



Seattle Wings Chapter WA-A

Periodic News Letter
November 2023

www.gwta-waa.com



Have you checked out the **Chapter "A" Website** lately?
Our Webmaster works on it almost daily, Check it out!

gwta-waa.com



[2023 Calendar](#) [Newsletters & Emails](#)
[Local Chapter Meeting Places](#) [Photos](#) [Staff](#) [Forms](#)
[Goldwing Technical Service Bulletins - 1988 through 2012.](#)

AND SOOOOO much more!

Greetings from our Chapter Director



Harry Rossignol

harrywr2@comcast.net

The weather has finally caught up with us. Whine, cry, stomp my feet!!

We still have plenty of fun scheduled. Our Christmas Party is coming up December 2nd at 3 PM (old friends welcome). The magical 5th Saturday of the Month Ice Cream Ride will be on December 30th and then it will be time to officially start the 2024 riding season with a New Years Day Ride.

Next year we have a couple of big adventures coming up worth considering.

Howie from 'C' will be doing a motorcycle 'Tour de France' currently being planned for June.

Yours truly along with his lovely wife are planning a 22ish day trip to Alaska departing approximately July 16th. It's a simple route. A week to Tok then a week from Tok to Fairbanks to Anchorage to Tok (with a stop at Denali) and then a week back home. A roughly 5K miles round trip. Hopefully this can be a group event.

The Chapter will be participating in STP once again on the Weekend of July 13th and 14th. Jeff Duffield will be the bridge master this year.

We will be having a campout once again at the Squaw Rock RV and Campground Resort on September 6th thru 9th. I count six couples and four individuals from Chapter A alone who are planning on going. GWTA Washington will be sponsoring a BBQ this year. Once again we are reaching out to former GWRRA members and inviting them to attend as well. Cabin space as well as river bank camp sites are limited so reserve early.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting!! In case you've forgotten we meet on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Rainbow Cafe in Auburn. Eat @ 9, meet @ 10 and weather permitting ride @ 11.

Harry & Claudia Rossignol

Chapter Directors

Asst. Chapter Directors



Jeff & Cindy Duffield
Jeffmd2@comcast.net

Sportier and Fun

When the new Gold Wing came out in 2018, there were endless critics decrying the changes. It's so much smaller, not as much storage/luggage capacity, sporty looking and many more things. These were all positives in my view. I liked the sportier look and feel, I don't make long trips and don't need the large storage, I really liked the DCT option and could envision stop and go traffic without constant clutching. My short test rides on the new DCT did not do anything to convince me otherwise. I really liked the ease and fun feeling it had. I had to wait 5 years to finally own one and with the changes made over the years, I gained with the larger trunk, better passenger hand grips and several other improvements. Now I am approaching 6000 miles on it and have a good feel for the things I really like and some things I don't like about it. It might help you in the future if you are considering upgrading to the new DCT Gold Wing. It is extremely fun to ride. I have only used sport mode a few short times and I call it "Ridiculousness Mode". It is ridiculous and not usable on a regular style ride. Tour Mode is perfectly fine for everyday riding.

I found out that the paint used by Honda in Japan is now a water-based paint. It is extremely soft and scratches really easy. Not good on a gloss black bike. The seat material is also really susceptible to scuffing marks that do not come out easily. When getting on and off the bike, you cannot drag your boot on the seat. Now to the DCT. I wear earplugs while riding so I don't hear the clunking sounds from shifting but I feel them. Accelerating is easy, twist and hold the throttle on, no need to back off a little between gears. Slowing down I have found is something I am not really happy with. Even when riding on roads with a 45-mph speed limit, the bike shifts to 7th gear. When you let off of the throttle, the bike wants to immediately start downshifting and engine braking. It is jerky and slows too fast in some cases. Now you have 6 gears to go through down to 1 as it clunks and jerks at each one. You have to find the sweet spot between power on and power off if you need to speed up a little. The throttle is by wire, not two cables in a push-pull configuration. There is a slop spot with nothing. It is really touchy and takes a steady hand to keep it from jerking when going back to power on. This is when I miss the ability of a clutch to use feathering to smooth it out. When going over bumps during power off times, just the bump

can cause your hand to apply power when you don't want it causing a jerking forward. It is not a deal breaker with all this, it does take time to get used to it. The list of advantages is long and I have mentioned them in previous articles. I am still very happy I chose this bike. Not sure I would get the gloss black if I had to do it again. I think the 2024 White with black and red accents looks pretty sweet.

