



THE BEEMER BEAT

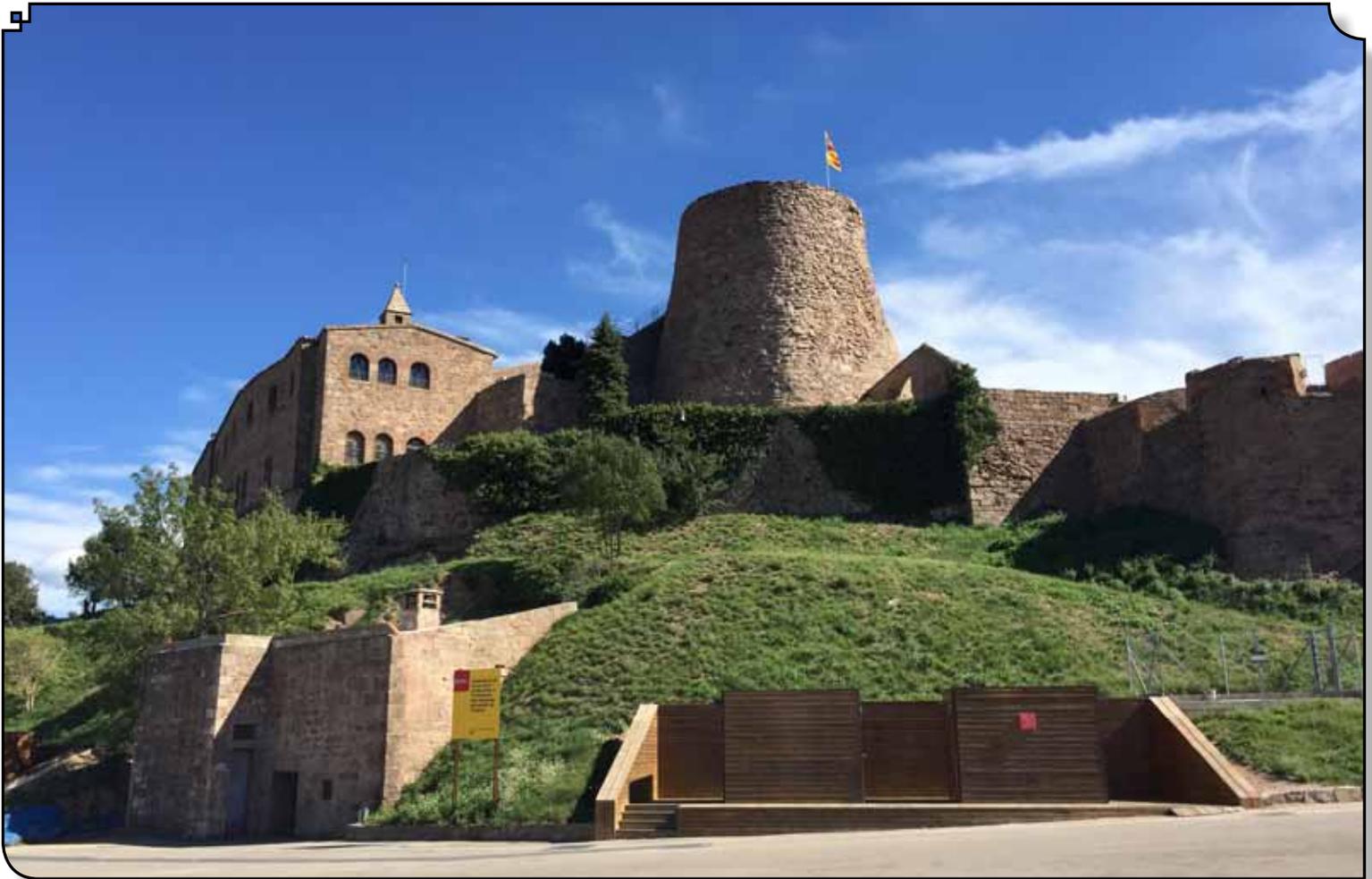
Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



