

December 2018 Volume 42, Issue #12 Founded 1976 - Charter #83, BMW Motorcycle Owners of America





Edson Creek Swimming Hole Sixes Campout, July—2018

photo by Forest McGreggor

So Long . . .

from Bob Metzger, see pages 4-5.

## Motoring Our Marque (③) to Marquam

from David Peterson, see pages 11-13.

BMWRO Quarterly Meeting Minutes

from Alice LeBarron, see page 9.





# **Club Sanctioned Events**

Event:	1st Quarterly Meeting of the
	Membership
Date/Time:	January 19, 2019 at 11:30 am
Place:	Cascade Grill
	110 Opal Ct. SE, Albany, OR <b>(541) 926-3388</b>
<b>Description:</b>	Club business is conducted quarterly. All
	members and associates are welcome to attend,
_	meet other members and have a tasty lunch.
Cost:	Members pay: \$5.00
	Non-members pay full price.
	Register online at : <u>www.bmwro.org</u>
Contact:	Bill Habel
	Deborah Hughs-Habel



Event: Date/Time: Place: Description: Contact:	<b>Chief Joseph Rally, 2019</b> June 27–30, 2019 Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day, Oregon This is the club's largest event of the year, and it is well attended by riders from far and near. Please join the Rally Committee and help direct the success of the 2019 Rally! Alice LeBarron
Event:	<b>Coastal Campout</b>
Date/Time:	July 26–28, 2019
Place:	Edson Creek Group Campground
Description:	Details to be announced.
Contact:	Keith Matteson
Event:	<b>Steens Mountain Campout</b>
Date/Time:	September 6–8, 2019
Place:	The Narrows
Description:	Details to be announced.
Contact:	Alice LeBarron

# **Recurring Events**

Event: Date/Time: Location: Contact:	<b>Central Oregon 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday</b> Second Saturday of each month Various ride and lunch locations in the Central Oregon Region. Alice LeBarron <b>541-647-7194</b> <u>alicelebarron@hotmail.com</u> Gary Stead <b>541-593-7461</b> garystead67@gmail.com
Event:	Central Western Region
Date/Time: Location: Description: Contact:	<b>Ist Saturday Ride</b> Various dates and times. See the event calendar on the web site for more information. European Motorcycles of Western Oregon Various routes. TBD
Event: Date/Time: Location: Contact:	Southern Oregon 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday First Saturday of each month Various lunch/breakfast and ride locations for southern Oregon members. Dan Hall, <u>dnehall@frontier.com</u> Mark Collier 541-499-1395 mcollier5895@gmail.com
Event: Date/Time: Location: Description: Contact:	NW Oregon 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday Ride First Saturday of each month Various breakfast and ride locations in the Northwest Oregon Region. Finding the twisties and connecting with our membership for grins and food sharing. David Peterson 503-327-5592 dwpeterson01@yahoo.com Mike Ripley 503-789-2966 gobeezer@live.com
Event: Date/Time: Location: Contact:	Doc Wong Riding Clinic Second Saturday of each Month, 9:00 am Mr. Ed's Moto: 414 Queen Avenue, Albany Don Weber 541-791-5142 don@mredsmoto.com



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www.bmwro.org

## Ragnar-Loki born: December 5, 2008 Died November 13, 2018



from Forest McGreggor

Ragnar was the dog of my dreams: he was a Doberman half breed—he was black and tan in all the right places, had a long nose, a long tail and long floppy ears. He was the perfect Doberman cross breed mix which I always suspected was some bird-dog, like a Springer Spaniel—because he could spring straight up from a sitting position. Sometimes he would point—with that one forepaw lifted, standing on three legs.

I adopted Ragnar on February 5, 2009—at the age of approximately two months old—from the Josephine County Animal Shelter for \$100.00. It came with perks: including a free healthy dog exam at the veterinarian of my choice—mine was Dr. Margaret Foresberg of the Valley Animal Hospital (VAH) in Grants Pass, Oregon.