Another subject, I see a lot of videos of bike crashes. Taken from other vehicles with dash cams or from dash cams on the bikes involved. Most of these do not look good for the rider. Many are cars turning left in front of the bike, either going in the same direction or oncoming. Sad that the car did not see the bike but also a problem that the bikes appear to be going way too fast for the conditions or traffic flow. I worry about this all the time but can honestly say I have not had this happen, even a close call. I tend to be defensive as I ride and keep ample distance and keep my speed down in high traffic conditions. Riding a bike is dangerous, doing it safely is possible and it is up to us to keep our eyes peeled for situations that could cause us trouble. With the colder weather, dress warm, heated gear if you have it, don't ride if the roads could be icy. Take care and we'll see you at the meeting and Christmas party.

Jeff & Cindy

Chapter "A" Stores:



Come see Joe at the meetings! He might just have that perfect sticker, patch, shirt or hat for you.

Joe Leon

Chapter Treasurer



Charlie and Ann Butters

Webmaster



Aftermarket Heated Handgrip wraps for my GL1500.

Mike Briese

Last month I mentioned that I was missing the comfort of the heated handgrips that are on my 2017 GL1800 when I ride my GL1500. I sought out an alternative that did not include OEM handgrip removal.

I found several offerings and ordered three to examine and evaluate. They were all reasonably priced at or below \$25. The first of them arrived on Friday so on the following Sunday I installed them. This set cost \$21.65 after sales tax.



Naturally, it had to be customized to make it fit on the GL1500. The wires were too short between the heat pads to span the handlebars and the power cord would never reach any available power connection. No problem as those kind of modifications are in my wheelhouse.

The three heat settings are all comfortable while in use. The grips warm very well through my Olympia Wind-Tex winter gloves. The 40°, 50° 60° C settings are optimistic at best. I think they reached 110° (43° C) at most.

The second set of grip heaters arrived a day after I installed the fabric heaters with shrink tubing covers. This set didn't need surgery to the wiring to make it all fit. There was more than ample wire length between the heating pads to mount them to the hand grips and reach power.

HEATED GRIPS

131° - 149° F



There are both pros and cons for this style of grip heater. At a price of \$19.77 that would be the first Pro. Second is ease of installation; they wrap around the grip and are held in place with integral Velcro hooks and loops. Third is wiring; no wire modifications were necessary.

As you can see, there is a USB connector on the end of the wire that plugs into a 5 volt supply. That could be a Pro or a Con, depending on how you feel about USB power supplies. In my case it was not a problem, I have some 12 volt to 5 volt/3 Amp adapters from previous projects. You could also use a power socket 12 volt to 5 volt adapter as seen in the far right picture.

The biggest Con to these heated grip wraps, unlike the previous set of grip heaters, there is no temperature control and no way to turn them on or off. They have fair heat but on a normal day here in the Northwest, you may eventually need to turn them off. They did at least reach 100°F.

I have sort of solved the on/off problem by having the USB connection terminate just under the fuel cap access door of my GL1500. I can stop, open the access door, and unplug the grip heaters if necessary. Not exactly convenient. One more possible con, the wrap makes the grips thicker and could cause your clutch lever to not go full travel to the grip. That would prevent the second micro switch from engaging in the clutch lever. That would prevent the bike from starting while it is in gear with the clutch lever pulled in. I also did not care for the lack of an on/off or temperature control.

The third of three sets of hand grip warmers arrived. I installed and tested them.



