



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



December, 2017

Volume 41, Issue #12

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



Lindy Metzger at Slieve League Cliffs, Ireland

photo by Bob Metzger

Ireland – A Totally Splendid Place

from Bob Metzger, see page 4.

Quarterly Club Meeting Minutes and Policy changes

see pages 10-11

To Silverton... and Beyond!

David Peterson brings us another great Ride Report. See pages 12-13



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **First Quarterly Meeting of the Membership**
- Date/Time:** January 27th, 2018 from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm
- Place:** **Cascade Grill**, 110 Opal Street NE, Albany, OR
- Description:** Club bylaws require the club to meet four times per calendar year. This will be the first meeting of the membership for 2018. Please join us for a hosted brunch. **RSVP to Deborah Hughes by January 15, 2018 to reserve a plate.**
- Contact:** Deborah Hughes-Habel; dharma91@msn.com
- Event:** **Mr. Ed's Moto 14th Annual Winter Tour Show**
- Date/Time:** Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018: **Save the Date!**
Doors Open at 6:00 pm
Show Starts at 6:30 pm
- Place:** Premier Motogear, 414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, OR
- Description:** Jalene Case and Keith Matteson left their home in Newport, Oregon on August 10, 2015 and rode their motorcycles to Ushuaia, Argentina—the southernmost city in the world. By the time they moved back into their Newport home, it was July 2017 and they had ridden 42,000 miles. Jalene will share about how her experiences have led her to taking an “open your heart, open your throttle” approach to living. Keith will take you along on the ride through video, photos, and stories of their epic adventure. Learn more about their trip here:
www.southonabike.com
- Note:** This is a free event, but space is limited. Refreshments will be served. **Space is limited - Please RSVP to Deb Weber**
- Contact:** Deb Weber, **541-926-2107** or email: premiermotogear@comcast.net

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 **541-647-7194**
alicelebarron@hotmail.com
- Event:** **Central Western Region 1st Saturday Ambassador Ride**
- Date/Time:** Various dates and times. See the event calendar on the web site for more information.
- 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
Mark Collier **541-499-1395**
mcollier5895@gmail.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
Mike Ripley **503-789-2966**
gobeezer@live.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



Heard-On-The-Road

Event: Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum Annual Movie Night

Date/Time: December 2nd, 2017 starting at 6PM

Place: Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum
3995 Brooklake Rd. NE in Brooks, OR

Description: "The World's Fastest Indian" starring Antony Hopkins is a wonderful movie and you don't have to be a motorcycle geek to enjoy it. Come by at 6PM and visit with old friends and make new ones. Snacks provided by the Ladies of the Museum. Movie starts at 7PM

Contact: Tom Ruttan tgruttan@gmail.com
www.nwcarandcycle.com

Bob Marley's Birthday Celebration February 04, 2018

Bob Marley 02/06/1945

Need a Sunday Ride Destination?

Sunday February 04, 2018 @ 11:45 AM. Gather and Celebrate Bob Marley's Birthday @ Ft Hoskins Park, Hoskins OR.

This is Year FOURTEEN! It's a lot of fun!

This is a NO HOST EVENT. [That means, NO HOST, No Rules, No Formal Invitation. You assume ALL personal RISK]!!!!

Riders bring their own food, drink, utensils, plates, cup, garbage bag and music to participate.



On Site: Covered Pavilion, picnic tables, charcoal grill to prepare your celebratory dinner. If you want to share, bring something everyone will enjoy!

Directions: Head west from Corvallis on HWY 20. Go through Philomath and stay right onto Hwy 20 for few miles. Turn North onto Hwy 223 @ Wren, OR. Hwy 223 goes to Kings Valley and Dallas OR. Go NORTH SIX [6] miles. Turn Left to Hoskins. There is Fire Station opposite the turn. Fort Hoskins Sign is about a 1/4 mile after the turn. Go about a mile to Park Entrance on the Right. Use first gear at Park Entrance! It's paved but steep with a sharp RH turn almost immediately. Once past that, you'll come to a car park at hill top. You'll see the revelers and Pavilion. GPS 44.675397 123.4542703

This is a newer Benton County Park. Ft Hoskins was sited there from 1856 to 1866.

Hope to see you there!

