



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



April, 2015

Volume 39, Issue #4

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



**Left to Right: Jim Osher, Allen & Joy Cesafsky, Jim Mulhall,
Helen & Bill Brisson, Phyllis Webb, and John Beeson
Central Oregon Regional Ride**

Pie on Pi Day

Central Oregon Region Ride
for Pie on Pi Day 31415.

See page 7 of this issue

Why We Ride

Why do you ride? Read what
the President has to say about his
reasons on page 2 of this issue.

New Events

New camping/riding events
have been added to the 2015
Coming Events Calendar. See
pages 3 & 4 for more details.

BMWRO President's Message

by Jay Bennett



Why We Ride

Ever ask yourself why we ride? I don't very often, but have on occasion, and the answers aren't obvious. A couple of things first: I belong to a couple of organizations and these may or may not align with their ideas, so these are purely my opinions and not the management's. Also I encourage others to write in with why they ride, my guess the reasons are as varied as our motorcycle community.

First off let me state some reasons that aren't on my list of reasons to ride. I don't ride for the "danger" or "thrill" (although those are part of motorcycling); as a matter of fact, I don't know anyone that wants to be hurt on a motorcycle. At times I have finished rides and have been relieved to get through the experience without harm. Those rides where there was hardship and a bit of danger are the ones remembered; and become the much loved war stories we love to relive.

"To save money" is another reason I don't associate with motorcycles. There are cheaper ways to get transported year round. Whenever, I hear a co-worker is considering motorcycling to save money, I think they don't understand or maybe they are just

trying to justify the purchase to a reluctant spouse.

So why ride? For me it's the cheapest smile-per-dollar I know. Consistently, I get on a bike and immediately feel something that I can't get as easily, as often or as cheaply in any other way. From a bike, I connect with places and people I would not otherwise see or meet. A bike is a machine to visit places like the coast, desert and everywhere in between. Driving into a small niche of a place to see something like the Steens Loop is not nearly as fun or practical in a car. A bike is also the catalyst for interacting with others over a ride or food. Motorcycle people are an adventurous, committed lot, and as such the kind of people I want to be with. Many times adventurous, non-motorcyclists will even come over at a gas station or campsite and start a conversation about where you are going or have been. How many out there have friends in far flung place that get together for bike trips that would not connect up otherwise? I like the way motorcycling enables the connecting of people and places.

For me I also enjoy the work of motorcycling. I like spending time in the shop working on bikes and then seeing and riding the results. Whether it's adding a farkle (a new do-dad), a tune-up, a simple wash or a complete rebuild; I like the satisfaction of seeing the result. A bigger machine is often too much for one person (boats, airplanes, etc.) where with a bike, a person can take on a project and see it to completion without always needing a hand. I do get help sometimes and offer help to my friends but I don't have the constant obligation (or money spent) getting another's help.

One other abstract reason I like motorcycling is the feeling of being in control. Control is something a

person does not have a lot of the time in our world. An airport is my worst nightmare with lines of people telling you what you can and can't take and do. Years ago we took an Alps trip, and I remember looking at the tour buses and the faces in the windows as we passed; I felt sorry for they were along for the ride, while I was deciding and riding as I wanted to. But when you throw your leg over the seat you are in control for better or for worse. You are now responsible for your own safety (and any passenger's), and every other aspect of the ride like where you go, how fast, and over or around what obstacle (tar snakes and tree roots come to mind). You are responsible and in control of what happens. Yikes! Done right it's a pretty good feeling; done wrong, not so much. For example, good cornering takes awareness of everything (roadway, environment, traffic, and visibility), picking a line, leaning the bike and moving the controls to give just the right amount of braking, lean and acceleration. When these tasks are done correctly you have controlled the machine and situation. That's an accomplishment many people cannot do.

Okay, so there are my reasons for riding these two wheeled motorbikes. What are yours? Write in and tell us why you ride. A sentence or more is fine. Any reason is a good reason, so use this opportunity to examine why you ride and share it with others. It may open your's or other's eyes to new aspects of the motorcycling experience.