The installation on the OEM grips was simple. The very flexible wire with integral connectors made this look to be the perfect set of add on grip heaters. I had to do some modification to the controller wires to make them long enough for the installation but that was pretty much expected.

As much as I liked the appearance and ease of installation, they did not come up to expectation for heating. Though the seller touted a 104°F to 158°F capability, they never achieved more than 90°F.

Bottom line, the USB powered grip wraps that I bought and tested were inadequate. Though I used a 12 volt to 5 volt 3 Amp converter, there was not enough power to warm the grips properly.

I settled on the first set of wrap around heaters that had 12 volt input. And, at \$21.65 after tax, they are a pretty good buy.

Mike Bries
WA-A Webmaster



A Hello from Jerry Ostbye!



“Missing you all. Down in beautiful Mexico riding most every day. A day or two on my VTX then a day or two on the Wing.”

Jerry Ostbye



Jerry at the GWTA-WA-A July 2023 meeting with Dianna Hemmi and Jocelyn Piechowiak

Goldwing Preventative Maintenance



Dennis Murphy



Motorcycle Safety



Always perform a visual safety check before starting your Ride.

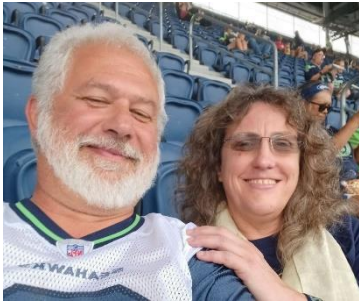
Perform a T-Clock **Motorcycle Safety Checklist**

T-CLOCK stands for:

- * Tires & wheel
- * Controls
- * Lights & electrics
- * Oil & fluids
- * Chassis
- * Kickstand

Ride Safe & Don't miss the Fun”

Sunshine Committee



Jocelyn and Michael Piechowiak

In April 1996 Michael was assigned by Boeing to the Cleveland NASA windtunnel for a project. We were told it would be 6 months to 2 years so we naturally we took our 1989 1500 Berrywine Goldwing with us. We discovered that the local GWRRA chapter met at the restaurant a block from us. So we joined GWRRA and had some fun. During our 10 month stay there, Michael bought a matching trailer. In April 1997 we loaded our bike and trailer and headed back to Seattle. Boeing was only providing 7 nights in a hotel so we tent camped and stayed at relatives for all the other nights. We rode 5500 miles in 28 days. There was snow in almost every state we passed thru so we had to avoid all the mountain passes. We ended up turning north from El Paso TX and rode home via CA 101 just north of Los Angeles. We visited the Carlsbad Caverns, Grand Canyon, Canyon de Chelly, Hoover Dam and stayed at the MGM Las Vegas. We also stopped at the Hearst Castle and drove our bike through one of the famous California redwood trees. In Oregon and Washington, we rode on I5 in pouring rain....Couldn't wait to be home again.

The only true adventure was a late Friday afternoon passing thru Death Valley. As we neared our exit to Ridgecrest CA going uphill, the back tire went flat. We got out our heavy battery cell phone and our GoldBook and made a call. We got lucky. He came with a trailer for the bike and his wife came with a SUV to tow the trailer. The Ridgecrest Tire store was already closed but they lived a few blocks from our hotel. So early Saturday before their chapter ride, they dropped us, the bike and trailer and all our belongings at the tire store. Lucky us again, the tire store opened shortly thereafter and we were on the road again in about 2 hours. We still keep a current GoldBook in our bike.

NOVEMBER :



26th Dianna Hemmi



3rd - Bill and Linda Crain

Join Us on the 4th Saturday of Every Month for our monthly meeting.

Mark Your Calendar..... November 25th.