November, 2015

Volume 39, Issue #11

Founded 1976 - Charter #83, BMW Motorcycle Owners of America



Jay & Janet Bennet's Spain adventure continues

photo by Jay Bennett

**Second half of Jay
Bennett's Spain
adventure**

see pages 2,6 & 7

Winter Celebration

November 21 at the Oregon
Garden Resort in Silverton

**The Golden Rider
Award**

Details on page 4

Spain Motorcycle Touring

by Jay Bennett

Tuesday 15 Sept – Santander to Cervera

Our day starts out rather normal with a little highway riding near the coast then heading into interior and country roads. Also the weather starts out normal but turns nasty by afternoon. Apparently a storm from America, named, Henji, has found its way to Europe and it is *not* motorcycling weather. The rain and wind increase to where it is truly getting dangerous to ride. By the time we get to our hotel it's blowing like 40 mph and raining in buckets. We walk into the resort hotel and the reception desk people look at us like we are crazy, a bit stupid and didn't we get the message a storm was coming. We point out we are BMW riders and naturally have a dauntless temperament (as we shiver and drip on his beautiful lobby floor). The hotel and a warm shower are a welcome sight.

A side note about the Spanish Road System

The roads in Spain are probably the best I have ever ridden. Austria and Germany are probably in the same category but I think Spain is actually ahead. The "A" roads or freeways are well marked, smooth as a billiard table, and have terrific guard railings (hopefully not needed). One hundred-twenty KPH seems to be the maximum posted speed on the open road but no one seems bothered by anyone going modestly faster. The country roads and highways are equally smooth and well-marked. Speed limits in towns are strictly watched and adhered to but the country side is little more relaxed on the speed limit adherence. Also they have only the barest (and yet reasonable with regards to safety) amount of non-passing areas in the mountains allowing motorcycles to use their acceleration and narrowness to pass in areas for which the USA would never be allowed. Imagine actually using the power of motorcycle to its advantage instead of some road engineer deciding to mark no passing zone based on the lowest common denominator (don't even get me started on those motorhome drivers with their rolling roadblocks....oh yeah I am one) like we do in the "Land of the Free". The roads are a big plus and worth the trip by themselves.

Another side note on the bike we rode

The 2015 R1200GS we are riding is impressive with the best (aka greatest) power I have seen from a boxer. The delivery of that power is also superb. It pulls smoothly from 2000 rpm to it's redline of 9,000. The drive modes are great as you can tailor the ride

and power for a situation. In rain mode the power is smooth and supple (nice during hairpin corners in wet conditions), and in "Dynamic" it's awesome to pass with very few gear changes. Going uphill from hairpins in 1st and 2nd gear, I learn to roll on the throttle aggressively, knowing the traction control will manage any slippage and carry the front wheel to just barely surf above the road. The Electronic Suspension Adjustment, ESA, was excellent and did exactly what I wanted on the narrow bumpy roads that needed good compliance and then could be tailored with a flick of the modes for fast, controlled cornering at high speeds. Did I mention we had two people, luggage, high altitudes, high speed highways, and narrow country roads and that the bike managed it all wonderfully. Even the rider's seat was good, which in my 20 years of GS riding is the first time I thought it was as comfortable as a 1970s UJM Honda seat. The passenger seat got a mixed review for its lack of padding from Janet. My only strong objections are the GPS mount and the Vario bags, as I feel they are too delicate and complicated for their intended missions. If I was buying this bike the aftermarket would get my vote with a Touratech or equivalent article for these items instead.

Wednesday 16 Sept – Cervera to Pamplona

The weather report the next morning says last night's storm is moving east. So hopefully we can do a later check-out and ride east behind the storm. We leave around 10 am but catch the storm and it's rain and gusting wind, but keep riding (with a fair amount of apprehension). At one point we meet up with a motorcycle tour group looking forlorn under cover in a small town putting on rain gear and finding temporary shelter. We play leapfrog with them for the better part of an hour and then the rain quits. At one point we are on single lane paved country road and find a small

[\[Continues on page 6\]](#)



Bodegas Marques de Riscal



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

Event: **Winter Celebration and Quarterly Meeting**

Date/Time: November 21st, 2015

Location: Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, OR

Description: Join BMWRO club members for our Annual Winter Celebration to be held at the Oregon Gardens Resort in Silverton, Oregon. To sign up for the event see the club calendar at: http://www.bmwro.org/content.aspx?page_id=2&club_id=301799. For questions or help email Janet Bennett at jlennett60@gmail.com or call **541-745-5838** and leave a message. Dinner for club members is \$15 per person; Associate or Nonmembers \$30 per person. The cutoff for dinner sign-up is November 12, 2015.