His first Healthy Pet Visit landed him in the VAH for five days in an effort to save his life from a disease called Parvo—which usually kills puppies. The VAH kept Ragnar alive with bags of saline solutions and antibiotics, while his body fought the disease.

After that, I considered him to be the Wonder Pup. Not many puppies survive Parvo. Later, Ragnar would be diagnosed with a seizure disorder. It only occurred about once a year for the first five years of his life. The incidents occurred more frequently as he grew older.

In the end, he had a diagnosis of heart Arrhythmia; and then, a tumor on the right side of his heart that was collapsing the lung on the right side. We knew this was end-of-life conditions for Ragnar. We had about one month—34 days—of togetherness during good days and bad ones. I spent every night at his bedside until the end—when his breathing became labored and he was too weak to stand up to go outside to urinate.

On November 13, 2018, I called Vet Margaret and asked for an in-home euthanasia visit for Ragnar. He dropped his body at 6:00 pm PST.

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## Central & Northeast Ambassador Ride November 10, 2018



Mark Mniszewski was the only other rider to join Alice LeBarron for the November 10<sup>th</sup> Central Oregon ride. Cold temperatures and occasional patches of frost in the shadows may have deterred some riders; but they missed out on a fun day. This is Mark's 1984 BMW R80GS.

Photo by innocent, anonymous bystander.

#### **Oregon Back Country Discovery Maps**

Thanks to the generosity of Milt (Butch) Farrand, BMWRO has a complete set of maps for the Oregon Backcountry Discovery Routes.

Refer to <u>www.oohva.org</u> for more information about these maps.

BMWRO members who wish to borrow the maps should contact Alice LeBarron <u>bmwro.secretary@gmail.com</u>.



THE BEEMER BEAT

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by Bob Metzger



# So Long . . .

If you happened to open the October 2018 issue of the BMW Owners News to page 50, you would have seen an article entitled Music & Motorcycling by Doug McBride (#6642). Doug did some heavy research and catalogued no less than 25 songs that speak to motorcycling going all the way back to 1955. As Doug said, "Motorcycles have had a very definite presence in the music industry since the dawn of Rock and Roll...."

As I read Doug's article I realized first and foremost that I not only knew the melody to most every song, but the lyrics as well! These songs are part of our cultural heritage for better or for worse. They are true slices of Americana, one genre at a time.

Readers of my President's column over the past two years have no doubt noticed that I have tried to leverage my Team Oregon Motorcycle Training Program instructor lessons into many, if not most of my columns. I hope you

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have enjoyed the information, the lessons, and a little bit of humor tossed in along the way. This is my last column; writing it has been one of the more enjoyable aspects of being president of the BMWRO for the past two years.

So what can we learn as motorcyclists from listening to these oldies-but-goodies from the past? Quite a bit actually. Here are six songs and selected lyrics that deliver a safety message for those who wish to listen. Let's ride!



#### Black Denim Trousers and Motorcycle Boots

The Cheers (1955) "He had a hopped-up 'cycle that took off like a gun. That fool was the terror of Highway 101."

Right away I can tell you this guy has a problem with self control and anger management! At Team Oregon we teach new riders to "Use your expert judgement, to avoid using your expert skills." Good advice for those that heed it. Today, this "fool" would be lanesplitting on the L.A. freeways at 80 mph.... in the dark.

### Leader of the Pack

The Shangri-La's (1965) "I begged him to go slow, whether he heard, I'll never know. Look out! Look out! Look out!" (Followed by motorcycle crashing sounds.)

Again, here is a rider with not only low self-control, but also low self-esteem when his girlfriend breaks up with him. At Team Oregon we teach riders to not throw a leg over a machine unless they are completely ready to ride. We call it Rider-Readiness. You want to make certain you are physically ready, your machine is in good shape, you are aware of weather and roadway conditions. and most importantly you are mentally ready to ride. In this case, Jimmy, was not mentally ready and was preoccupied by his girlfriend dumping him.

