



# GWRRA Washington Chapter L

Safety through Knowledge



<http://gwrwa-wa-l.org>

December 2015

## Did I.....?!

by Herb Powers

My wife lets me drive her motorcycle with her on the back! That in my opinion is quite an honor and a heavy responsibility that I take sitting down (pun intended), and is a responsibility I do not take lightly.

I have noticed that when she is nervous or apprehensive, it is because I have created a situation to cause that anxiety. Maybe I am not being smooooth with my steering inputs, rough on my shifting and throttle controls, maybe she has observed I am distracted with the GPS not paying attention to what I should be doing, or I am riding at a pace she is not comfortable with. Regardless, if my Co-Rider is not comfortable, it is probably of my doing.

If we are flying on a passenger airplane, how much control do we have? If we knew the pilots were busy playing with the GPS, tuning the radio, texting on their phone, or just not paying attention at a critical moment during the flight we would be nervous. What about our passenger? You have to admit we probably have more hazards and critical moments that involve other vehicles than say an airline pilot. We should be mindful of our passenger, after all they have skin in the game and no too. They can be second set of eyes and

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Chapter WA-L  
**Christmas Party**  
 December 12  
 Gather at 5:30 Eat at 6:00

Pasco Nazerene Church  
 7305 W Court St, Pasco

\$10 a couple  
 Bring gift for exchange  
 Mark it Male, Female or Generic  
 \$25 limit per gift

It is not mandatory to buy gifts if you come. But you will not be in the gift exchange. We understand money is tight.

Please RSVP to [jloparco@charter.net](mailto:jloparco@charter.net) or sign up on the sign up sheet.

**Come join in the festivities!**

Have a question about upcoming events?  
Call Phil or Joyce LoParco (509) 582-6994.

[The For Sale/Want to Buy](#)  
has been moved to the Web Site.

ears and another observer in keeping us safe. Maybe I am missing something! I have a goal.... I want to be a passenger on the back of a 2 wheeler, for the reason I think it is important for a rider to understand what a passenger has to endure to ride on the back.

Here recently my wife and I took a ride in California on Highway 1. We came across a motorcyclist that was in distress traveling the opposite direction on a twisty steep hilly section of road. I was so anxious to turn around and help that fellow rider I did a 0mph U-turn drop. And not in a good section of road. After hastily verifying she was not injured I got her up and had her get out of harm's way while I re-righted the motorcycle. Before she got back I noticed a hesitation from her, and rightly so. After checking to make sure all was unharmed we went back to help that fellow rider.

In a critical moment, I forgot to ride my own motorcycle. My wife now full of confidence her husband really was a moron, she got back on the motorcycle anyway. That my fellow readers took some hoostpah!

Before I get on my motorcycle for a ride, I try and stop for a moment in order to focus my mind upon what I am about to engage in. Some of the tasks I need to accomplish in preparation of riding a motorcycle successfully, and safely.

How about my T-CLOCES (Tires, Controls, Lights, oil, Chassis, Side stand). Here recently at an ARC, one of my students mentioned doing an inspection while they washed their motorcycle. I had intended to ask them a follow up question on what exactly they were alluding to. Although I understood what they were saying, and they were right. We get a close up and personal inspection of our motorcycles when we wash them. Our bikes may give us an indication when something is failing, or about to fail (front fork seals for example).

I try and imagine what a safe and successful ride should look and feel like. I imagine smooooth operation of controls (shifting, rolling on throttle, squeeeeezeing the front brake, smooooth steering inputs). I try and visualize what it would look like, how it will feel, and how I will react if....(you fill in the blank). How a swerve will be carried out in order for sudden change in direction if needed, how it will feel to squeeeeeze my front brake and press my rear brake, in order to slow or (occasionally) come to a complete stop, and occasion how maximum braking will be carried out successfully on my motorcycle if the situation arises.

When I come to a gas station to fill up I have a ritual I use in order to be sure I don't forget anything

important. I use my side stand to shut my bike down, remove my gloves placing them on my fairing, turn off the ignition removing the key to unlock my fuel lid, put my key back in to the ignition, remove my fuel cap placing it on my gloves unzip zippered jacket breast pocket take my wallet out, remove my credit card swipe card replacing card back in wallet placing it back in zippered breast pocket in jacket, pump gas, replace gas nozzle, put gas cap back on close lid put gloves on, side stand up squeeze clutch light off motorcycle, and I'm back on the road. This way I don't have to fiddle with anything once I am back on the road.