There will be a meet and greet at 5:30 p.m. in the Lounge, dinner starts at 6:30 followed by a short club meeting. We will not be having a "White Elephant" gift exchange this year. Make it a weekend by booking a room at the resort. The resort is holding rooms for both Friday and Saturday night; guest rooms are \$99.00 plus tax (1-2 people per room). **Must reserve room before October 19, 2015 to receive this price and to guarantee a room.** Room Rate includes breakfast in the morning and Garden admission. Rooms with pet allowances are available. Call the Resort for further information. Participants can book online or call the reservation department at the Oregon Garden Resort **503-874-2500** and reference **"BMWRO15"**. If you would like to book online, just follow this link: www.oregongardenresort.com. Guests will be prompted for a group code which is: **BMWRO2015**. Please follow the steps below to make online reservations:

1. Under "your place to dream" enter dates of stay, rooms needed, and number of guests for reservation.
2. Click "Book now"
3. Under dates you will see "Have a Promo or Group code? Enter it now"
4. Input Group Code (**BMWRO2015**.)
5. Click "update"
6. Group block will open with room options that are available.
7. Choose option and click "add to cart"

Contact: Janet Bennett, jlennett60@gmail.com or call **541-745-5838**

Event: **January Beach Bash**

Lounge and bar at the Oregon Garden Resort



Date/Time: January 15, 2016 through January 17

Place: Driftwood Shores Resort, Florence, Oregon
88416 1st Avenue — (541) 997-8263

Description: This traditional January Beach Bash will be at the wonderful Driftwood Shores Resort in Florence, Oregon. For those of you that have not attended this event before, Driftwood Shores is located right on the beach with each room facing the ocean. You can walk right out the hotel and walk for miles on the beach. The resort has an indoor swimming pool, hot tub and restaurant on-site. The club has also reserved a Hospitality Suite with kitchen and fireplace for social gatherings during this event.

Social Time in Hospitality Room: 4:30 p.m.

Banquet and Bash: 6:30 p.m. (Conference Room)
Catered buffet dinner Saturday night including prime rib, salmon and chardonnay chicken, garlic mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad and dessert. The club will pick up half of the cost of the meal.

Member cost: \$15.00
Associate Members & Guests: \$30.00

Room Rates: 1 Queen Bedroom \$79.00/night plus tax
2 Queen Bedroom \$121.00 per night plus tax

Costume Theme: Sports (the more outrageous the better)

Meeting: After dinner, we will have the first official club meeting of the new year and introduction of the new club officers for 2016. After the meeting, the recipient of the Golden Rider Award will be announced and prizes awarded to the gal and guy with the best costume.

Contact: Deborah Kaechele at deborahkaechele@yahoo.com. Payment for dinner will be collected at the event. **RSVP by January 4, 2016** if you plan to attend this event.

Recurring Events

Event: **Central Oregon 2nd Saturday**
Date/Time: Second Saturday of each month
Location: Various ride and lunch locations in the Central Oregon Region.
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com
541-647-7194

Event: **Central Western Region 1st Saturday Ambassador Ride**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month, Meet at 8:30 a.m., will leave parking lot at 9:00 a.m.
Location: European Motorcycles of Western Oregon
Description: Various routes.
Contact: Jim Breen, **541-912-4500** or jpbinOR@aol.com or Bob Metzger **608-642-1186** bobmetzger51@gmail.com

Event: **Southern Oregon 1st Saturday**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month
Location: Various lunch/breakfast and ride locations for southern Oregon members.
Contact: Dan Hall, dnehall@frontier.com