Ride well, ride far, ride safe

Jay





BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **Team Oregon — Rider Skills Practice**
Date/Time: April 19, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm (rain or shine) This event is full.
Place: Lane Community College
4000 East 30th Avenue, Eugene, OR
Description: Requires 12 people (BMWRO members exclusively; \$99.00 per participant (no refund for no-show); participant motorcycles must be in good state of repair and in operating condition. This event is full, but you may request a similar event in your area.
Contact: (800) 545-9944 to register or <http://team-oregon.org/training/riderskillspractice/>
- Event:** **April Ride to Eat**
Date/Time: April 25, 2015; Lunch 12:00–1:30 pm
Place: Greenberry Tavern,
29974 OR-99W, Corvallis, OR
Description: BBQ Rib Lunch at The Greenberry Tavern, followed by a ride in the Corvallis to Coast area. Cost for lunch is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members (includes non-alcoholic beverage)
Contact: Ed Foltyn, Signup on the BMWRO.org website, www.bmwro.org
- Event:** **South Coast Campout & BBQ**
Date/Time: May 29–30, 2015
Place: Harris Beach State Park, Brookings, OR
Description: Campout along the coast at Harris Beach State Park just north of Brookings Oregon. Mark and Hanna Camarillo will be hosting a BBQ feast featuring chicken and ribs along with all the trimmings. They own *Misty Mountain Brewery* and will be bringing their micro-brews along. Ride along the beautiful Oregon coast or down to the Redwoods just south of the park. Cost of the event, for camping, parking and Saturday night BBQ, is \$10 per member, \$25 for non-members.
Contact: Dan Hall, dnehall@frontier.com. **Pre-registration required** on the website (www.BMWRO.org). Registration required by Friday, May 22 to get an accurate count for food. Limited to 24 campers.

- Event:** **12th Annual BMWRO MotoGear Swap Meet**
Date/Time: June 6, 2015 –Saturday– from 9 am to 3 pm or until it is over—rain or shine.
Place: Premier Motogear Parking Lot, 414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, OR www.mredsmoto.com/map.htm
Description: Free Space - We supply the space, you supply the table and stuff! Make money and clean the garage at the same time! Enjoy free refreshments and camaraderie!
Contact: Don & Debbie Weber
(RSVP for space: **541-926-2107** or email to motogear@mredsmoto.com)
- Event:** **Chief Joseph Rally**
Date/Time: June 18–21, 2015
Place: Fairgrounds at John Day, Oregon
GPS coordinates: N44°24.967', W118°56.868'
Description: The BMWRO's Annual Rally and the highlight of the motorcycling seasonal calendar!
Contact: Lynne Clark, BMWRO.rallymaster@gmail.com
- Event:** **Sixes River Campout**
Date/Time: July 24–26, 2015
Place: Edson Creek Campground, sites B&C
Description: Rustic tent camping experience on the banks of the Sixes River. Great road and dual-sport riding in the area, connecting over to the Rogue River and beyond. Large grassy camping area under tall firs at the confluence of Edson Creek and the Sixes River. Along the coast, but several miles inland out of the fog zone. Fire pit and tables. Five miles north of Port Orford, and 25 miles south of Bandon. See [Brochure](#) online
Contact: Keith Matteson, keithbob@charter.net
- Event:** **Central Oregon Area Campout**
Date/Time: August 14–16, 2015
Place: Haystack Reservoir South Shore Campground, Willow Group Campsite
Description: Superb road and off-road routes in the area. Wide open desert skies for viewing the Perseids meteor showers. Shoreline campsites
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com and Steve Miller shuntermiller@gmail.com
- Event:** **Women Riders Campout**
Date/Time: August 21–23, 2015 (Fri–Sun)
Place: TBD
Description: Rustic camping, good food, fun women
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com

Event: **Ride, Camp, Ride, Camp... Repeat, Oregon Midweek Tour to Finish at Horseshoe Bend Campgrounds**

Date/Time: August 25–28, 2015 (Tuesday to Friday)
Place: Tentative schedule, see details under Description

Description: Tour of Central and Southern Oregon
Tuesday Evening 25 August: The initial rendezvous would be near the center of Oregon at Walton Lake in the Ochoco Mountains. This is a secluded campsite where we can anticipate our next few days' adventures. You would pack your own food, supplies, etc.