Now did I remember to close the zipper on my breast pocket that contains my wallet.....  
Safe riding Y'all!

# MY ENTHUSIASM COUNTS!

“Enthusiasm is excitement with inspiration, motivation and a pinch of creativity.” Bo Bennett, Entrepreneur and Businessman Extraordinaire. We were talking with last year’s recipient of the MEC of the Year award, Steve and Billie Fleming, and Steve shared that title phrase with us. For Steve, the letters MEC not only stand for Membership Enhancement Coordinator, but also remind him that “ My Enthusiasm Counts”!!

What does that mean to you and to us as an organization? Well, it’s pretty simple, really. Think about it –we see the Chapter Directors as the “captain of the boat”, if you will, steering the Chapter in a positive and productive direction. Many of the Chapter members will look to the Directors to provide the impetus for the Chapter to grow and thrive. But the Chapter Directors can’t do it alone! They need someone on the boat who can unfurl the sails, get the oars going, and help ensure that the boat is headed in a direction that creates FUN for the passengers. And that’s where the Chapter MEC comes in.

We trust you have had the opportunity to review the position descriptions posted in the Officer Resources section of the GWRRA website. The Chapter MEC description encourages the MECs to “Promote involvement within the membership as the Chapter ‘cheerleader’”. The MECs are the “FUN Expert” in the Chapter, the ones the Chapter Director turns to for assistance with creating FUN within the Chapter events, be it the monthly gathering, Chapter rides, the Chapter rally or fundraiser, recognizing members or any other chapter activity. Does that mean that the MEC has to do everything themselves? Of course not! What the Chapter MEC brings to the mix is their creativity, their capacity to “think outside the box” to create new ideas, and their boundless enthusiasm. And when the MEC demonstrates their enthusiasm, others are drawn into participation, which means more FUN!!!

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their enthusiasm, others are drawn into participation, which means more FUN!!! We’ve all heard the phrase, “the more, the merrier”, and that can certainly apply here. Bring your enthusiasm, and others will surely follow. They will want to participate in that FUN that you are creating.

And this doesn’t stop at the Chapter level! Enthusiasm at the District and Region levels can go a long way to creating committed, involved, enthusiastic members who are willing to step up to become part of the FUN.

We were presenting a seminar at Wing Ding, and we mentioned that every event in GWRRA is driven by people continued from page 1 volunteering their time and enthusiasm to make things happen, and how much FUN it creates as a result. One of the attendees said, “You mean we can actually volunteer to help out? That would be GREAT!” We sent them to an area where we knew assistance would be welcomed, and they were received with open arms. Their enthusiasm counted! And when they tell their Chapter friends about how much FUN they had serving at Wing Ding, their enthusiasm will serve to get others involved, creating a continually growing TEAM of committed, involved, passionate members who will step up and make each Wing Ding even better than the one before.

So, the next time you find yourself wondering about your contributions to GWRRA, just whisper softly to yourself, “My Enthusiasm Counts”. The more you repeat that phrase, the more you’ll recognize the difference that you make in the GWRRA organization. You’ll find it growing into a rallying cry that energizes everyone around you.

## MY ENTHUSIASM COUNTS!!!

Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm  
John & Barb Pons Montana GWRRA

## PEAK EXPERIENCES

### Become a published Author

Everyone has had many great PEAK EXPERIENCES in their lives. Most were happy EXPERIENCES and could even be INSPIRATIONAL. Sometimes the sad ones can be INSPIRATIONAL too.

Here is a great opportunity for you to share these EXPERIENCES and become a published author too!!

INSPIRATIONAL PEAK EXPERIENCES are collecting your experiences and publishing them in EBOOKS for all to read. Not only will you get 5 free copies of the EBOOK but you will also share in the profits.

Just go to [inspirationalpeakexperiences.com](http://inspirationalpeakexperiences.com) and get all of the information.

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## November Awards

### Good Guy

*Don Eide*

### Ooops

*Mike Turner*

### Show for the Dough

*Russ Akers*

### 50/50

*Diana Domas*

### Free Breakfast

*Bess Messinger*

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## Show for the Dough

Chapter L Members Only

Incentive to wear your Colors and Vest with Pride!