Event: **NW Oregon 1st Saturday Ride**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month
Location: Various breakfast and ride locations in the Northwest Oregon Region.
Description: Finding the twisties and connecting with our membership for grins and food sharing.
Contact: David Peterson **503-327-5592** dwpeterson01@yahoo.com
Susan Ortiz-Renteria **503-779-7842** dirtsquirt816@gmail.com

Event: **Eugene 1st Saturday Coffee**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month 9:00 to 11:00 am.
Location: Eugene BMW store, 2891 W. 11th Ave
Contact: Jim Breen **(541) 912-4500**, jpbinor@aol.com

Event: **Doc Wong Riding Clinic**
Date/Time: Second Saturday of each Month, 9:00 am
Location: Mr. Ed's Moto: 414 Queen Avenue, Albany
Contact: Don Weber **541-791-5142** don@mredsmoto.com



The Golden Rider Award

It's time, once again, to pass the Golden Rider Award to a fellow member who has done something goofy while riding his/her bike. Traditionally this Award is presented at the Florence Beach Bash and costume party in January—but if the nominee who wins is not present, this questionable trophy will find its way to that person—as a club, we watch out for one another, don't 'cha know.

Roger Paquette has already published one story about **Bruce Moses** (titled "A Cautionary Tale" on page 11 of the August, 2015 *BEEMER BEAT*) doing something embarrassing while trying not to be found out about it. Perhaps you have a story to share about another member—or even about yourself—that would be Trophy-worthy. Submit it to the BMWRO Club Vice President, Ed Foltyn bmwro.vp@gmail.com before January 4, 2016 and attend the January Beach Bash at the Driftwood Shores in Florence, Oregon, on January 15 to receive the award.

NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Eric Lieberman, Portland, OR 2015 BMW F700GS

Contributors to the Beemer Beat love to receive feed back from the readers. Send your comments to the editor at bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com for the next publication of the Beemer Beat—Roger Paquette does this all the time.

Photographers: send your high resolution images that are publish-worthy with a photo caption to the editor, Forest, or place them at [Dropbox](#) and send a link to the editor using this email: bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com.

Unfamiliar with Dropbox?
Call Forest at (514) 761-2320 and she will help you get acquainted with the online interface.



FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:

[HTTP://BMWRO.ORG](http://BMWRO.ORG)

Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

If you are interested in any of the above, just visit our website and download. www.bmwro.org

BMWRO Club Officials

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Jay Bennett (541-760-0675)
bmwro.pres@gmail.com

Vice President:

Ed Foltyn, (503-577-9154)
bmwro.vp@gmail.com

Secretary:

Alice LeBarron, (541-647-7194)
bmwro.secretary@gmail.com

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Activities

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bmwro.vp@gmail.com

Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

Central Western Region

(South of Salem, including Eugene & Oakland from the coast to the Cascades).

Jim Breen—541-912-4500
jpbinor@aol.com

Bob Metzger—608-642-1186
bobmetzger51@gmail.com

Central & Northeast Region

(East of The Dalles, including I-84 to Ontario, south of Columbia River to US 20, Baker City & including US 20 to LaPine. Includes Camp Sherman/Bend/Redmond/Sisters & Prineville area).

Alice LeBarron—541-647-7194
alicelebarron@hotmail.com

Southern Region

(Oakland, OR into California. The coast through Klamath Falls).

Dan Hall—541-862-7411
dnehall@frontier.com

Northwest Region

(from Longview, WA south through Salem, OR, the coast to the Cascades, including The Dalles).

David W. Peterson—503-327-5592
dwpeterson01@yahoo.com & www.wfodave.smugmug.com

Michael Ripley—503-648-0578
gobeezer@live.com

Please call or email your regional Ambassador for club outings and rally information.
We can assist you with learning more about BMWRO

(Continued from page 2)

castle and ancient settlement. From the looks of it, the Romans or Moors first built this place, but now newer houses are going in below and around the historical site. Spain seems to honor its past while living the in the present very well. The midday ride is the Spanish Wine Country with a stop at an incredibly artsy winery called **Bodegas Marques de Riscal**. The exterior and interior are fantastically crafted with shapes and color to excite the eye (but my engineer inner voice says it could have been built far more efficiently, oh well some sacrifices for art are understandable).