Disclaimer: NO HOST, NO RULES. By Attending, you participate voluntarily and assume all personal risk.

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 January meeting, with the plaque then being engraved and placed on display at the rally. As a club, we watch out for one another, don't 'cha know.

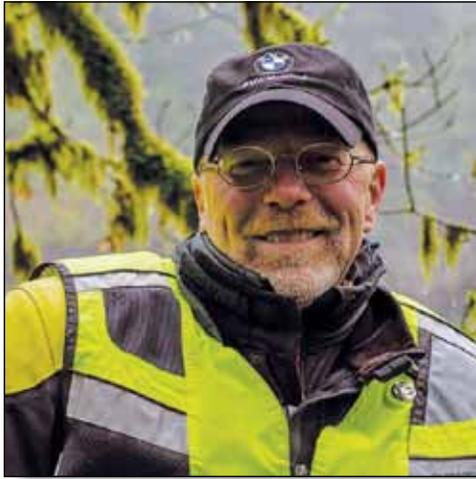
As a recipient of said award, you will get a full year to inspect the plaque for the names of previous members who have received the award—some more than once or twice—and ponder what their story might have been.

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, bmwro.vp@gmail.com before January 10, 2018 and then attend the January club meeting where the "winner" will be announced.

*Scot Lamper,
Vice-President, BMW Riders of Oregon*

BMWRO President's Message

by Bob Metzger



The Celtic Rider Crew

Ireland – A Totally Splendid Place

I've been thinking about writing this month's message for quite some time. I have dutifully downloaded (and backed up) all of my images and videos taken on Lindy's and my recent trip to Ireland. Hundreds of great images and nothing but fond memories. Here is my dilemma: where do I begin, in a short amount of print space, to tell you what a splendid time we had in Ireland? I've come to the conclusion it is not

possible. So, I am going to go with several old adages. Brief is better. Pictures and smiles say 1000 words.

Let's begin with Celtic Rider. Celtic Rider is an amazing family-run business for arranging your tour of Ireland. It is really a one-stop shop, to rent the bikes, acquire your gear, and they book your overnight B&B accommodations. Located just outside Dublin in Kill, County Kildare, they even transport you to and from your Dublin hotel! After being fitted with our gear and acquainted with our motorcycles, we were given a thorough presentation on riding safely in Ireland. Following the safety briefing, we were escorted for the first two hours to get our minds used to driving on the opposite sides of the road. Ireland is a small place, about the size of Maine. Roads are narrow and twisty as they follow terrain, their original paths set by hundreds of years of cart travel.

We spent a total of nine days touring the island. As you can see from the color coded map (each

color represents a day's journey) we covered a fair bit of the Atlantic coastal peninsulas. Every other day we traveled to a new location, followed by a loop ride back to our B&B. This is a wonderful idea arranged by Celtic Rider. It means every other day you can just leave your "stuff" in your room. You also get added time to get to know your B&B hosts. I should add that our B&B accommodation were first rate. Without further preamble, here are my picks for the top three places on our tour in no particular order.

County Donegal

Donegal (light green loop) really resonated with me. Perhaps it was pure excitement because it was the first real day of our tour. The scenery was spectacular, and it became immediately apparent how much pride the Irish take in their country! It is spotless! There is absolutely no trash on the sides of the roads and every—yes every—house is well maintained and landscaped. People are open and welcoming. It is a pleasant



experience to go anywhere where Americans are loved. The high point for me (literally / figuratively) was the Atlantic Slieve League Cliffs. They are among the highest sea cliffs in Europe. Riding up the backside of the cliffs and then being greeted by an amazing view of the Atlantic at sunset is beyond description.

County Mayo

The loop around County Mayo (yellow loop) is quite scenic. Terrain is rugged with many rocky cliffs spanning the Atlantic coast. Perhaps one of the “high” points of the trip was the Sky Road. The Sky Road climbs ever higher from Clifden with fantastic views of the beautiful blue Atlantic and coastal islands. Both of our evenings were spent in the bustling tourist town of Westport. There is a photograph around every corner in this lovely village. The most somber moment came on our ride through the Doo Lough Pass. This road commemorates those who perished in the “Great Irish Famine” in the mid-1850s.

Ring of Kerry

The Ring of Kerry (red loop) closely follows the Atlantic coast for 90% of the ride. This road is not recommend for the fainthearted.