Wednesday 26 August: Now rather than passing through this area on the way to somewhere else, we can spend the day riding the profusion of convoluted, twisty roads in whatever sequence fits your needs. There will be no set time schedule, no fixed route, nobody telling you to do anything but to enjoy your day. With one caveat; we will be gathering again that evening in North Eastern Oregon, probably near Joseph (home of the early Chief Joseph Rallies). No doubt that night will provide input on Wednesday's travels and inspiration for the next day.

Thursday 27 August: Time for some open country blitzing followed by a restful sojourn in the South Central region. The aim is to select spots that are not on your normal itineraries. I've several campsite candidates in mind at this time in the Southern Cascades. Of course, if you have some favorite bivouac that you'd like to suggest, please send it along. The camping plan is still evolving.

Friday 28 August: Now is the chance to have "some more" as there are many wonderful routes down in the South and West. We don't, as a club, encourage enough riding in this spectacular part of our State. It will be hard to choose between so many excellent alternative routes to our Friday night destination on the North Umpqua.

Contact: Jim Stewart, 69jystewart@gmail.com

Event: **Horseshoe Campout near Steamboat**

Date/Time: August 28–30, 2015—Friday–Sunday
Place: details to follow

Description: Shady Trees and a beautiful river
Contact: Roger Paquette

Event: **Steens Narrows**

Date/Time: September 11–13, 2015

Place: Narrows RV Park, OR

Description: A Saturday and Sunday morning continental breakfast and a Saturday night meal of PRIME RIB and green salad, plus more. Cost ? The Narrows RV Park is 26 miles south of Burns on Hwy #205, on the way to Frenchglen and Fields. General Meeting to be held Saturday afternoon.

Contact: Janet Bennett. Please **RSVP** No Later than

8/29/15. Preferred method of sign-up is thru our website and use PayPal at: <http://bmwro.org/SNC-preregistration.html>

Or contact Jay and Janet Bennett at jlbenett60@gmail.com or **541-760-0823** to reserve a space in the tent area and/or for dinner. An accurate head-count is needed for the Saturday night meal. RV hookups at your own expense: call **(541-495-2006)** to make reservations for RV camp spots or visit: www.narrowssrvpark.com. Also checkout: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/recreation/steens-mtn.php>

Recurring Events

Event: **Central Oregon 2nd Saturday**

Date/Time: Second Saturday of each month
Location: Various ride and lunch locations in the Central Oregon area.

Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com
541-647-7194
Steve Miller **541-977-6787**

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 jpbior@aol.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 Central Oregon area.

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**,
jpbior@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

NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Kay Docken, Clovis, CA Unknown
Dan Hanthorn, Corvallis, OR Unknown
Dawn Hanthorn, Corvallis, OR 2009 GS650
Mary Minor, Newport, OR Unknown
Burke Muggoch, Bend, OR 2009 F800GS & 2011 F650GS
Kim Muggoch, Bend, OR Unknown
Todd Sexton, Portland, OR 2007 R1200 GSA

BMWRO Club Officials

President:

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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bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com

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Activities

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bmwro.vp@gmail.com

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

Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

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

Dan Hall – 541-862-7411,
dnehall@frontier.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

Steve Miller – 541-977-6787,
shuntermiller@gmail.com

Central Western Region

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

Jim Breen—541-912-4500
jpbior@aol.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

Susan Ortiz-Renteria – 503-779-7842,
dirtsquirt816@gmail.com

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

Ride, Camp, Ride, Camp ... Repeat

by Jim Stewart

For over thirty years I've been an eager participant of BMWRO campouts. Once almost Spartan affairs, many have evolved into elaborate, catered celebrations. So much, the better. Sharing nightly tales in peaceful surroundings with like-minded riders at a comfortable campsite only enhances the day's riding experiences. However, quite often I personally identify with Dickens', *Oliver Twist*, when he sorrowfully asks, "Please Sir, can I have some more?" Well guess what, "more" is what we've planned.