We keep heading west into the large valley of foothills in the Pyrenees where Pamplona is located. In the middle ages it was a strategic outpost to prevent other Europeans from invading; later on they took up running from bulls in the town for excitement. We find our hotel in the downtown area. In Pamplona we trace the **“Running of the Bulls”** route, even getting group pictures at both the corral, from which they start, and the Bull Ring where they finish. The route is about a quarter of a mile but narrow with cobblestone streets. The route is a normal tourist area at this time with T-shirt shops and restaurants. The businesses, of course, play off the bull theme with all sorts of neat items like a shirt with holes and fake blood and an

appetizer from a lower, back appendage of the bull—which only a bull has..... (a culinary treat for me to pass on). I have no idea why someone would run with bulls chasing them in a narrow street but it has got to be lifelong memory (assuming they survive; seven didn't this year).

The Spanish People

We met with many people in the 19 days in the country. It must be a law to be nice to tourists. Even when we made our lame attempts at their language(s)—we ran into Spanish, Basque, Catalanian and French—people were helpful and nice to us. Particularly people around Barcelona seem to be happy, and happy to help others. We were warned that no matter how little a person knows about geography they will give you directions trying to be helpful. The only group of people you had to watch out for were other tourists.

Thursday 17 Sept – Pamplona to Escunhau

Leaving Pamplona the next morning we headed down the motorway for some 25 miles then into the Pyrenes. We set our sights on our promised lunch spot

(Continues on page 7)



Waterfalls as seen from Parador de Blelsa resort

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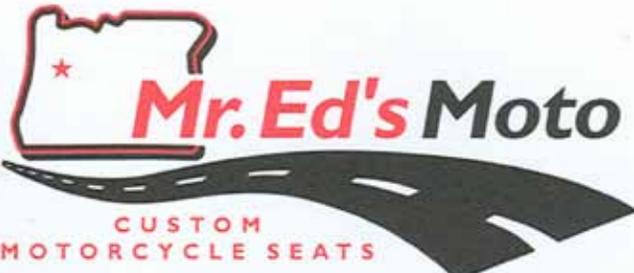
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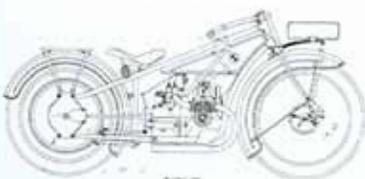
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Random photos at BMWRO Brunch, hosted by Scott and Carol Lamper in Forest Grove OR 10/03/2015

photos by Roger Paquette



high in the mountains at **Parador de Bielsa** resort. It had 18 water falls within sight of our lunch patio spot in the small high altitude hotel. The rock cliffs were running perfectly from the recent rains under a blue sunny sky. Lunch was usual “great-but-different”—my lunch was a three layer sandwich with bacon slices, ham, and chicken fillet with an over-easy egg in a hole in the 3rd bread slice (kind of a Mediterranean Club Sandwich and money maker for your heart doctor). We then headed higher into the mountains and passed through a 1.6 mile tunnel into France. Janet and I did not realize we were even in a new country until the lady in a store said “merci” (thank you in French) instead of the usual gracias. The roads in the French Pyrenes are not as nice with a bumps and patches. The hairpin turns are rough and take more concentration to negotiate. As we