### Motorcycle Mama

#### Sailcat (1972)

"You'll be the queen of my highway, my motorcycle mama and we'll see the world from my Harley, if the chain don't break."

I freely admit that I missed this one growing up. At 21 years of age in 1972 I think I was a bit more taken by Jackson Brown singing "Doctor My Eyes." Elton John was the original "Rocket Man" beating Kim Jong-Un to the title and Billy Paul was lisping the lyrics to "Me And Mrs. Jones." So, what is our take-away lesson from the Sailcat's song? Clearly it is that whatever style of motorcycle you wish to ride you need to do your routine maintenance to avoid side-of-theroad breakdowns. No fun.... but then it is often said that the real adventure doesn't begin-until something goes wrong.



**Bat Out of Hell** 

Meat Loaf (1977) "But I can't stop thinking of you, and I never see the sudden curve until it's way too late."

Dear Mr. Loaf, where do I begin? There is just so much wrong going on here in only one line of your song! As we saw in the song "Leader Of The Pack" this guy has no Rider-Readiness. He is completely not mentally engaged in the activity of riding a motorcycle. Next, he gets surprised by a curve. That would not have happened if he had kept his head and eyes up. Lastly, he fails to negotiate the curve. Probably because he over rode his sight distance and did not turn his head to look through the curve. Excessive speed was no doubt also a factor.

### **Motorcycle**

Colter Wall (2017) "Well, I figure I'll buy me a motorcycle. Wrap her pretty little frame around a telephone pole."

Here is a situation we see all the time at Team Oregon. Students get it 180 degrees wrong. They purchase the large motorcycle first, then decide to get training. This guy is resigned to crashing probably because he failed to understand the difference between experience and competency. To be competent you must practice. In this case, it appears he never intends to master his maximum in-line braking skills.

### Wanted Dead or Alive

Jon Bon Jovi ( 1986) "I'm a cowboy, on a steel horse I ride, I'm wanted dead or alive."

Nothing to be learned here. I'm not even sure it is about motorcycling. This is just one of the best rock anthem songs of all time! This song also probably contains one of the best rock lyric lines ever written.... *"I've seen a million faces and I've rocked them all."* Way to rock Jon and Richie!

As long as this column is full of quotations, I want to end with a quotation from one of my favorite book authors, Douglas Adams. Douglas authored the Hitchhiker's Guide series.... with that noted, *"so long, and thanks for all the fish."* The right people will understand.



## 2019 Chief Joseph Rally Update

The Chief Joseph Rally is scheduled for June 27–30, 2019 at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day. I have spoken with Mindy Winegar, the fairgrounds manager, and will be signing the contract soon.

As your President-elect, I'm not able to take on the role of Rally Master as was done by Bob & Lindy Metzger last year. All club officers are kept busy fulfilling the responsibilities of their positions; and it just isn't realistic to expect that they take on the additional responsibility of the Rally Master.

Since no one has stepped

#### December, 2018

forward to fill the Rally Master position, I suggest that we change the format of this role. What I envision is a Rally Planning Committee of 4–to–5 people. The Executive Committee will work with the **Rally Planning Committee** to help give direction, guidance, and budgetary oversight.

I anticipate that the **Rally Planning Committee** will start with one meeting to get organized and then we should be able to move forward by email and phone communication as we all take on pieces of the responsibility. Date and location of the Rally Planning meeting will be decided once I have the volunteers. As a member of the **Rally Planning Committee**, your rally registration, meals, and T-shirt will be covered by the club in appreciation for your work.

