



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



September, 2016

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



So. Oregon Ride Report

photo by Dan Hall

Lake Walton Campout

by Dan Russell with many
photos—Page 8.

Northwest Ride Report

by David Peterson—Page 5

So. Oregon Ride Report

by Dan Hall—Page 2 (*no
President's Report this month*)

Southern Oregon Ambassador Ride Report August, 2016

from Dan Hall

The Southern Oregon August ride started with eight riders on seven bikes meeting at the Dutch Bros. coffee stand in Merlin. Attending were, **Steve Sincerny** and **Lori**, **Jim vonStein**, **Trent McGee**, **Wes Molsberry**, **David Gwynn**, **Dichelle Chambers**, and myself. The weather forecast was for the high 80's, perfect riding weather. Our goal today was to ride to the Bearcamp Overlook at approximately 4700 foot altitude in the Siskiyou National Forest—this road goes all the way to Gold Beach but we would only be going to the top of the pass. We rode out through Merlin, past Indian Mary County Park and then out along the beautiful Rogue River towards Galice, not too many rafters on the river yet. Just before reaching Galice we turn west on Bearcamp Road and then took the longer Peavine Loop towards the top of the pass. This is a longer way to the top and is a single lane blacktop road in great condition filled with

curves and up and down ridges with the occasional spectacular view of the valleys. A few years ago this was a gravel road and was the only way off the mountain since the main road was blocked by a large slide. It took several years before they opened the main road so they paved this loop which is a great bike road. About half way up this loop we see a black bear run across the road and then up the road and into the woods—perfect for a Bearcamp Road ride. No-one believed that I had planned this sideshow—unfortunately only the first three or four riders got to see the bear.

After joining up with the main

road we continued on up the mountain for about ten more miles to the overlook. After a brief stop we headed back down for about 20 miles on the main road to Galice for lunch. At lunch I learned that one of our members on this ride—who lives in Merlin—had never been up this road: you gotta get out more, Wes!

We enjoyed a great lunch out on the deck overlooking the Rogue River. By now there were lots of rafters going by and also stopping for lunch on the deck. After lunch we continued on out the Galice Road to the Grave Creek bridge where the rafters start their trip down through the wilderness section of the Rogue. There were lots of big rafts all loaded up with gear to start their 3–4 day camping trip down to Agness. This is a fantastic trip if you love rivers and camping. Elie and I have taken this trip three different times and it is highly recommended. We saw lots of wildlife including bears on each of our trips. After watching the rafts depart we all got back on our bikes and split up and headed for home. Another great ride in beautiful southern Oregon, its tough to beat Oregon riding.

Dan Hall





BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **Steens Narrows**
Date/Time: September 9 - 11, 2016
Place: Narrows RV Park, OR
Description: A Saturday and Sunday morning continental breakfast and a Saturday night meal of BBQ, plus more. 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.
Cost: For members: \$15.00; for non-members: \$25.00
Contact Janet and Jay Bennett. Please **RSVP** No Later than **8/30/16**. Preferred method of sign-up is thru our website and use PayPal at: <http://bmwro.org/SNC-preregistration.html>
RV hookups at your own expense: call **541-495-2006** to make reservations for RV camp spots or visit: www.narrowsrvpark.com. Preferred method of sign-up is through the [Event Calendar](#) on the BMWRO website using a credit/debit card or by sending our Treasurer a check in the mail.
Contact: 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.*
- Event:** **Fall Coastal Campout**
Date/Time: September 23—25, 2016
Place: Moonshine Park near Siletz in Lincoln County
Description: A group campsite for tents and several RV sites. There is both good road and dual sport riding in this area. The Siletz River runs beside the campsite. There are rest rooms with showers, fire pits and tables. Food will be on your own but nearby there are good restaurants. A small country store is 4 miles away.
Directions: Take Hwy 229 to Siletz. Turn east onto Logsden Road, drive approximately 7.5 miles until you reach the Logsden store. Then cross the bridge and turn left onto Moonshine Park Road. Follow for approximately 4 miles to the park.
Cost: For members: **free**; for non-members: **\$15.00**
Preferred method of sign-up is thru the [Event Calendar](#) on the BMWRO website.
Contact: Jay Bennett. **Please RSVP No Later than 9/20/16**. Preferred method of sign-up is thru our website or contact Jay at bmwro.pres@gmail.com or **541-760-0675** to reserve a space (both tent or RV). Also checkout this [Moonshine-Park](#) web page.