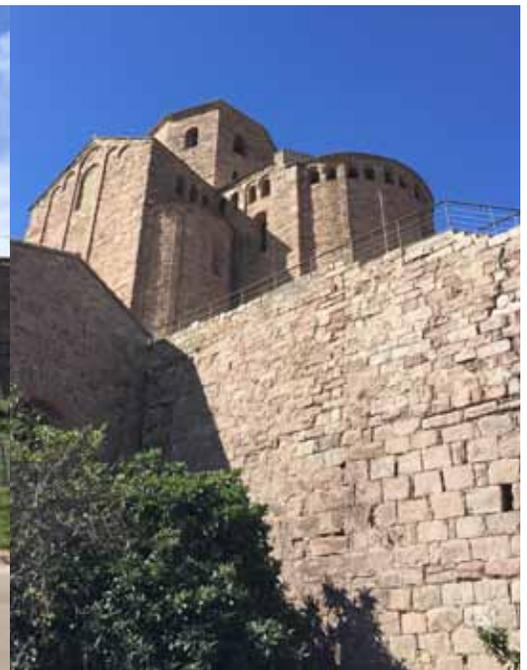
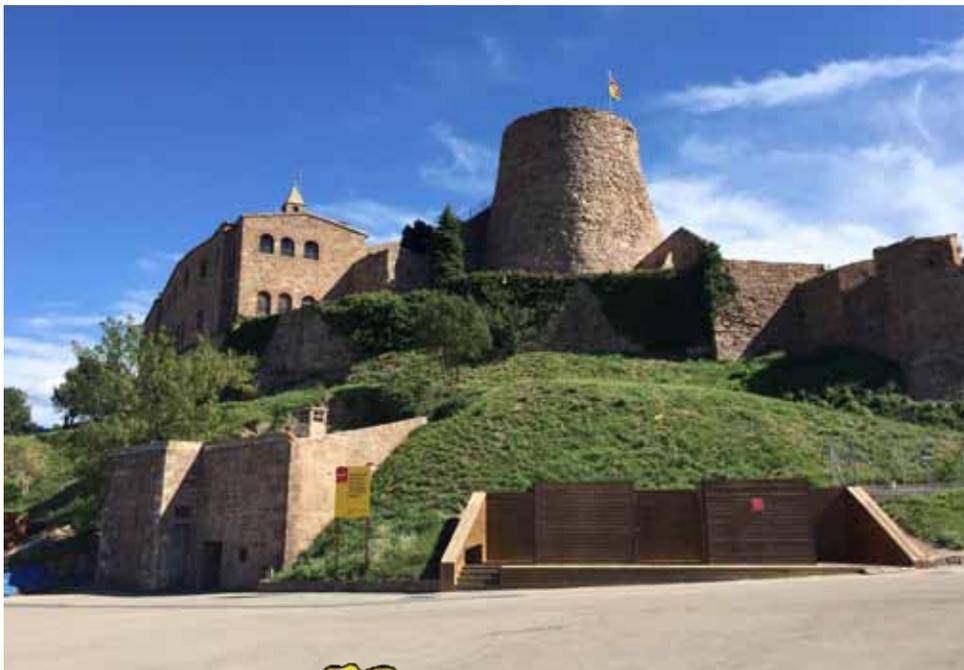
headed back over the pass, it began to rain and it took clutch slipping in the tight corners to move this half ton of people, bags and bike through the corner and accelerate up the straights. We make the ski resort town of **Vielha** and then **Escunhau**. The hotel is a small, cozy ski lodge with what seems to be a family run atmosphere. The food is awesome with a soup to die for and breakfast to spread your belt a notch.

Friday 18 Sept – Vielha to Barcelona Return

Breakfast in resort the next morning was opulent and delicious (especially the baked goods) as we did our usual carbo loading for the day’s adventure. Being our last day on the bike we headed down out of the mountains into the flat lands. But before we got back to reality, we had one more treat. We visited a well preserved castle turned

hotel called **Parador de Carmona**. This is a 14th century Arab fortress currently owned by a government and run by a tourist agency, with night stays available.

We wander the castle for a while then head for the bike. From there we made it back into Barcelona with heavy Friday afternoon traffic; half is going into the city with us and half is going out of the city for the weekend. As we are now more familiar with the bikes and city traffic, we do manage to split a few lanes and act more like native motorcyclists. Getting back safely to our hotel is bitter sweet as the trip has come to a close and we and our friends will soon return to our respective corners of the world. We saw only about a third of the country but after what I saw, I would love to go back for another adventure.