As I have seen time and time again, many hands make light work. As BMWRO members, the success of our club and our rally depends on all of us. Please consider volunteering for the **Rally Planning Committee** and send me an email by December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Alice LeBarron bmwro.secretary@gmail.com

## NEW MEMBERS

 Motorcycle

 Dan Gradin, Tigard, OR
 2003 BMW R1150RT

 Jamie Schurr, Lebannon, OR
 2009 BMW R1200RS

 Hank Widdop, Memphis, TN
 1962 BMW R50 with Velorex Hack,

 1972 BMW R75/5



# Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

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

### FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:

HTTP://BMWRO.ORG

## BMWRO Club Officials

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

Vice President: Chris Henry, (541-915-4616) bmwro.vp@gmail.com

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

Treasurer: Nate Levin, (503-931-9789) bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com

BEEMER BEAT Editor: Forest McGreggor, (541-761-2320) bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster: Stacy Brock, bmwro.web@gmail.com

Activities Chris Henry, (541-915-4616) 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).

Ambassador Volunteer Requested-

if interested please contact any member of the Executive Committee.

# 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

Gary Stead — 541-647-0135 garystead67@gmail.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



<u>www.bmwro.org</u>

## BMWRO Quarterly Meeting Minutes

#### November 17, 2018

### held at Driftwood Shores Resort, Florence, Oregon

#### hosted by Jay & Janet Bennett

After a sumptuous banquet, the meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by BMVVRO club President, Bob Metzger. He offered thanks to everyone for attending this and other events throughout the year. Member participation helped to make this a good year. He also offered thanks to our hosts for the evening, Jay & Janet Bennett. We went around the room so that each person could introduce themself. There were 40 Members and six guests in attendance. Executive Committee members in attendance were President **Bob Metzger**, VP Chris Henry, Treasurer **Nate Levin**, and Secretary Alice **LeBarron**; Webmaster, **Stacy Brock**, was unable to attend.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Nate Levin gave the treasurer's report. We currently have a balance of \$26,289.91. This is the balance after we have deducted the \$20,000 given to nine different charities. Bob Metzger had met with representatives from all of the recipient organizations last month to distribute the charitable contributions. Nate outlined the donations as:

- \$2000 to Grant County Fairgrounds
- \$2000 to Grant County Foodbank
- \$1500 to Prairie City Foodbank
- \$1500 to Monument Foodbank
- \$5000 to CASA of Grant County
- \$3000 to Grant County School District 3 (divided equally to support sports, art & music)
- \$3000 to John Day Senior Center
- \$1000 to John Day Police Dept
- \$1000 to John Day Fire Dept

Chris Henry clarified some misunderstanding in the form of rumors. This is a one time donation amount. The annual amount and recipients of our charitable giving will vary from year to year. This was an unusually high amount this year partly because we missed giving last year.

### **Election Results**

As club secretary, Alice LeBarron reported on the results of our Election of Officers. Fifty-one votes were submitted this year. This shows about a 40% increase in voter interest from our previous four elections. Alice

**LeBarron**—running unopposed—was elected club President and **Linnea Alvord**—running unopposed—was elected club Secretary. There were no write-ins. The transition of officers will take place the first of January, 2019. Next fall (2019), we will be voting for club Vice President and Treasurer positions.

Alice also reported on the club membership. We currently have 635 members—including all member types. There are 327 Associate memberships which will expire December 31, 2018. Including all membership types, there are:

- 137 members in NW region,
- 111 members in the Central Western region,
- 61 members in the Southern region,
- 56 members in the Central and NE region, and
- 270 members reside out of state.

#### **New Business**

Vice President/Activity Coordinator **Chris Henry** spoke about events that are already scheduled for 2019.

- Our first 2019 Quarterly Membership Meeting is combined with a luncheon, hosted by Bill Habel and Deborah Hughes-Habel on January 19th, 2019 at the Cascade Grill in Albany.
- **Chief Joseph Rally** will be June 27–30, 2019 at the Grant County fairgrounds in John Day.
- Keith Matteson will be hosting the **Coastal Campout** July 26–28, 2019.
- Alice LeBarron will be hosting the Steens Mountain Campout at The Narrows September 6–8, 2019.