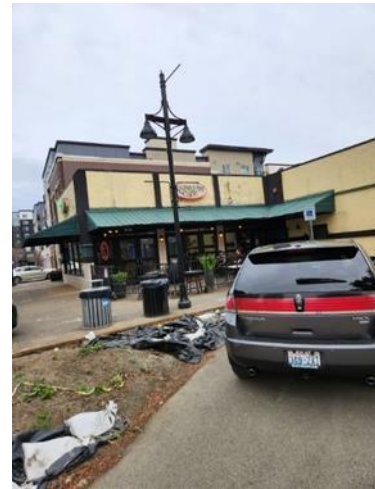
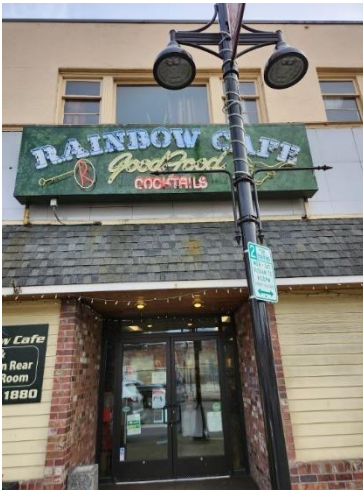
Breakfast starting at 9:00am with meeting following at 10:00am.

Rainbow Cafe Restaurant.

112 E. Main St.
Auburn, WA. 98002
(253) 833-1880

Weather Permitting Rides after the meeting.

Hope to see you there!



Front Entrance to Rainbow Cafe

Rear entrance to Rainbow Cafe

There is limited parking in the front but plenty of parking in the back.

The Famous WA"A" 5 Aces Ride



At Chapter "**A**" We've noticed that 4 months each year have an additional 5th Saturday. Everybody loves getting an extra Saturday, of course. We at Chapter "A" honor those extra Saturdays with an "**Ice Cream Ride**". Come ride with us, on these 5th Saturdays of the month and **we will buy you a cone**. The destinations are unknown unless you have a suggestion.



WA-A Activities

“Chapter “A” is enjoying its 43rd year of Fun”

Upcoming events

November 2023

- ☐ **Nov 4 Saturday** - We will be visiting with WA-Q at **Centerville Cafe.** Breakfast at 8:00, meeting at 9:00. There will be a 7:00 AM departure from the McDonald's at SR512 & I-5 (across from Eagle Leathers) and then wandering down to The Centerville Cafe in Centralia for breakfast with Chapter Q at 8:00 am.
 - ☐ **Nov 11 Saturday** - Visiting with Chapter C in Everett at **Evergreen Lanes** 8:00 am Eat - 9:00 am Meet. We will meet at the Chevron across from the McDonald's Restaurant on 84th and 212th in Kent for a kick stands up time of 7:00 am.
 - ☐ **Nov 25 Saturday** - Seattle Wings monthly breakfast and meeting at the **Rainbow Cafe.** 9:00 am breakfast, 10:00 am meeting. A ride normally follows the meeting.
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December 2023

- ☐ **Dec 2 Saturday** - Chapter WA-A Christmas Party at Bill Crain's Man Cave. Starting at 3:00 pm. Details sent out in an email 11/12/23 from Harry Rossignol. Didn't get it? Let Harry & Claudia Rossignol know.
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Be sure to check our website for details on the big events in 2024.

July 2024

- Jul 14 ~ 15 **Seattle to Portland (STP).**
 - Jul 15~18 - **GOLD RUSH XXXVI: July 15-18, 2024, Bowling Green, KY 42103.**
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September 2024

- Sep 6~9 GWTA Washington District's week after Labor Day Campout at **Squaw Rock Resort.**