Architecture In Westport Town

The route is steep, very narrow and curves are extremely tight. Climbing ever higher toward the Gap of Dunloe you quickly become aware that you are sharing this paved path with foot traffic, bicyclists, and jaunting cars. Jaunting cars are horse drawn carts taking tourists up the valley. There is little room for error and everyone must respect each other's modes of transportation! Coexist is the name of the game. The scenery—once again—is spectacular!

The Gap Of Dunloe

My space is gone. I'll leave you with a small piece of advice. If you've ever thought of visiting Ireland, just go! The people are friendly and eager to engage, the music is great, the scenery is fantastic, and the Guinness is delicious.

Bob



The Gap Of Dunloe



NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Mike Moshofsky, Brownsville, OR '95 R1100RSL
Jim Modak, Roseburg, OR 2017 R1200GS Adventure
Douglas Hicks, Portland, OR cycle unknown
David Hiltner, Eugene, OR cycle unknown



Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

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

FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:

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

BMWRO Club Officials

President:

Robert Metzger (608-642-1186)
bmwro.pres@gmail.com

Vice President:

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)
bmwro.vp@gmail.com

Secretary:

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

Treasurer:

Linda Tewksbury (541-543-7943)
bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com

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Webmaster:

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Club Liaison

Doug Tewksbury
bmwro.news@gmail.com

Activities

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)
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

jpbior@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

Mark Collier—541-499-1395

mcollier5895@gmail.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

Bucket-List Odyssey

from Mark Collier

So I anticipated little group interest when I planned my bucket-list odyssey in to northern California. Was right. But it was a route I'd been dying to ride and nearly did. Just kidding. Route was out Cave Junction Hwy "over the top" and down into Happy Camp. A popular route for leaving Oregon and dropping into California—in the summer. But I had yet to complete all my chores necessary to venture guilt-free on a three-day mission. So, once chores were sufficiently wrapped, I headed out into the first snow storm of the season after I was insufficiently assured by the US Forest Service that their road was still clear ahead of pending snow fall. They were right. No, they weren't. So topped off the Strategic Petroleum Reserve—nickname for the fuel capacity of the GSA—and ventured on.

Now, we've all headed up a road that was either not advised



or unlikely to make a good turn around—that was this road. Crinkling over packed snow and ice, waiting for the sun to re-appear around the next corner: Come on! On the pegs, straddling the seat making damn sure not to move a centimeter from dead-center. "Don't let off the gas, 'cause you AIN'T got any footing, and you CAN'T STOP! LOL."

So I got some good pic's from the top of the Pacific Crest Trail, and I'll ask Newsletter Editor, Forest, to include here. But I did wanna share some black & white's I snatched from the top of the pass. (These pics' are actually hours later from the pass from Etna, over to

Sawyer's Bar. Yes, I continued to push-it, not having the good sense to call it a day earlier.

Cheers!

See photo on last page



BMW Riders of Oregon and Mr. Ed's Moto **present:**

THE 14TH ANNUAL WINTER TOUR SHOW

Jalene Case and Keith Matteson left their home in Newport, Oregon on August 10, 2015 and rode their motorcycles to Ushuaia, Argentina—the southernmost city in the world. By the time they moved back into their Newport home, it was July 2017 and they had ridden 42,000 miles. Jalene will share how her experiences have led her to taking an "open your heart, open your throttle" approach to living. Keith will take you along on the ride through video, photos, and stories of their epic adventure. Learn more about their trip here: www.southonabike.com



Doors Open at 6 PM
Show Starts at 6:30pm

Refreshments will be served.

This is a **free** event, but space is limited, so mark it on your calendar and **RSVP to:** Deb Weber: 541-926-2107 or email premiermotogear@comcast.net to reserve a seat.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018

Location **Please RSVP!**

Premier Motogear, 414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, Oregon
<http://www.mredsmoto.com/map.htm>