Roger Paquette is pulling together a Don't-Miss-It Event on the North Umpqua River at

the end of August. What I am outlining below is a multi-day prelude. Final details will mature throughout the summer. With so many unemployed (a.k.a. retired) members with mid-week scheduling flexibility, I am hoping to lure you into this web of touring a few back roads of our State to partially satiate the Ride & Camp mentality. Here is a proposed schedule:

Tuesday Evening 25 August: The initial rendezvous would be near the center of Oregon at Walton Lake in the Ochoco Mountains. This is a secluded campsite where we can anticipate our next few days' adventures. You would pack your own food, supplies, etc.

Wednesday 26 August: Now rather than passing through this area on the way to somewhere else, we can spend the day riding the profusion of convoluted, twisty

roads in whatever sequence fits your needs. There will be no set time schedule, no fixed route, nobody telling you to do anything but to enjoy your day. With one caveat: we will be gathering again that evening in North Eastern Oregon, probably near Joseph (home of the early Chief Joseph Rallies). No doubt that night will provide input on Wednesday's travels and inspiration for the next day.

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Hopefully you'll be interested in joining us for part, or all, of this Gypsy Tour. More details will be forthcoming via our normal Club channels. All questions and suggestions can be e-mailed to Jim Stewart at 69jvstewart@gmail.com



Two Jim's for the Road, Sims & Stewart.

photo by Laura Stewart



Cowboy Breakfast at Chief Joseph Rally – Saturday June 20, 2015

Once again the Grant County Stockers have stepped up to support us with another new farm visit and breakfast. We are heading to **Frank Silva Ranch** between Mt. Vernon and Dayville. Each year this fun and popular event has given the attendees a chance see how an operating ranch works, have a tasty chuck wagon style breakfast and a ride to boot.

We will ride (or drive) to the ranch starting from the fairgrounds main gate. There will be two groups leaving at either 7:30 or 8:00 am Saturday morning, June 20.

Breakfast will be prepared between 8:00 and 9:00 am by the Stockgrower's Association.

There are three ways to reserve your spot, but the spots are limited and on a first come first served basis (100 maximum the sooner you sign up and pay for your breakfast, the more assured you are of getting a spot).

1. Sign up online at BMWRO.org and click on Chief Joseph Rally, then follow the link for the Cowboy Breakfast.



2. Email or phone in your reservation to Jay Bennett at jabennett.2012@gmail.com or 541-760-0675 then pay at the rally before 5:00 pm on Friday at Rally Central (Information Booth). *In your message please indicate if you prefer a 7:30 or 8:00 am departure.*
3. You can wait and sign-up and pay at Rally Central (Information Booth) by 5:00 pm on Friday but it is first come first serve.

Cost: \$12.00 per person

Come out and enjoy this unique experience of having breakfast at a working Grant County ranch.



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mrussell@emcwor.com





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Central Oregon Region Ride for Pie on Pi Day 31415

by Alice LeBarron

Would you believe it? I checked the time as I left my driveway: it was 9:26 am. When I arrived at our meet up spot, others had already arrived by 9:26! I guess BMW riders can appreciate precision. (Pi = 3.1415926)

As John Beeson, Jim Osher, Bill & Helen Brisson, Jim Mulhall, and I stood around the parking lot visiting, more riders kept arriving! I think the magic word was PIE! Phyllis Webb, Jeff & Liz Jones, Allen & Joy Cesafsky, Karen Duncan, Michelle Smith, and Bruce Moses arrived to make 14 riders leaving from Bend for a backroads ride to Redmond where we met up with Steve Miller, Rick & Kathy Murray, and Larry Smith at Christie's Kitchen. The staff at Christie's was very accommodating when twice as many people as we had anticipated showed up. Their pie lady had been forewarned, so made extra pies that day. The homemade pies were awesome! Rhubarb-Gooseberry, Peach-Gooseberry, Mixed Berry, Lemon Sour Cream, Chocolate Cream. There were lots of big smiles and plenty of animated conversation around our two tables as we filled our pie holes!

