



ROGUE VALLEY WINGS NEWSLETTER

December Minutes 2011
December Newsletter

<http://gwta-oregon.org/A-calendar.htm>

January Birthdays:

- Sue Bradley - 9th
- Steve McAvoy - 25th
- Linda Thomas - 25th
- Bill Bradley - 26th

January Anniversaries:

None to announce!

I am looking for a volunteer to do the newsletter. I am willing to do any training needed. Please call Judy 541-324-2781 if you are interested. I have a volunteer for backup for the website. It is Bill Erickson who does Chapter M's website. Thank you, Bill. (I have had a computer crash, so no pictures.)

Chapter M's next meeting is January 28, 2012, see calendar for place and time.

Upcoming Rides:

DATE(S)	EVENT(S)	TIME(S)/CHAPTER	PLACE(S)
Date Day	What	When	Where
December 17, 2011 Saturday	Rogue Valley Wings Meeting	8:30 AM - Breakfast 9:30 AM - Meeting 10:30 AM - Ride (weather permitting)	Get directions to: Black Forest Restaurant 820 NE E St Grants Pass 541-474-2353
January 21, 2012 Saturday	Rogue Valley Wings Meeting	8:30 AM - Breakfast 9:30 AM - Meeting 10:30 AM - Ride (weather permitting)	Get directions to: Black Forest Restaurant 820 NE E St Grants Pass 541-474-2353
January 28, 2012 Saturday	Chapter "M" meeting	9:00 AM, Ride to follow weather permitting.	Black Bear Diner 1150 E. Barnett Rd., Medford, OR
February 2012	21st Anniversary of Chapter A	"Let's Celebrate"	TBA

CHRISTMAS PARADE 2011

It is the season to be jolly, deck the halls with boughs of holly, kissing under the mistletoe, decorating, hide and seek in the fog, cold rides on our iron ponies [usually one-horse open sleighs not included, because we have hundreds of horses], and eating those delicious holiday treats. Sounds good?

The Grants Pass Christmas Parade was held on Saturday, December 3, 2011. We [The Rogue Valley Wings] decided to participate this year. There were about 17 bikes and trikes who participated from our club in the parade.

Many of us met at Sizzler to have an early dinner before lining up for the parade. After filling our bellies, like fake Santa's wiggling like Jell-O, we rolled out and crawled on our bikes. Figured if we ate a lot, it would keep us warm. Needless to say we ate way too much and it didn't help to heat the body at all.

We went to Bank of America's parking lot to get placed and waited for the parade to start at 7:00. We were 19th in the parade lineup. From what I could see, there was another motorcycle group [little to no decorations], floats, bands, horses, dogs, remote vehicles, fire trucks and many other interesting participants. I am uncertain what the parade looked like except those who were lined up close to us. Since we were in the parade, we didn't get to take pictures so if you weren't there you missed the festivities.

Now I just want all of you, who did not participate, to know it was between 27 and 34 degrees, slight arctic breeze, in and out fog and mist. I have not decided if we motorcyclists are really excited about the holidays, ate so much our arteries in our brains were clogging up, or if we are just plain stupid for riding in that type of weather. Probably all of the above. Most of us did dress warm enough, but there were a few that after a few minutes wished they had layered better or stayed indoors where it was warm.

Cindy had made those who wanted them, Santa Hats for over our helmets. They were great. We decorated our iron ponies with all the Christmas gala, lights, garland, bells, and other accessories. Some pulling sleighs loaded with toys. We all looked like we had just left Santa's workshop at the North Pole.

What amazed me most were all of the people who ventured out to watch the parade. Most of the crowd was small children. I hope they don't get sick. Everyone seemed to have a good time despite the cold weather. One thing about this area, you can tell what people do in their spare time when they are not working from all the kids I saw.

When the parade was over, we all scattered and went home to thaw out. Some of us had a long way to go like Bud clear to Canyonville [Nancy brought the van], Dave and Cindy to Glendale [however, they cheated and tailored their trike so they didn't get the thrill of the long cold ride home] "Only Smart ones in the bunch," Carmen and Marty to Sunny Valley, Dick, Joyce, Dave and Donna to Cave Junction, Wagys to Williams, and the rest of us scattered around the valley. Although I am not sure where some of you live, I know most are over 10 miles from the parade route. In any event, we all had COLD rides.

All I can say is, those who missed the exhilarating experience this year, if it is not raining next year, we may try it again. If so, YOU ALL have to be brave and come join us. Those who play together, eat

together, ride together, stay together needs to all be brain dead together. We don't want any hold outs. It is not nice to have rational bikers in our group to make the rest of us look bad.

I hope you all had a good time and hopefully the next ride we all go on will be in the Spring when it is warm. I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and many other wonderful days to come riding, enjoying, and being with our little "Biker Family".

Sharon Starke

Rogue Valley Wings General Meeting December 17, 2011

Ken opened the meeting with 35 members and 2 guests in attendance. He thanked everyone for coming in on this cold morning. He introduced Ruth and presented her a check for \$400.00 to go toward the food bank. He asked her to talk about the trials they are facing. ROC stands for Reaching Our Community. They run the food pantry. She explained the tough times we are having here in Jo County. They used to help up to 1500 families and this year it is in the 4000s. They have need for clothing, coats, food and much more. This check for \$400 will help them right now. Those who can help seem to come through when they are down to bare shelves. Her thank you to us was heart felt.

Ken introduced our guests who are Della's son D.J. and his girlfriend.

Although there weren't many rides this month due to the cold temperatures, Ken did talk about the Christmas Parade in Grants Pass. We had 17 bikes that came in to make this ride. The temperature was hovering around 32 degrees and it felt very cold. The amount of people that came down to watch this was amazing. We all had a wonderful time.

Joyce wanted to put together and post dates for our potlucks. The Anderson's are having a potluck today. The club will do a Jan. 1st ride and meet at Abby's before going home. If the weather is terrible, just come to lunch. The Starke's will have their Super Bowl party and potluck the first weekend of Feb. The Armstead's usually have the Sticky Bun potluck and brunch in Feb. Those are the parties that are coming up. Anyone who would like to host a potluck in March or April please let us know. These are a wonderful way to get together during the inclement times.

Bud Saber talked about this last year's rides and campouts. We packed a lot of outings into a few months. He complimented Chapter A for planning so much fun. We also had those "spur of the moment" rides where an e-mail goes out the day before somebody wants to ride and the bikes just come out of the woodwork to participate. Bud said that Chapter M has a new CD and is hoping they will get things going better now. We are all pulling for them.

Sue said she finds this to be a wonderful group of people and is glad to be part of it. We all agree with her.

Larry wanted to know where the old albums went and we all had a few ideas. He would like a fun way to display some of the old pictures. All ideas will be taken into consideration.

Marty said the two wheel 1800s need to keep a lookout for a recall on the rear breaks. Richard said they haven't sent out a solution yet.

Ken reminded us that next month we will start passing around the donation can again. We all like that better than fund raisers.

The 50/50 drawing was won by John Koughan for \$55.00. Way to go!!

Meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Carmen Warren
Secretary