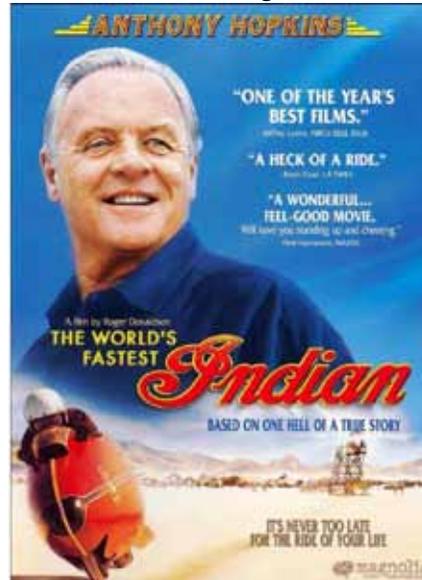
Please join us for our annual

Movie Night

Saturday, December 2nd

Social hour: 6:00pm-7:00pm; Movie at 7:00pm

Featuring



Northwest Vintage Car & Motorcycle Museum

Located at Powerland Heritage Park

3995 Brooklake Rd. Brooks, OR 97303

Snacks provided by ladies of NWVCM – popcorn, cookies and drinks

Please RSVP for seating:

Contact Tom Ruttan 503-621-8943; truttan@gmail.com

HUCANWEST



INSPIRING, INFORMING
& CONNECTING
OVERLAND ADVENTURE
TRAVELLERS



NAKUSP BC
AUG 23-26 2018

Central – West Ambassador's Ride Report November 11, 2017

from Bob Metzger

Eugene To Dallas

It took a bit of coordination to get this group all going in the same direction at the same time. That happens once in a while. There had been a flurry of emails and messages from **Bruce Henrikson** and **Mike Moshofsky** for a few days prior to the ride. Bruce would be riding east from his home in Newport while Mike and his friend **Bob Hoehn** would be riding west from Brownsville.

Tim Cruse, **Chris Henry** and myself began the day at European Motorcycles of Western Oregon in Eugene. Our side stands went up promptly at 9:45 a.m. and we pointed the two GS machines and the RT westward toward the Territorial Highway. Somehow, with a bit of luck, we all arrived at the intersection of Highways 20 and 223 (Kings Valley Highway) at approximately the same time. The group of six was complete.



I turned the group northward and we rode the Kings Valley Highway toward Dallas. It is always dangerous to plot a course on Garmin Basecamp and lead a ride without having ridden it previously. Well that is exactly what I did. Just outside of Falls Creek I turned the group onto Barnhart Road—slimy hard pack with stretches of loose gravel. Oops. The GS guys live for dirt. However, the gents on the shiny road bikes received a nice coating of pretty brown mud. I'm certain I was not the only one who washed a BMW today!

The Ritner Creek Bridge proved an excellent stop and backdrop for a group image. This bridge, just south of Pedee, OR, was built in 1927. There is an excellent write up about this 73 foot covered span on [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ritner_Creek_Bridge). Check it out. I found it most interesting.

Lunch was at the Washington Street Pub in Dallas. The portions are large and the service is friendly. This is a recommended stop. Chris had a light breakfast and decided to put his stomach size to the test. Yes, he did finish that 1 lb. burger! He was feeling full and mighty proud until our waitress told him that another customer had finished two of the Lumber Jack Burgers the day before. Sorry, Chris. Oh, I must

mention that there was also a fried egg and roasted jalapeño peppers between those buns.

The group turned south for the return to Eugene after lunch. Bruce turned toward Newport. Bob and Mike split off to visit a friends in Albany. Tim, Chris, and myself stopped for hot chocolate and coffee at one of the best shops in the valley. Tried & True Coffee in Corvallis does a splendid job on their beverages.

One last thought. There was an photo on the wall of the Washington Street Pub. Across the image were these words. "I thought I was only having fun. Then I realized I was making memories." Something to ponder.



BMWRO Annual Business Meeting

Sizzler Steakhouse – Springfield, Oregon

November 18, 2017

Attending: 35 members

11:00 – 11:45 Lunch

11:45 to 1:05 Annual Business Meeting

11:45 Meeting was called to order (Bob Metzger)

Group Introductions – Each member and gave a brief introduction.

Name

Type of bike ridden

Favorite / most memorable ride

12:10 ExCom members in attendance gave a brief description of changes and updates to the BMWRO by-laws and policy revisions. There were no questions or comments. Club members agreed that a brief description of the changes should be posted in the December **BEEMER BEAT**.