Event Flyers can be found on the Chapter “A” website. gwta-waa.com

GWTA WA-C Evergreen Wings 2024 Calendar

Mon Jan 01 New Years Day Ride details are TBD and weather dependent (Walt)
Sat Jan 13 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Jan 13 Chapter C Bowling (details are TBD by Walt) Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Jan 27 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Feb 10 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Feb 10 Chapter C goes to a movie location and movie are TBD by Bill
Tue Feb 20 6:30 Dinner at Café Veloce 12514 120th Ave NE, Kirkland
Sat Feb 24 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sun Feb 25 2pm Game Night then dinner at El Paraiso Everett Elks Lodge, 2802 Hoyt Ave., Everett
Sat Mar 09 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Mar 09 gun range visit & lunch at La Palmera with Bob Northwest Armory, 11714 Airport Rd, Everett
Sat Mar 23 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Mar 30 Chapter A Ice Cream Ride details TBD
Sat Apr 13 8am Breakfast Meeting and Ride Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Apr 13 Ride to Tulip Festival Kiwanis Salmon BBQ w/Howie Hillcrest Park Lodge, 1717 S 13th St, Mount Vernon
Tue Apr 23 6:30 Dinner at Razzals Bar & Grill 9327 4th St NE, Lake Stevens WA
Sat Apr 27 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat May 11 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat May 11 After meeting ride Chuckanut Drive w/Eddie lunch in Bellingham - details TBD
Sat May 18 Day ride to La Conner & Calico Cupboard w/Howie 9am depart from Evergreen Lanes
Fri May 24 May 27 EWMA Blue Mountain Rendezvous Junior Show Grounds, Hwy 11, Milton-Freewater, OR
Sat May 25 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Jun 01 Ride to Green compound in Desert Aire details are TBD
Sat Jun 08 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Jun 08 Ride to Deception Falls w/Bob A (falls are located near Stevens Pass)
Mon Jun 10 Jun 20 Edelweiss Best of Southern France Tour Nice, France
Sat Jun 22 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Tue Jun 25 6:30 Dinner at Grazie Ristorante 23207 Bothell Everett Hwy, Bothell
Sat Jun 29 Chapter A Ice Cream Ride details TBD
Sat Jul 06 Day ride to Neah Bay w/Mike Z 7:30 Meet at Edmonds Ferry dock
Sat Jul 13 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Jul 13 Ride to Winthrop for lunch w/Justin leave from breakfast meeting
Sun Jul 14 STP - Seattle to Portland Bicycle Ride Portland Bridge (Coordinate with Jeff from Chapter A)
Mon Jul 15 Jul 18 GWTA Gold Rush - Bowling Green KY <https://gwta.org/event/gold-rush/>
Mon Jul 15 Jul 22 One week ride to Canadian Rockies (Jasper) 9am depart from Smokey Point Rest Area
Tue Jul 23 6:30 Dinner at Big Lake Bar & Grill 18247 WA-9, Mt Vernon
Sat Jul 27 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Fri Aug 02 Aug 04 Three day Men's Ride to BC (Whistler, Hope) 9am depart from Smokey Point Rest Area
Sat Aug 10 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Aug 10 Three Pass Blast (Hwy 2, 97, 90) w/Walt leave from breakfast meeting
Sat Aug 17 Ride to Artist Point (Mt Baker Hwy) w/Walt 9am depart from Smokey Point Rest Area
Tue Aug 20 6:30 Dinner at Emory's on Silver Lake 11830 19th Ave SE, Everett
Sat Aug 24 Aug 25 Overnight Ride to Government Camp, OR 9am depart from Mariner Park & Ride
Sat Aug 24 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Aug 31 Chapter A Ice Cream Ride details TBD
Fri Sep 06 Sep 09 GWTA Campout weekend Squaw Rock RV Resort & Campground, Naches WA
Sat Sep 14 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Sep 14 Ride to Leavenworth w/Justin leave from breakfast meeting
Sun Sep 22 Oyster Run Anacortes WA
Sat Sep 28 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Oct 12 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sat Oct 12 Ride to Windy Ridge w/DJ (near Mt St Helens)
Tue Oct 22 6:30 Dinner at McMenamin's Bothell 18607 Bothell Way NE, Bothell
Sat Oct 26 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Nov 09 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sun Nov 17 2pm Planning Meeting then go out to eat Everett Powersports - upstairs meeting room
Sat Nov 23 Visit Chapter A Mtg, Rainbow Café, Auburn 8am Mariner Park & Ride, 13132 4th Ave, Everett
Sat Nov 30 Chapter A Ice Cream Ride details TBD
Sat Dec 14 8am Breakfast Meeting Evergreen Lanes, 5111 Claremont Way, Everett
Sun Dec 15 6pm Christmas Party at Village Taphouse & Grill 1204 3rd St, Marysville

More events (rides, social events, etc..) will be added as the info becomes available

If you have an event to be added, please send the info to howiedickerman@outlook.com

EVERYTHING ON THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Motorcycles and / or Parts Buy / Sale

Ads will be listed for three (3) months or until sold!

