My hopes are to get people acquainted with other riders who share the common goal of putting on miles with like bikes. They typically ride on Sundays.

The ride turnout was more than I had expected with more than 20 bikes. Of course everyone awed Jim's R1, but then, who wouldn't?

We meandered along the back roads from Issaquah to Wilkenson, by way of Enumclaw and Orting. Great roads! One rider had a mishap on a VFR800 with only 670+ miles on it. Appeared to have been rider error though he was off on his own when it happened. Result - Broken collarbone and broken VFR.

Shortly after, we decided that the day was still young and that Skate Creek Road to Packwood would need to be explored. So we did.

Soon after making our way onto FR-52, another rider had an accident. An 80 year-old, on a Goldwing, went over an embankment directly in front of me. I watched helplessly as he crossed over the centerline, and continued to disappear from sight over the edge. Everyone pulled together to help, and with a doctor (Marie Grohman) present, he was airlifted to Harborview and was fully examined there. Nothing broken, just bruised and sore. Thank God he was okay.

Though there were incidents on this day, all worked out well, and the pace was not far exceeding anything that is out of the ordinary. Nice to see everyone pull together to help a rider in need, though it made me reflect on the fact that had I not seen him go over the

edge, he might not have been missed for there were no skid marks indicating where he left the road. I would like to think that the HSTA shows much more care regarding its riders and do not hesitate to pat us on the back. WE DO IT RIGHT! You make me proud.

April 25 - Mt. St. Helens

Great weather for a change! Nine bikes made it to the parking lot at Mitzel's and were ready to ride. Tim Macy gets the Long-Distance Commute Award for meeting us all the way from Portland! I'd also like to welcome Bryan DeFrees (CX650C), Brian Donnelly (VFR800), Jeff Muhlenkamp (ZX-10), and Marie Grohman (passenger of Bryce) to our small family. All riders had a great time and I'm sure we'll be seeing them again. Jim, Tom, Bryce, Bob, and myself rounded out the list.

Dan Meekhof had informed us that Mt St Helens was not passable due to snow coverage - still too early in the season. I'll have to keep that in mind for next year's schedule. We decided to take some of the roads mentioned earlier through Orting and along Lake Ohop to Eatonville, making our way to Skate Creek Road and stopping at Dan's to visit and warm up. Soon after, Dan joined us as we rode the speed limit (55) along US-12 to Morton, where we stopped for lunch. No police along the way, but Dan seems to be a magnet just the same. No sooner did we pull into the parking lot, did an officer approach us. Something about a dual-sport riding across the lawn of some restaurant where we were about to have lunch. I'm not sure what he was talking about since we were all on street bikes, except for...

No tickets were issued, but there were a lot of laughs at that point. After lunch, we continued along to Centralia where we started to open up a little. The pace picked up, and Jim showed us the back roads around Bucoda, Vail, and Johnson Creek Road.

Once in McKenna, we went our separate ways and continued home. I had somewhere around 200-250 miles for the day on some fantastic roads. The new members seemed to enjoy themselves and should be joining us again in the near future. There were no accidents or tickets on this ride, just great fun!

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Big Sky Run 1998 - By Elbert E Silbaugh

Friday, July 24th, in the afternoon we gather in the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho area. We will ride into the North Shire Park in Coeur d'Alene for refreshments and when hungry, Stan Downing will lead us over to a restaurant for a Mexican meal. Later that evening we will stuff our bodies in beds made by the Budget Host Pleasant Inn in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Saturday, July 25th we will experience a buffet breakfast at the J B's Restaurant in Coeur d'Alene, compare map and ride notes and leave with whomever, with maps and trips in your hand. Perhaps a northerly trip into western Montana, and a southerly trip into western Montana (via Lolo pass), both headed for the same evening destination in Missoula. Riders can pick what is recommended, or do anything else their traveling hearts desire.

Saturday, July 25th in the afternoon we will experience the same quality of hospitality we did last year as we will be gathering for afternoon refreshments, experience a Norwegian pot of stew, and compare ride experiences at Jim Iverson's in Missoula, Montana. When you get sleepy, you can spend your night at Motel 6 on the north edge of Missoula.

Sunday, July 26th we will again enjoy a breakfast prepared by the Iverson's at Iverson's.

Registration Pre-registration will not be required. Registration will be at the event and will include basic event coverage plus refreshments Friday afternoon at Coeur d'Alene, and Saturday afternoon refreshments, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast at Missoula. The exact cost will be known by the end of April. Lodging is at your own expense and must be

reserved by you. Early registration for lodging is strongly urged due to other events in the region.

Call 800-BUD-HOST to make a Budget Host Pleasant Inn reservation in Coeur d'Alene, and call 800-4-MOTEL6 to make your Motel-6 reservation in Missoula.

General Info

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Events At-A-Glance

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

May 9 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - 8 am Meet
Club Meeting / Ride to Leavenworth

May 16 - Mitzel's in Puyallup - 8 am Breakfast
Ride to SW Washington

May 30 - Café Veloce in Totem Lake - 7 pm Dinner
All-night ride to Vancouver BC

June 6-8 - Oregon Outing II - Cancelled
I am unable to host this event
as previously scheduled - Sorry

June 13 - Denny's in Renton (Kennydale) - 8 am Meet
June 21-25 - STAR in Taos, NM

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