Leaving Christie's, we broke into smaller groups and headed out for some more riding! I had 8 riders following me out of town. Steve and Karen peeled off north of Redmond for some off-road adventuring. Riding along the Lower Bridge route, we gave a bikers wave to Jim Osher, Bruce Moses, and Jim Mulhall as they passed us going the opposite direction. Phyllis, Larry, Michelle, Helen, and I pulled into the driveway at Joy & Allen's home for our good-byes after a fun day.



Left to Right: Jim Osher, Allen & Joy Cesafsky, Jim Mulhall, Helen & Bill Brisson, Phyllis Webb, and John Beeson getting ready to Ride for Pie.



Left to Right: Jeff Jones, Phyllis Webb, Allen & Joy Cesafsky, John Beeson, Helen & Bill Brisson, Karen Duncan, and Liz Jones. Let the Pie Eating begin!



Left to Right: Steve Miller, Bruce Moses, Rick & Karen Murray, Michelle Smith, Larry Smith, Jim Mulhall, and Jim Osher. Waiting for their pie.



Central Oregon Region Motorcycle Movie Night

The evening of Feb. 28th, Burke & Kim Muggoch hosted the Central Oregon BMWRO members in their home for the first Motorcycle Movie Night. Fourteen of us enjoyed visiting, munching on a great spread of potluck appetizers and then watching the documentary movie "Why We Ride". Many thanks to Burke and Kim for welcoming us into their home! They have a great space set up for movies! We all had such a fun evening that we're planning to have more Motorcycle Movie Nights.

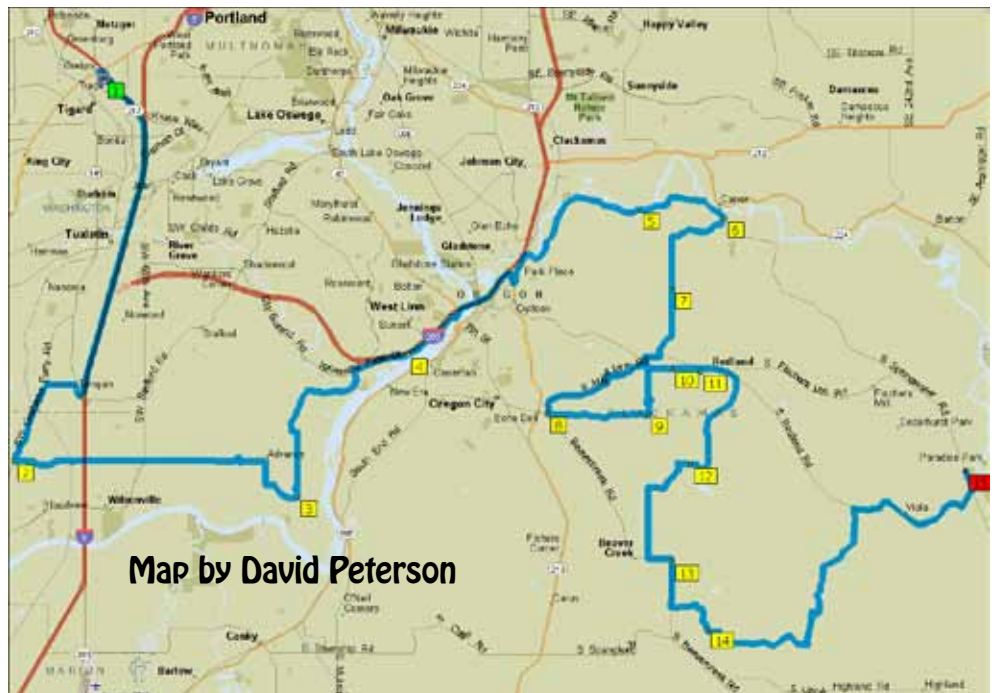
NW Ambassador's Ride Report – March 2015

David Peterson #90113
Susan Ortiz-Renteria #106802

Still reeling from my no-show in February, your humble ride leader was determined to make up for lost time, regardless of health or weather. Turned out, no need to worry; whatever my ailment, it had long since run its course. And the weather? Well, it was another of those spectacular “winter” days we’ve experienced this year—afternoon temps in the 60s and nary a cloud to be seen overhead.