Pot starts at \$20.00

Each month it is not won \$5.00 is added

**RULES**

1) Chapter, District and Region shirt (Present Color) & vest. Winner gets DOUBLE the POT!

2) Chapter, District and Region shirt only (Present Color) or new members under 90 days membership (shirt & vest not required) wins the POT!

3) Members that are present but not wearing chapter attire win half the pot. Thanks for coming!

Members please remind CD if there is a new member among us so their name can be placed in the drawing!

You Got to Show If You Want The Dough

## December 2015

Date	Chapter	Event	Registration/Flyers
5	WA-L	<b>Joe &amp; Sharon Winters 40th Anniversary</b> 7:00-10:30PM American Legion, 1029 W. Sylvester NO GIFTS: Bring finger food Stone Country Band	
12	WA-L	<a href="#"><u>Christmas Party</u></a>	
12	WA-L	<a href="#"><u>Chapter Meeting</u></a>	
12	<a href="#"><u>WA-D</u></a>	Festival Of Lights Montesano, Wa	

## January 2016

Date	Chapter	Event	Registration/Flyers
1		Happy New Year	
9	WA-L	<a href="#"><u>Chapter Meeting</u></a>	
	<a href="#"><u>WA-X</u></a>	Motorcycle Swap Meet	
23	<a href="#"><u>WA-I</u></a>	25th Casino Night at Camp Murray	<a href="#"><u>Registration</u></a>



Gold Wing Road Riders Assoc.



# WA Chapter Staffs

## Washington Chapter "L"

*Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge*

<http://www.gwrra-wa-l.org/>

Russ & Chris Akers	<b>Chapter Director</b> 509-378-2918
Mike & Janet Turner	<b>Assist Ch. Director</b> 509-845-1069 c.
Gary & Diana Domas	<b>Assist Ch. Director</b> 509-582-7214
Herb Powers	<b>Chapter Educator</b> 509-545-9341
Gaylene Powers	<b>Treasurer</b> ---
---	<b>Secretary</b> ---
Don Eide	<b>Membership</b> 509-531-7849
Tom & Santana Denny	<b>Couple of the Year</b> 509-582-8779
Jerry Denny	<b>Individual of the Year</b> 509-308-1979
Bill Pitzer	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> 509-735-7181
Donna Whiteside	<b>Sunshine Person</b> 509-943-9828 h.
Mark Blake	<b>Store keeper</b> 509-438-3513
---	<b>Special Events</b> ---
---	<b>Phone Tree</b> ---
Georgia Finley	<b>Historian</b> 509-948-2965 c./ 509-783-9789 h.
Bill Pitzer	<b>Web Master</b> 509-735-7181
---	<b>Public Relations</b> ---
Jerry Denny	<b>Chapter Photographer</b> 509-308-1979

## Gold Wing Road Rider Association

*Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge*

<http://www.gwrra.org>

### Region "I" Staff

<http://www.bigskyregioni.org/>

Region Directors	Terry & Cheri Huffman
Assistant Directors	Don & Sharon Weber
Assistant Directors	---
Assistant Directors	---
Ride Educator	Don Eide
Instructor Coordinators	Eric Carlson
Motorist Awareness	Mike & Janet Turner
Treasurer	Dianna & Fred Borke
Membership Enhancement	Gerry & Maxine Alexander
Coordinator	
Leadership Trainers	John & Dianne Kester
Region I Ambassadors	Mike & Lynn Briggs
Region I Ambassadors	Hank & Marilyn Smith
Couple of the Year	---
Webmaster	Mark Bridge
Newsletter Editor	Marla Muirbrook

### Washington District Staff

<http://www.gwrra-wa.org/>

District Directors	Reggie and Chuck Porter
Assistant Directors	Garry and Maxine Alexander
Assistant Directors	Wally & Anna Wallingford
District Treasurer	Bob and Patty Spencer
Membership Coordinator	Gerry & Maxine Alexander
Rider Educator	Dennis and Terri Black
Asst. Rider Educator	Tom and Santana Denny
District Leadership Trainer	Roy and Pearl McKenzie
District MAD Coordinator	Vic Parr
District Webmaster	John and Barb Smith
District Coy Coordinator	Ted and Debbie Moore
Couple of the Year	Ron and Violet Urquart
West District Ambassadors	Jerry and Judy Thompson
East District Ambassadors	Gary & Diana Domas
District Newsletter editor	Lisa Pearson