For GWRRA and GWTA Members Ads Free!

Got something to buy, sell, or trade?

Got something on your wish list?

Got something you wish to give away?

Contact me at jocelynpiechowiak@hotmail.com.

Chapter WA “A” Officers and Staff

Chapter Director (CD)- Harry Rossignol

Assistant Chapter Director (ACD) - Jeff & Cindy Duffield

Webmaster - Mike Brieze

Technical Coordinator (GW Maint Info) - Dennis Murphy

Newsletter Editor – Jocelyn Piechowiak

Phone Tree - Bill Holt

Facebook Coordinator – Jocelyn Piechowiak

Sunshine Committee – Michael and Jocelyn Piechowiak

The Chapter has several positions open and are looking for members with great ideas to fill them.

Ride Coordinator

Activity Coordinator (monthly)

Chapter Historian

Ways & Means Coordinator-Conducts 50/50 drawings, etc

---So Step forward, “volunteer” and join in the fun!

WASHINGTON CHAPTER GATHERINGS

<u>GWTA Chapter</u>	<u>Group Name</u>	<u>Chapter Director</u>	<u>Meeting Date/ Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
WA-A	Seattle Apes	Harry Rossignol Phone (425)351-9481 ACD: Jeff Duffield	4th Saturday Breakfast @ 9:00 AM Gathering @ 10:00 AM	Rainbow Cafe Restaurant 112 E. Main St. Auburn, WA 98002
WA-C	Evergreen Wings	Howie Dickerman (206)571-3273 ACD: Mike Zmiarovich	2 nd Saturday Breakfast @ 08:00AM Meeting @ 09:00AM	Evergreen Lanes 5111 Claremont Way Everett, WA 98203
WA-F	Fun & Friendship Riders	Gary & Vonda Brest (206)852-2625 ACD: Lisa Alberts (253) 350-4594	2 nd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00AM Meeting @ 9:00AM	(Currently Inactive)
WA-Q	The Q Crew	Steve Henson (360)489-5275	1 st Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00AM Meeting @ 9:00AM	Centerville Café 111 N. Tower Ave. Centralia, WA 98532
WA-U	Okanogan Valley Wings	Teri Mitschelen (509)429-1751 ACD: Mel Caylor (509)322-2546	3rd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00AM Meeting @ 9:00AM	Status Unknown
<u>GWRRA Chapter</u>	<u>Group Name</u>	<u>Chapter Director</u>	<u>Meeting Date/ Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
WA-L (High Desert Riders) (Independent)	Kennewick Looney Tunes	Gary Dumas Phone: (509) 551-6133 ACD: Tom Denny (509) 582-8779	2nd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 9:00 AM	Sterling's Restaurant 2500 Queens gate Drive Richland, WA 99352
WA-N (Independent)	Spokane Wing Nuts	Don & Hope Sundahl Phone: (509)993-5501	3rd Saturday Breakfast @ 8:00 AM Gathering @ 8:30 AM	Golden Corral Buffet 7717 N Division St Spokane, WA 99208
WA-R (Independent)	Walla Walla Road Runner	Pat & Von Webb Phone (509) 438-3906 ACD:	1st Saturday Breakfast @ 9:00AM Gathering @ 10:00 AM (Winter Hours)	Clarette's Restaurant 15 S Touchet St. Walla Walla, WA 99362

This list is subject to change except for Chapter A and C.
Please contact the Chapter you wish to visit before going.