By the time I arrived at our regular start, Tigard BMW, the lot was crowded with many bikes I recognized; and a few, I didn’t, including **Gary Thye’s** ride of choice today: the BMW C 600 Sport Scooter. I figured the weather would bring out a sizeable following. What I hadn’t counted on was how far many in the enthusiastic throng would ride for a short lunch outing with the group. **Chris Henry** came up all the way from Eugene. **Steve Woodward** arrived raring for more from Corvallis. And **Karl & Ramona Perlich**, who are always game for one of our rides, dispatched from Salem.

After a cup of coffee and a few donut holes, it was time to mount up. The beautiful weather had us all pining for a many-miled meander to somewhere, but it’s still winter, so I had to be careful about what I planned. Past experience suggests that staying near the valley floor through March is the best defense against last minute weather changes. But just because we were staying local didn’t mean we couldn’t have some fun.



The plan called for a back-road weave through Clackamas County. Queuing up to follow me were 15 other riders on 14 bikes, including regulars: **Frank Boyle, Kim Dorsing & Janice Mathern, Neal Malagamba, Mike Ripley, and Andy Sulla. Ric Holderbaum**—our lone 3-for-3 2015 rider—swept, making sure we all stayed on course. Or at least, he tried (more on that in a minute). **Louie Robida and Bob Ingersoll** joined us for the first time this year. Gary’s buddy **Phil Benson** also joined us...for part of the ride. You show up, you get credit.

As 9:45 arrived, clutches were out. A couple of quick right-handers put us on OR-217 toward I-5. My general rule of the thumb when on the Interstate is FIND ANOTHER ROAD! That first opportunity came as we approached Wilsonville. For a moment, we rambled south on Graham’s Ferry Road, then headed east on Boeckman Road, through the Coffee Lake Creek wetlands and toward rural bliss. Once Boeckman gives way to Advance Road, the tract homes surrender to farmland that is much like it was 50 years ago.

But progress surrounds us, so the only way to continue our adventure without a ferry ride was to cut back through West Linn. And if one has to return to suburbia, Pete’s Mountain Road is not a bad way to go. From its southern terminus with Hoffman Road, Pete’s gets your attention with a couple of 10-mile corners, then a steady climb to the top of the hill. On a day like ours, beautiful views of Mt. Hood and Mt. Jefferson complement many of the finest homes in Portland. You must avoid the many distractions, for the road is narrow and as soon as you crest, you’re diving down the other side toward the Tualatin River crossing, just upstream from its confluence with the Willamette.

It was at about this point that, I learned later, we lost one of the flock. Our procession slowed along Willamette River Drive, where we encountered a stop sign before getting on I-205 for a short blast. The stop sign and traffic spread us out. With only two miles before exiting, the group never got a chance to coalesce. Consequently, when I exited, the long trail behind me looked complete. In fact, the

last of the riders, followed by Ric, were well spread out. Traffic was heavy and the next turn or two were tricky. We had a gas stop planned nearby to regather and most of us made it with no problem. Then Ric arrived and announced that Phil had missed the last crucial turn. Once missed, there is no returning for about 8 miles. So, after a short wait, we were 15. Sorry, Phil; next time I'll be clearer.

Once back on the road, it was twisty roads and river views the rest of the way. Our pace was brisk, yet, with only 40 miles remaining, we took the better part of 90 minutes to make our way. Even an old hand from the neighborhood like Gary Thye remarked that we caught a road or two that he'd never seen before. That, as always, is music to my ears.

Despite the namesake view, lunch was...just okay. I did my best to warn them that 10-to-20 hungry riders were arriving about noon. When we got there, they shrugged their shoulders, pointed



Waiting to Regather

Photo by David Peterson

to the bar and said, "Seat yourself." Fortunately, the place is plenty big, so pulling a few tables together was no big deal. But with only one waitress and a rather lackluster menu, I can't give the Viewpoint an enthusiastic "Thumbs up." Too bad, it's a pretty stellar location, which would serve rides well coming from many different directions.