#### Spring 2019 Meeting of the Membership:

We need a volunteer to host the spring meeting in May. Please contact Chris Henry if you would consider helping with this. His email is <u>bmwro.vp@gmail.com</u>

#### Fun was had:

Door prizes were given out. Jay Bennett won a book on cornering skills, Dichelle Chambers won a Team Oregon goodie bag, Brian Bach won the book *Two Wheels Through Terror,* and Elie Hall won a book about Utah.

#### The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice LeBarron

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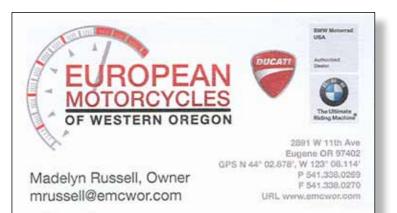
Secretary, BMWRO



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## Support your local BMW Motorcycle Dealerships and Service Centers for Oregon

These good folks service our grand toys— BMW motorcycles—and we should remember that without them, how would we get the parts and services we need when we need them? Support your local BMW motorcycle dealership and service centers with your business. And thank you.





www.bmwro.org

## Motoring Our Marque (③) to Marquam NW Ambassadors Ride Report – November 2018

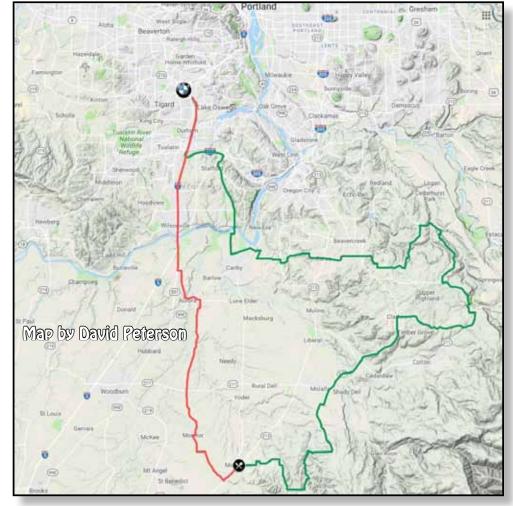
David Peterson #90113

It's November. The wettest month in an Oregon year. Time to bundle up with an extra layer of Gore-tex?

Not this year. Consequently, the only hazard one has to fear is the sun, low in the sky, wreaking havoc on visibility. But with dry pavement, all is right with the world. Even if one can't see.

Apparently, I am not alone in my appreciation of dry roads. For when clutches released and speedo needles ascended, twenty enthusiasts on sixteen bikes began to roll. Twenty! In November! I'm sure it said more about the weather than the ride. But the ride...she was a good one!

We bounded along OR-217 and I-5, excited about a quick exit



from traffic. Seeing more bikes in my mirrors than I could count, I followed my magenta guide (those with GPS know of which I speak) onto I-205. First point of departure? Stafford Road.



Waiting for the Canby ferry. Photo by Louie Robida

And so the fun began. Stafford gave way to Mountain Road and a meandering descent to the Willamette. I don't know why, but rides on a ferry always make a motorcycle trek just a little more special. It's a quick crossing on the *M.J. Lee II*, and another few miles before we left the traffic lights behind.

Our destination today was Marquam, a mere 25 miles away as the crow flies. But it would take us almost 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours to arrive. Why? Because Clackamas County south of Oregon City and east of I-5 is a Gordian knot of twisty country roads. Even straight shots are bent by property lines and other obstacles. And each familiar stretch is limbed with branches that tickle one's curiosity about what to explore next time.

Well, today was next time. After crossing Beavercreek Road, Carus

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Road becomes a path—sans center line—up and over the contours like a snake. At Lower Highland Road we headed left, but not before nodding in the general direction of Gary Thye's place, a few hundred yards down the road. Gary passed away just a few months ago. He was a renaissance man for whom any motorcycle ride, regardless of length, was a unique adventure. He'd been everywhere, and it would delight me to no end when, after chasing me, he would approach at lunch, or at a stop, and say, "I've ridden that stretch a thousand times...and I've never been on that road!" When leading rides in the future, I'll always consider an obscure segment and ponder... What would Gary think?