SO. OREGON OCTOBER RIDE

by Dan Hall

On Saturday, October 3rd, six riders met for lunch at the **Pony Espresso** in Jacksonville Oregon. As I pull into the parking lot, I see a lone yellow/blue dirt bike with fat little wheels. I'm not sure who this is, but soon remember that it is Chris's new bike of the week, a **Husaberg Supermotard**. I've owned a lot of bikes, but it's hard to keep up with Chris's always changing fleet. Soon **Jim von Stein** rides in on his shiny 650 BMW, **Steve and Lori** on their gigantic GSA, and **Mel** on his new R9T and park next to my BMW/Husky 650. While sitting there, some previous BMWRO riders showed up for lunch and I had a nice chat with them. Seems they are no longer riding, but are hoping to get back into riding soon. After we finished lunch we headed north along Old Stage Road zigzagging our way along the west edge of the valley towards Antioch Road. Along the way we got a nice view of 9500 Foot Mt McLoughlin to the east, no snow



cover yet. Antioch Road is a fun, twisty, hilly road through Sam's Valley and connects into East Evans Creek road. It also goes by Bill's Motorcycle Salvage yard. I haven't been there in years, but you used to be able to walk into the back yard past huge piles of gas tanks, frames, wheels, etc. I'm not sure how the guy knew what he had but seemed to be able to find whatever you were looking for. It might

have been rusty and bent, but he found it. It seems slightly more organized now, but earlier this year I called him for a part for my old Honda XL175 I was restoring and he couldn't help me. Progress?

At Evans Creek Rd. Steve, Lori and Chris split off and headed back home towards Ashland. Jim, Mel, and myself continued east on the road that follows Evans creek through rural ranches and farms and is a beautiful ride. Not much color in the trees yet, but in a few weeks it will be even nicer. We stopped in downtown Wimer, which consists of one store, next to the old/new covered bridge. After a few minutes we continued on to Rogue River where we all split up to head for home. Perfect weather and a great ride and visit with friends.



von Stein's on his "Shiny Bike"

Photo by Dan Hall



Editor's Note:

Dan Hall has a wicked sense of humor and does enjoy taking a jab at Jim von Stein for the condition of his bike—for which Jim is mostly oblivious. All that bug-goo is a natural anti-radar application.

NW Ambassadors Ride Report- October 2015

David Peterson #90113
Michael Ripley #191665

What's better than a First Saturday Ride? Why, an FSR with free lunch in the middle of it!

So it was to be for our October outing. Enterprising member **Carol Lamper** called early in September to coordinate. By the end of the call, we already had a ride in mind.

Saturday, October 3 dawned—as most First Saturdays have this year—warm, dry, and crystal clear. By 9:45, fourteen riders on twelve bikes were ready to roll. Falling in behind **Dave and Diane** were, in no particular order, **Karl & Ramona Perlich**, **Steven Polansky**, **Neal Malagamba**, **Frank Boyle**, and **Louie Robida**. **Andy Sulla** arrived from



Scot Lamper

Photo by David Peterson



Vancouver in plenty of time for the start, after missing us by minutes last month. **Larry Kline**, **Scott Pell**, **Andrew Peake**, and **Tom Jackson** were also along for the first time this year—Tom on his adventure-tour-ready Suzuki, which will take him to the end of the earth in January. Mike put his bright yellow aux lights to good use, riding sweep and making it very easy to see that all were present and accounted for.

Chéz Lamper is in Forest Grove, maybe 45 minutes away at a moderate pace. We had to kill 75 minutes at a healthy pace in order to avoid arriving too early. Fortunately, Washington County offers a myriad of twisty alternatives to lengthen a ride. In minutes, we had escaped the traffic snarl that is greater Tigard and we were sailing down the OR-219 carousel toward...Newberg! A sharp right onto North Valley Road got the best of Steven, who is still getting his bearings after moving to Portland from New York earlier this summer. An alert Scott Pell chased him down and soon our merry band was whole again.

Our timing was perfect: we arrived slightly ahead of the larger

crowd, just as **Scot Lamper** was pulling the first brauts off the Weber. We'll leave it to others to describe the event, but we will tell you this: we're putting the Lampers at the top of our list to cater future parties. From the brauts to the German potato salad to the made-to-order German pancakes, everything was wonderful. Octoberfeast, indeed!