After lunch, it was every man for himself. Chris and Karl & Ramona decided to head south via Ripplebrook/FR-46 to Detroit—a bold choice this time of year. Chris later reported it was clear and free of debris—a signal to all that riding season is upon us—and a long and glorious one it may be!

Speaking of riding season, next month's First Saturday is on April 4th, we're heading northwest, into Washington state, toward the town of Pe Ell. There aren't many reasons to go there...which is all the motivation we need. Hope you can join us!

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 me at dwpeterson01@yahoo.com.

Total Miles, March Ride:83

**Total First Saturday miles,
Year-To-Date:337**

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**View of Mt. Hood
from the Viewpoint**

Photo by Chris Henry

BMWRO Ambassador Central Western Region

by Jim Breen

It's getting warm in Arizona, two record days in the mid nineties last week. It has me ready to return home to Oregon. I'll bet the Crocuses have croaked and the Daffy's are done. I'm sure my grass needs cutting. More important it's time to start filling in our riding calendars for the coming summer. I have a few thoughts in that regard.

First the obvious: we should all have the CJR on our calendars for June. I couldn't attend last year so I'm really looking forward to it this year. Remember to volunteer if you can. It'll double the fun. Second, the International BMWMOA Rally is in Billings, Montana this year, really not that far away. It is certainly not too early to be making plans and reservations. Of course your own BMWRO will have full slate of rides and activities. Read your newsletter and watch the website. If something looks good, write it on your calendar. That will increase the chance of it a happening.

Finally, as ambassador I would like to continue to have regularly scheduled rides for those of us in the Central/Western region. I will send e-mails for rides on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. I would also like to re-establish first Saturday rides and have them posted in the Newsletter. I will need some help from anyone who would be willing to lead several of these



rides. My wife will retire in July and we have an ambitious travel schedule for this summer. I would love to share the ambassador duties with another member. Any volunteers?

If all this isn't enough to keep your wheels turning perhaps creating a personal challenge of your own is in order. Some of us are just not group riders and would rather go it alone.

Several years ago I set out to get a photo of my bike in front of every courthouse in the state. With 36 counties in Oregon it was a worthwhile goal that took the whole summer. The rewards were certainly there. I offer a couple of pictures as evidence.

Above all it is the ride that counts, so lets go ride and have a great and safe summer.



Mysterious Gadget

by Forest McGreggor

After the Beach Bash meeting and feasting—held in Florence, OR—several of the attending club members went back to the Hospitality Suite to continue festivities. As the evening wound down, a mysterious ‘gadget’ was found. No one knew what it was and figured that it may have come off Dan Hall’s motorcycle ‘apron’. Everyone present decided it was trash, but I decided to keep it instead of putting it in the trash.

I took it back to the three-bedroom suite Jim and I were sharing with Katy Neilsen, Joe Collins and CJR Rallymaster, Lynne Clark where we—those of us still awake—sat and discussed what it’s potential use might be. Someone in the group suggested it was a fancy roach-clip—the kind that would be very difficult to misplace. It was so ridiculous we all had a good laugh.



Later, while putting together the Beemer Beat, I saw the mysterious gadget in the apron pocket worn by Doug Tewksbury. I sent him an email and asked about it. He said it was a compression testing device and that he did want it returned.

This information I shared with my domestic partner, Jim von Stein, who shook his head, gave me a sad smile and said, “no, Doug is pulling your leg. It’s not a compression testing device.” As I have discovered over years of being together, Jim is always confident in his assertions—even when he is mistaken. The point about Doug wanting the device returned to him softened Jim’s absolute certainty some, but not entirely.

I told Doug I would return the device and asked him to assure me that he was not pulling my leg. I did not get a response—still waiting to know if I’ve been seriously duped. If I never learn the truth about this, I’m going to satisfy my curiosity and go with: *roach-clip*. However, Doug did send a thank you note back to me along with \$5 to cover the cost of mailing the device to him. He is, if nothing else, a man of high integrity.



Hundreds of Curves

photo by Signe Johnson

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Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG

photo by Tom Jackson