As we continued east, the roads became narrower and twistier. We headed north on Ridge Road, aptly named, as deep forest falls away on both sides. At Redland Road, we turned right; after all, lunch was due south of where we'd just come. At Fellows Road, we took a hard right.



Touring along Mountain Road in West Linn.

Photo by Diane Peterson

Fellows Road was our find for the day. Narrow and tight, it climbs 800 feet over four miles. Despite the leaves and dappled light, it is somewhat freshly paved—and well marked—throughout. After



The Willamette crossed, we resume the chase. Photo by Diane Peterson

Fellows, all the roads that followed seemed as wide as the interstate. Most remarkable of all, our conga line was hanging together. Another advantage of the middle of nowhere is that a group can regather at intersections, often without interference from other traffic. We did so several times... and wait time was never a problem.

Soon we were back on a major thoroughfare—OR–211—but just for a moment, before veering right onto Unger Road and another meander through the woods. Before long, we intercepted OR–211 again, just long enough to approach Molalla. The prospect of a stop light pushed us south, back into the countryside. After another 25 minutes of rural riding, we regrouped for what everyone assumed was the last push to lunch.

Little did they know that lunch was literally right across the street. Marquam is nothing more than an intersection, about five miles north of Silverton on OR–213. Alfred Marquam rambled west on the



Oregon Trail. In 1845, he secured a 640–acre land grant, then built a house and a store. In 1889, the post office was established and Marquam's name stuck (it probably didn't hurt that he was the first postmaster). In 1895, the first <u>Markum Inn</u> opened to feed the burgeoning masses. It served continuously until burning to the ground in 1950. A 1970 restart met a similar fate in 2014. It was no big loss—the food was terrible.

In 2016, an enterprising Chicagoan named Mark Burnett decided to have a go. He opened in 2017, with an emphasis on locally sourced steaks and what he calls "wood-fired food." It's big, open and airy, smelling of smoked meats and oven-baked pizza. Lunches were enormous. vet practically every plate was clean. David Morganstern provided dessert for the occasion, parceling out his remaining Halloween stash to any at the table—and in the restaurant—who wanted something sweet. It was a sugary end to what, in my mind, was our best First Saturday lunch of the season.



An enthusiastic throng smiles before digging into lunch at MarKum Inn.

Photo by David Peterson

Speaking of Morganstern, everyone loves to see their name in print. Tucked in between **Diane** and me in the lead, and tailgunner **Neal Malagamba**, you would find two-ups **Kim Dorsing** and **Janice Mathern, Cam** and **Karen Rust**, and **Charles** and **Joy Trapp. Frank Boyle**, **Brian Frid** (on his maiden ride with us), **Jim Groat**, **Dave Miller**, **Steven Polansky, Louie Robida**, **Bruce Schwindt** (another first-timer),



Are We There Yet? Photo by Diane Peterson

Tammy Tolbert, Steve Woodward, and Jeff Yarnall chased along on their own bikes.

It was a perfect way to celebrate the resetting of the clocks (daylight savings time) the next day. Nevertheless, the adventure continues in December and January. Will our string of dry rides hold? Join us on December 1<sup>st</sup> and January 5<sup>th</sup> to find out!

Check out photos from past First Saturday rides <u>here</u>. And if you have photos of your own you want to share, don't hesitate to forward them to David at <u>dwpeterson01@</u> yohoo.com.

Total miles, November Ride: ...123

Total First Saturday	
miles – 2018:	2,681

**MarKum Inn** 36903 OR–213, Mt. Angel, OR (503) 829-6006



See final photo on back page

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THE BEEMER BEAT



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



Visit our website at: WWW.BMWRO.ORG