12:20 A review of last months election of club officers was conducted. Our newly-elected treasurer, Steve Polansky, was introduced to the club membership. Due to personal reasons, Dan Russell, the candidate for club Vice President, is not able to fill this position. The floor was opened to nominations for Vice President. Bob Metzger nominated Chris Henry for the office of VP. The nomination was seconded by Lindy Metzger. All were in favor of posting Chris and informed that a special election would be held in the near future via the club webpage. Members were alerted to look for the email regarding the special election.

12:40 Vice President Scot Lamper asked for Golden Rider Award (GRA) nominations be sent to him. GRA will be presented at the January meeting.

12:45 Treasurer Report was done by Linda Tewksbury. The club finances were reviewed and are in very good shape. We currently

have about \$34k in the bank. No charitable contributions were made in 2017.

12:55 President Bob Metzger reviewed the dates and progress-to-date of the CJR. Dates are set for June 29, 30 and July 1 at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day, Oregon. Bob reviewed changes the membership should expect this year with respect to planning the rally, since there is no Rally Master for 2018. Club members will be expected to step up and volunteer for select planning positions. The club president will act as coordinator. All in attendance favored this approach. Discussion then ensued regarding volunteerism as essential to club function, how membership growth of the organization is promoted, and various ideas for rally form and functions.

1:00 Door prize drawings were conducted. A book, **Forks: A Quest for Culture, Cuisine, and Connection. Three Years. Five Continents. One Motorcycle**, by Allan Karl was won by Doug Tewksbury. A book, **The Upper Half of the Motorcycle**, by Bernt Speigel was won by Linda Seaman. One bottle of home brew, *Bob Metzger's Mango Red Ale* was won by Roger Paquette. Roger was very excited! The door prizes were donated by Bob Metzger. Thank you, Bob!

1:10 A motion made to adjourn the meeting; this was seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Changes to Policies and By-Laws

During this past month, the Club Executive Committee met to review, update, and revise policies and to propose changes to our By-Laws. These changes were briefly presented at the Annual Meeting held November 18, 2017 and the proposed By-Law changes will be voted on at the January Meeting.

You can read the current version of our By-Laws and the Proposed revision of By-Laws by logging into the

BMWRO website and checking under Documents. Here is a summary of the changes to our By-Laws that we are proposing:

Article IV: Restructure membership categories to simplify and correspond to website categories. Omit Passport category of membership. Spouse/significant other of a full member will be able to be considered a full member with full member privileges by paying an additional annual fee (set up in Article VII). Members will no longer be required to reside in Oregon. Members will no longer be required to have a drivers license.

Article V: Changes to be made to reflect the restructured membership categories.

Article VII: Add annual fee of \$10 for the spouse/significant other of a full member in order to be considered a full member. This helps to bring a little more fairness to our membership rate structure. For full members: we propose to eliminate the pro-rated membership fees and move to annual memberships. (No longer Jan to Dec for new members, but instead their years' dues run for 12 months starting with the month that they join. Current members will continue Jan to Dec.)

Associate member fees increase from \$10 to \$15. Therefore, CJR registration will be going up \$5 for non-members (associates) but will be staying the same for full members.

Article IX: Addition of Webmaster to the ExComm, as this position is an integral part of the operation of our club.

Article X: Changes to the last paragraph due to the elimination of the passport membership category. Clarification of CJR guest fees.

Article XI: Changes to allow for anonymous electronic voting.

Article XIII: Changes to allow for electronic voting.

Changes have been made to some of our policies and the updated/revised versions are now posted on our website. You can read them by logging into the

website and looking under Documents. The changes are summarized here:

Event Hosting & Spending Policy: Changes were made to reflect the Vice President's role as coordinator of activities. Revision of wording re: activity budget for amount to be determined yearly. Additional responsibility given to VP for overseeing club-owned equipment.

Expense Reimbursement Policy: Wording change was made to clarify that EC authorization for all expenses must be made prior to expenditure. Wording was revised from Activity Coordinating Committee to Vice President. The paragraph on taxes, accounting, & fees was omitted as not relevant; we do not pay taxes as a tax-exempt small business. We do pay filing fees with the state, but this should not be listed as requiring EC approval each year.

Ambassador Policy: The role of Ambassador Coordinator was eliminated. Ambassador description was changed to add coordination of monthly rides in region for all members and to strike out the introduction of new members at evening outings. The names of our regions were updated to reflect our current regions.