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 Friday Lunch**
Date/Time: Every Friday around noon-ish
Place: Various places around Eugene. Check the events calendar [onLine](#) for locations.
- 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 jpbmOR@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

NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Jeff Walton, Redmond, OR. Riding: 2005 R1200RT



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)

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bmwro.pres@gmail.com

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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
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

NW Ambassadors Ride Report August 2016

David Peterson #90113
Michael Ripley #191665

Sometimes when you're leading rides, you've got to experiment. Especially when it comes to new roads and overnight events, and summer is a very good time to try new things. So it was that we turned the August First Saturday ride into a first weekend ride.

It was hard to come up with a destination that might be new and different. I mean, all of us make it our duty to find the road never taken. But Mt. Rainier turned out to be a propitious choice; relatively few of our gang had ever looped all the way around. So it was going to be mostly new terrain after all. That was check #1 in the success column.

Mike ably led the Day 1 ride, making full use of his GPS as we meandered along the farthest eastern reaches of metropolitan Vancouver. Following was an eager mix of ride regulars: **Kim**



Dorsing, Karl & Ramona Perlich, Neal Malagamba, Ric Holderbaum, Scot Lamper, and Chris Henry, as well as seldom-seen **Kent Neely** and newcomer **David Morganstern**. David and **Diane** were the tip of the whip. At our first stop in Cougar, we were joined by **Bob Berner** and his wife **Barbara Garfien**, who had taken the the Carson/Windy Pass option from their home in Hood River.

We were in Cougar because we were headed to Mt. Rainier

along NF-25—a scenic and bumpy alternative to I-5. We were especially careful making our way over the eastern shoulder of Mt. St. Helens—we had to be because the combination of pot holes and frost heaves amid the dappled light made for a thrilling ride. We had started out in overcast, but by an hour north of Cougar, the clouds had broken and Mt. Saint Helens was in full view.

Everyone escaped the bumps unscathed, and soon we were in Packwood. There are a few options for lunch; we decided on the **Blue Spruce Saloon**, where the food was good—and they actually wait on you at your table. We were now on the cusp of Mt. Rainier—you could actually see it peek over the hills behind Packwood—but we learned during the pre-ride that summer crowds and road construction might get in the way of a good time. Besides, NF-52 offered another windy way north. And we had art to see. Riding on Mt. Rainier would have to wait until another time.

If you've never heard of [Ex-Nihilo Sculpture Garden](#), put it on your list of motorcycle must sees. Located just west of Ashford on WA-706,



Posing at Clearwater Viewpoint

Photo by David Peterson

it features the art of welder/artist **Dan Klennert**. Dan had built small sculptures using found objects, until he happened upon an overgrown junk yard in the shadow of Mt. Rainier. Fast forward twenty years and the property is festooned with dozens of oversized objects d'art. If you go too fast, as we often do, you'll hardly notice what you're missing. Don't; many folks described our visit as the highlight of the weekend.

After an hour or so of culture, it was back on the bikes. Soon the Buckley Econo Lodge appeared (as did **Carol Lamper**) and the Day 1 riding adventure was complete. Dinner at **Bootlegger's Bar and Grill** would provide the day's last sideshow. Seems Chris Henry's burger and fries at lunch weren't enough protein in a day. He decided he had room for the *Big Bad Bootlegger*—a three-pound mountain of a burger, smothered in cheese, bacon fried onion strings, and BBQ sauce, and surrounded by a pound of fries. Down it all in thirty minutes and the burger



Fish in the Yard, Ex-Nihilo Sculpture Garden

Photo by David Peterson

was free. Wave the white flag and you're \$30 in the hole. Chris attacked it with gusto, while all of us urged him along, ducking meat and potato shrapnel along the way. But when the buzzer sounded, he was only about half way, leaving a moldering carcass that the rest of us nibbled at like buzzards on road kill. Way to go, Chris—you earned the "Munch Mouth of the Weekend" ribbon.

After a well-deserved night's sleep, we assembled in the parking lot for the eastern portion of our adventure. Mud Mountain Road was a terrific early chance to carve corners and get the juices flowing. Soon we were eastbound on WA-410, toward Chinook Pass and Yakima beyond, hoping for a glimpse of our ride's namesake. The clouds hung low and so did the temperatures, falling to 46° as we stopped for pictures at the pass. But you could see the fog burning off at the bottom of the canyon and 30 minutes later we were in the sun and warm again. WA-410 ends when it merges into US-12, but the fun did not stop there. To the left runs Old Naches Highway, a two-lane wander through the heart of Washington state's fruit basket and a far-superior alternative to the straight and crowded Hwy 12.

After a gas stop and another twenty minutes, it was time for lunch. And this time, it wasn't just non-descript road food. **Cowiche Corner Kitchen + Ice House** is a bright, modern purveyor of nouveau cuisine, housed in a beautiful and spacious concrete, wood, and glass exterior. It's been around less than two years, and



Chris executes his burger assault...

Photo by Neal Malagamba



...thirty minutes later, the beer is gone, but much of the burger remains

Photo by Neal Malagamba

it's already #1 on TripAdvisor's list of Yakima eateries. We had the privilege of lunching with twenty ecstatic twenty-something baby shower attendees, whose high-decibel squeals only added to the ambiance. The food was terrific and everyone once again agreed it was worth the stop. We can't recommend it enough if you find yourself in Yakima.

It was Sunday, however, and a few of the tribe decided it was time to straightline it home. As we said our goodbyes to Larry Kneely and the Lampers (sounds like Portland's newest indy band), the rest of us looked forward to one last meander. Down and off of I-82, about thirty miles to the east, lies one of the northwest's least known and most enjoyable motorcycle thrill rides. The town of Mabton is your starting point and if you head south over the grade and west through Bickleton to Goldendale, you will enjoy one of the best 70-mile stretches anywhere. The ride was swift and sobering—EMTs were attending to one of our Harley brethren who failed to negotiate a tight left-hander. It was also a



Reveling in the mist, Chinook Pass

photo by David Peterson

test of endurance, with a 40+ mile headwind standing us up in each corner. But when it was over, it was smiles and high-fives all around. If it hadn't been Sunday afternoon, I think half of us would have turned around and done it all over again.

Alas, all good things come to an end. Fortunately, the Goldendale Dairy Queen was an excellent place to say our goodbyes. Hours later, we learned that everyone was

home safe and sound and the early reviews of our first overnight First Saturday were positive.

I guess we'll just have to do it again someday soon.

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, August Ride: 670

Total First Saturday miles – 2016: 2,115

[Blue Spruce Saloon,](#)

13019 US-12, Packwood, WA 98361
(360) 494-5605

[Bootlegger's Bar and Grill,](#)

29285 WA-410, Buckley, WA 98321
(360) 829-5060

[Cowiche Canyon Kitchen + Ice House,](#)

202 East Yakima Aveue, Yakima, WA 98901 (509) 457-2007



A civilized Sunday motorcycle brunch.

photo by Anonymous baby shower attendee



Walton Lake

by Dan Russell

Pick a serene lake, a group-campground in Central Oregon, surround it with a variety of paved and dirt roads, add scenic valleys and mountain summits, infuse the campground with 22 BMWRO riders and two guests for a three-day campout planned by Alice LeBarron, and you've got yourself the perfect recipe for a terrific time.

The participants are as intriguing as the geographical ambiance. There are riders of extensive motorcycling experience and some relative newbies. One rider owns 12 motorcycles and two airplanes. A Washington state guest spent 25 years adventuring to the nooks and crannies of British Columbia aboard his boat, but now explores with a motorcycle. **Don Chase** just returned from riding the Bella Bella—Chilcotin Highway area of British Columbia. Another rider is the most educated welder I ever met—more of a philosopher/meditator. He also entertained us around the campfire by playing the dulcimer. There are the big BMW 1200 RT's, plenty midsize, dirt-hopping 650's and similar bikes, and a 1200 GSA.



photo by Dan Russell

The rider who amazed me the most was Lynne Clark. She started riding, let's just say, "later in life." Could I say, like, ahhh, quite later in life? Lynne's been riding for nine years now. I was awed to hear the extent she traveled in that relatively short time. She resides on the Oregon coast, but she is not one of the Oregonians who's never ventured out of the state. Not by a long shot!

Lynne flew to Europe, and with rented bikes toured Italy, France, and Spain; then, she ventured on into Morocco in northern Africa. This adventurer then shipped her own BMW 650 GS to Africa, where she rode through Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, and other parts of southern Africa. North of

home, she rode through the Yukon Territory to the Arctic Circle.

Late last year (2015), Lynne took her GS and headed south through Arizona and on into Mexico and Central America, arriving in Panama. There, she couldn't travel south by road any further due to Panamanian province known as Darien Gap. It has no roads, only forests and "bad guys" in the jungle. It's known as the "missing link" in the Panamanian Highway. Lynne was not to be stopped! She put her bike on a freighter to Cartagena, Colombia. Then, she traveled through Ecuador and onward into Peru. After some import/export paperwork problems in Ecuador, she again shipped her bike—this time to Miami. Then, as she puts it: she "trode home", all the way to Oregon, arriving in May.

After all this, she is still soooo humble, stating: "I'm not a good rider." Holy buckets, gal! You're an amazing rider!! You are total inspiration!!! Out of the U.S., I've ridden only a bit of Mexico, and I can tell you from even that small sampling that these sorts of places have lots of safety challenges. Of course, you've got developing country road conditions, but also drivers who've never seen a driver's manual or taken an exam. You swear every one of them is out to



photo by Dan Russell

kill you! If you survive, it's good training for the more docile, but still threatening domestic traffic.

Lynne also flew to Europe, rented a bike and rode all over that continent. She was already a nurse, but earned a degree in anthropology as well. I guess you might need that if you turn your motorcycle into a cultural time machine. The stickers on her 650's boxes read like an atlas's index to bucket list adventures; and, she's been to every sticker's location. When I grow up, I want to be just like Lynne.

The road bikes head out for various scenic paved rides. **Steve Miller** leads nine others of us on a GS ride. Steve knows the Walton Lake area's geography and history like a cartographer. He leads us along the pavement through wild horse, cattle, sheep, deer, and antelope country. A couple riders are fortunate enough to see antelope—and all of us are fortunate enough to not run upon any Great Pyrenees Guard Dogs. The Great Pyrenees, also known as Pyrenean Mountain Dogs, were originally bred as dogs of war; but, now are used to protect herds of sheep and other livestock from predators such as coyotes, cougars, and even bears. Steve informs us that he has had to reverse course

to avoid these intimidating dogs. I check that my pepper spray is still in its holder by my left leg.

Exiting the pavement, we dismount to inspect a water crossing that Steve says we can play in. For some of us, at least for me, this is the first opportunity to practice a water crossing. For others, like **Jay Bennett**, it is child's play—enough so that he does some thrusty rear wheel spins in the water followed by a wheelie salute after exiting. Everyone successfully transits the crossing and back again. Now, it's off to more serious dirt road riding.

Steve heads us toward Mt. Pisgah. Do not confuse this mountain with Eugene/Springfield's Mt. Pisgah that has the nicely

groomed hiking road. This one near Walton Lake has a fire lookout tower and a 6,816-foot summit. It is our destination.

Between the lookout tower and us is Forest Service Road (FSR) 2630—a “jeep” road, as Steve puts it. The road has a variety of embedded rock, sand, cobblestone, and dirt. Most of us choose to follow Steve toward the tower. A couple people peel off for the tamer route back to camp. The rest of us fall in line behind Steve with Jay volunteering to sweep in order to help with any mishaps. We all manage to leave Jay with plenty of dust, but thankfully with no bikes or victims to pick up. I do manage to drop my bike while turning around in tower's cul-de-sac.

A panorama of snow-capped Oregon and even Washington mountains greets us at Mt. Pisgah Lookout Tower. Visibility is unlimited, bringing us views as far south as Mt. Bachelor and as far north as Mt. Rainer, and everything in between.

We descend toward our “base” camp on FSR 2630 as it loops north around Mt. Pisgah. The descent is quite tame. When we are within minutes of camp and lunch, Steve asks us if we want to continue returning on the easy way or take a “little more challenging route.”



photo by Dan Russell



photo by Dan Russell

“How much more challenging,” I ask.

“Nothing worse than we’ve already done,” Steve replies.

We are hooked and we all opt in. This route starts like a road, then we duck beneath a heavy branch or maybe it’s a half-fallen tree. I can’t tell. I’m too busy ducking while trying to still stand on my pegs. The road mostly disappears and becomes more of a trail, but pretty easily navigated. We exit and rejoin the main road for a brief ride into camp. We’re careful to take the longer way around the lake to reach the small group camp. We’ve been warned not to violate the one-way road and draw the ire of the camp host. **Linda Tewksbury** has a spaghetti lunch waiting for her husband, **Doug**—and all of his nine GS friends and the rest of the camp.

But, that wasn’t enough fun and riding for **Linnae Alvord**. She wants to ride to the Prineville Reservoir. After satisfying our well-earned hunger pangs, Jay Bennett and I join Linnae for a ride into Prineville and then down Highway 27 along the Crooked River and past the Prineville Reservoir Dam.

Oh my gosh! Is the Crooked River ever gorgeous!! The river meanders through riparian



photo by Dan Russell

grasslands reminiscent of the movie “A River Runs Through It”. Unlike the movie’s Montana filming sites, the Crooked River has precipitous, picturesque canyon walls rising more than 650 feet above the river. This is rattlesnake country, but the trout fishing is reportedly epic. We stop at Big Bend Campgrounds for a little rest under the shade. Then, we continue to the dam and cross the river. We gain a view of the Prineville Reservoir, which is immense in size and has plenty of recreational activity: fishing, tubing, skiing. Taking a right on Reservoir Road, we go west to Millican Road, then literally straight north (no corners!!) back to Prineville and on to Walton Lake.

We’re back at camp in time for potluck dinner primarily

provided by Linda Tewksbury, **Alice LeBarron**, and **Joy Cesafsky**. Linda Tewksbury contributes generously to this dinner—as she does to all meals: breakfasts, lunches, and dinners—including a special “midnight snack” of zucchini bread. Her Turkey Pot Pie, blueberry muffins, and scrambled eggs—and more delicious zucchini bread—sate us all. Your food and jolly character make contented souls of all us rider/campers. THANK YOU all for the expenses and time that you incur to ensure that nobody goes hungry.

The stars emerge brightly from the dark non-light-polluted sky. We all gather around the campfire and savor the stories of the day and other conversation with all of these interesting members. There’s plenty of laughter, and smiles are abundant.

We wake Sunday morning and share that coffee which never tastes better than it does in camp. We breakfast and at varying rates break down our tents and repack our boxes. It’s apparent that every one of the 22 BMWRO members and our two guests has had a wonderful time. We share hugs, good-byes, well wishes, and look forward to our next campout. For many, it will be the Steens in September.



photo by Dan Russell



Ten GS riders head out from the campground.

by Alice LeBarron



Bikes at Walton Lake

by Doug Tewksbury



Steve Miller briefs some of the GS riders before heading out. (left to right: Dave Prybylowski, Allen Cesafsky with his back to the camera, Steve Miller, Lew Judd, Linnea Alvord, Connie Cammack, and Dan Russell seated)

by Alice LeBarron



Entertainment at Walton Lake

by Doug Tewksbury

Letters to Editor

Forest, thanks for giving me a pass on writing the President's Message this month.

Isn't getting older fun? We just got back from a motorhome trip from here to Cour D' Lane to Missoula to Deadwood SD to

Cody WY and home. Took two bikes in the trailer behind the motorhome. Rode only a few hundred miles on the bikes but saw some interesting stuff and had some fun.

Jay Bennett



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Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG

Walton Lake Festivity

photo by Doug Tewksbury