Much as we wanted to curl up in a corner for a nap, the weather had only gotten nicer. And there were roads to ride. The group, and then some, fell in behind Mike for the rest of the ride. The Lampers are perfectly situated just off Gales Creek Road. Two minutes later, we were back in the fall foliage, winding briskly toward the Wilson River Highway, and Timber, then Jewell, beyond. Timber Road was a roller-coaster, dry but with one decreasing-radius after another hidden in dappled light. OR-103 towards Jewell is more sweeping, with tight corners, but fewer elevation changes.

We'd been on the road for over an hour when Mike wisely guided the throng into Big Eddy Park, north of Vernonia. Removed helmets revealed one smile after



The Road

Photo by Diane Peterson

another, as all of us rushed to describe the road or the scenery. It was the perfect interlude at the end of a perfect day. Afterward, the group started to head in different directions toward home. A few of us, not ready to end the fun, rolled on to Scappoose before we made our way to the barn.

It was a wistful ride home, as we considered all the great rides this year and the inexorable change of the seasons. We may remain lucky as we make our way through winter toward spring. But we'll be hard-pressed to top the first Saturday in October.

Check out photos from past First Saturday rides [here](#). And if you have photos of your own you want to share, don't hesitate to forward them to David at dwpeterson01@yahoo.com.

**Total miles,
September Ride: 217**
**Total First Saturday miles,
year-to-date: 2,322**



The Riders

Photo by Louie Robida

Central Oregon Fall Colors Ride

by Alice LeBarron

Originally, we were going to ride through the Cascades for an opportunity to enjoy the fall colors. The weather had been so beautiful in the weeks leading up to our ride, but shortly before our scheduled date—October 10th—the weather pattern changed, sending cold rain & wind through the mountains. Okay. I quickly sent out an email to let folks know the route was changed.

Here in Central Oregon, it was still sunny and warm. A lovely day for a ride! Seven riders showed up and after greeting and chatting a bit, we headed out to ride the Crooked River Gorge and Post-Paulina Highway. I was followed by **Jay Bennett, Bob Borroughs, Alan Cesafsky, Jeff and Liz Jones,** and our sweep **Joy Cesafsky**. Our route took us east through the little town of Alfalfa, crossing the Bowman Dam, and then following the Crooked River Gorge into Prineville. There's nice twisties and a few decreasing radius turns along this part of the route, interesting rock formations, and lovely views



**Superwomen Joy Cesafsky and Liz Jones
Jeff Jones & Jay Bennett (background)**

of the Crooked River, occasionally dotted by fishermen out there in their waders. From Prineville, we headed southeast on OR 380— aka the Post-Paulina Highway. I enjoyed swooping through those nice curves around Eagle Rock as we dropped down into the valley. There, the road follows along the Crooked River. It was so beautiful, sparkling blue against the autumn gold. Spectacular! Brilliant fall colors were accented with the

occasional black and white flash of magpies. Approaching the little outpost of Post, I rode right through a tall whirlwind of bright gold leaves flashing in the light. What a fun dance!

After a quick stop at the Paulina General Store for junk food, we headed northeast on County Road 113 and Forest Road 58 to our picnic lunch stop at the Sugar Creek Campground. Such a peaceful spot. Jay split early from our lunch spot, anxious to get back to Bend for a possible new-old bike acquisition. After lunch and lively conversation with this fun group, we retraced our route back to Prineville. As we climbed up out of the valley, taking the curves past Eagle Rock again, the sun was on the face of this large rock formation, showing off its lovely watermelon color. Strong winds on the way home caused some of us to slow down a bit, while Allen, Bob, & Joy rationalized high speeds to cut through the gusts of wind! Altogether, it was another great day to be alive, riding fun roads with such an enjoyable group of riders!



**Left to Right
Bob Burroughs, Jeff Jones, Liz Jones, & Allen Cesafsky**

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Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG

Overview of San Sebastian