Video Projector Policy: This policy was changed to Club Equipment Policy and updated with a current list of club-owned equipment



To Silverton... and Beyond! NW Ambassadors Ride Report – November 2017

David Peterson #90113
Michael Ripley #191665

Here it was, the 4th of November... time for one last ride before we have to get used to dark at 4:30. The days were getting cooler, but the rain has been hit or miss. Too bad we didn't have pre-ride weather, where the biggest problem was the glaring low sun in the southern sky.

But while today's pavement was wet, the skies offered broken clouds. It looked like we might squeeze another dry day out of the calendar. Apparently others thought so too, for when we hit the road, we strung 14 riders on 12 bikes along OR-217.

David has emerged from the technology backwoods with a new

GPS in recent weeks. He's finding the learning curve to be steep. So after dead reckoning to our first stop, the Canby ferry, he enlisted Mike to tackle the lead. Chasing Mike was the rest of the posse—**Kim Dorsing and passenger Janice Mathern, Steven Polansky, Camron Rust, Colin Luther, Scott Bradley,**

David Morganstern, Frank Boyle, Karl Perlich, Larry Wood, and Mark Wegener, all chased by David and passenger **Diane.**

With Mike in the lead, the group quickly headed into the depths of Clackamas County. We encountered some traffic near Canby, then nothing but rolling two-lane roads, with no cars to see in either direction. Passing through Beaver Creek, we nodded in **Gary Thye's** direction, before continuing through Colton and Scotts Mills. The weather was holding, but after two hours on the bike, stomachs were starting to rumble.

Fortunately, lunch was just around the corner. **Seven Brides Brewing** is a favorite stop for the FSR crowd. We first enjoyed the brewery's hospitality on a ride over three years ago. Since then, several of us have sampled brews and enjoyed the great food, which has only gotten better. Unfortunately, we were greeted with a deer-in-the-headlights gaze—apparently, no one had checked for messages, so our gang of fourteen was completely unexpected.



Queuing for the Canby ferry...

Photo by Mike Ripley

After pulling together a few tables, calm was restored and the party continued. Soon, conversation gave way to chomps and swallows, as the group tore through a variety of salads, quesadillas, and fish tacos. Along with the Cuban pulled-pork sandwich, all earned a hearty “thumbs up” from this touring band of food critics.

However, we are riders first, and after an hour or so, we were itching to pick up where we left off. We wound out of the parking lot and meandered through Silverton, toward Silver Falls State Park. A misty rain started to fall, but nothing to deter anyone from marching on. Wet roads or dry, OR-214 is always a pleasure to ride, even with traffic. Soon enough, the park trees gave way to farmland as we dropped from the hills into Marion County. Through Aumsville and Turner, the rain became more steady.

One of the real treats that come from our monthly rides is introducing folks who think they



Cornering in Marion County

Photo by Diane Peterson

know the area to new gems that are right under their nose. Such is the case with the area south of Salem. Hylo Road to Liberty Road drops you into the Ankeny Wildlife Refuge. Observation blinds can be seen along the trails throughout the refuge. Even without parking the bikes, geese and heron were everywhere. Exiting the refuge and bearing west, the road follows the

Willamette for twenty miles before giving way to Salem. It’s as pretty a stretch of road as you’ll find anywhere in the valley.

Downtown Salem is to be avoided but we were winding down anyway. Larry Wood waved farewell, as did Karl Perlich. For the rest of us who were heading north, we had one more sprint to enjoy. We said our so-longs at a brief gas stop in Keizer; then it was off to Windsor Island and Wheatland Road. Eventually, all found I-5 and home. It had been another long day of strafing. Lucky for us, we all got an extra hour of sleep that night.

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,
November Ride: 223**

**Total First Saturday
miles – 2017: 2,597**

**[Seven Brides Brewing,](#)
990 N. 1st Street, Silverton, OR
(503) 874-4677**



Colin Luther...back in the saddle again

Photo by Diane Peterson

Peak of the Pacific Crest Trail, crossing to Sawyer's Bar

photo by Mark Collier



BEEMER BEAT Editor
289 Pine Dell Lane
Grants Pass, OR 97526



Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG