



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



August, 2017

Volume 41, Issue #8

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



Fifth Annual Cookout at the home of Linda & Doug Tewksbury

photo by Doug Tewksbury

Fifth Annual Cookout

Club treasurer, Linda Tewksbury, shares the event. See pages 12-13.

2017 CJR Recap

Rallymaster, Doug Tewksbury, provides a broad-brush depiction of his first rally. See pages 9-11.

Motorcycle Hacks

Club president, Bob Metzger, introduces part 1 of 2 parts on DIY hacks. See pages 4-5.



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

Event: **Women Riders Campout**
Date/Time: August 3-6, 2017
Place: Pioneer Ford Campground along the Metolius River, about 6.8 miles north of Camp Sherman.
Description: Rustic camping under Ponderosa Pine forest beside the Metolius River. Potable water, picnic tables, fire ring, vault toilets.
Limited space. Please sign up on the bmwro.org website event calendar or contact one of the hosts. Good paved routes and off-road routes in the area. Gas & groceries in Sisters, 22 miles away. Meals on your own or shared; we usually pool our resources and come up with some tasty creations.
You must contact the host before registering if you are planning to bring an RV, trailer, or car.
Cost: This event is free for BMWRO members and \$10 for Non-members
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com or phone **541-647-7194**
Robin Dunn robindunn2005@msn.com or phone **541-226-6595**

Event: **Solar Eclipse Campout**
Date/Time: Aug 18, 2017 @ 2 PM until Aug 22, at 10 AM
Place: Near Aumsville, OR. Directions available only after required registration*
Description: Tent camping for viewing of the Solar Eclipse on August 21, 2017. Bring your own food and beverages, but coolers and grills for cooking will be available. See Event Calendar for more details. This event is for BMWRO members
Cost: BMWRO Members—No Cost
Certified Eclipse Viewing Glasses: \$1 each
Contact: Linda Tewksbury @ **541-543-7943**
bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com



** There are going to be,—according to the Office of Emergency Services—an estimated 50,000 people in the Salem area for the eclipse. Checking their other predictions—for other eclipses which have happened around the world in years past—they have been off each time with numbers nearly always double their predictions.*

Ergo, the hosts for this BMWRO event are concerned that—should their location for the campout be made public—uninvited people may just show up. As it is, one of their neighbors listed their field as available on Craig's List for RV parking at a cost of \$300 per night and are totally filled up.

So with respect for their wishes and privacy, host names and location will not be advertised, and will only made available to members after they have registered.

Event: **Umpqua River Campout**
Date/Time: Friday, Sept 8th 1pm to Sunday, Sept 10th 11am
Place: Horseshoe Bend Campground, Deer Flat Group Site in the Umpqua National Forest, 31 miles east of Glide on Hwy 138
Directions: From Roseburg: turn onto OR HWY-138 (aka E/NE Diamond Lake Blvd.) Continue on OR HWY-138 approximately 16 miles until you reach the town of Glide. Upon entering Glide, the North Umpqua Ranger Station will be on your left (where you can obtain Umpqua NF information, maps and brochures). There is a Chevron gas station/convenience store (south side of 138) in Glide. It is recommended that

you top up. Continue on OR Highway-138 east for other 30 miles to Road #4750 near Milepost 48. If you come to the Dry Creek Store, you have gone too far. Turn Right onto FR #4750.

Directions from the east side: top up with gas in Chemult. Take the Diamond Lake turn from Hwy 97; follow Hwy 138 past Diamond Lake, past Eagle Rock campground, watch for the Dry Creek Store on your right. Shortly after that you'll see the sign for Horseshoe and a left-turn lane. Turn left onto Road #4750. If you come to the Apple Creek Campground, you have gone too far.

Directions from the turn onto Road #4750: shortly after turning onto Road 4750, you'll come to a bridge. Turn right just before the bridge. Continue following that road to the Horseshoe Campground. Just before entering the Campground, take a right uphill to the Deer Flat Group Site. These are all paved roads."

Description: Rustic camping along the Wild & Scenic Umpqua River with good paved and gravel routes in the area. **BMWRO will provide dinner on Saturday.** Potable water, picnic tables, fire rings, flush toilets. Plenty of space but please contact host if you are planning to bring an RV; no hook-ups available. Please sign up on the bmwro.org website event calendar or contact host. **Our quarterly general membership meeting will be held on Saturday at the campground.**

Cost: Free to BMWRO members. \$10 for non-members
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com or phone **541-647-7194**

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 jpbior@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:

2nd Annual First Saturday Overnight

Date/Time: August 5th & 6th, with a ride and overnight stay in Reedsport. Full description may be found at www.bmwro.org on the Even Calendar.

Location: Meet at BMW Motorcycles of Western Oregon, Tigard, at 8:30 am.

Description: It's time for our second annual treat...if you enjoy First Saturdays you'll titter like a little girl for our 2nd annual First Saturday Overnight. On August 5th and 6th, members from all over the state are invited to join the NWV Ambassadors as we make our way to Reedsport and back. There, we'll lounge at the luxurious BWV Salbasgeon Inn & Suites. Saturday's ride will avoid all the traditional routes, for that matter, Sunday's will as well



- ♪ The ride will be limited to 30 participants.
 - ♪ 15 rooms are reserved at the BWV. 8 rooms have two queens; 7 have 1 king. Rooms (tax included) will be \$164, regardless. Once the rooms are gone, you're on your own.
 - ♪ **YOU MUST SECURE YOUR OWN ACCOMMODATIONS.** Contact the BWV Salbasgeon directly at **(541) 271-4831** to make a reservation. **Mention you are one of the BMW RIDERS OF OREGON.**
 - ♪ Dinner will be at a restaurant TBD. You can order off the menu, but alcohol will be billed and paid for separately.
 - ♪ If you want a dinner deal, you must prepay when registering for this event. Cost will be \$10 for members; \$25 for non-members.
 - ♪ As FSR regulars know, we will gather at BMW of Western Oregon in Tigard. Doors open at 8:30am. It will be a long day; note that our departure will be at 8:45am, one hour earlier than usual. Make sure you are gassed up and ready to go before you arrive
- 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

BMWRO President's Message

by Bob Metzger



Motorcycle Hacks – Part I

You may, or not, be familiar with the term “life hack”. If you type the two words “life hack” into your web browser you will receive over 33 million hits. A life hack is defined as, “a strategy or technique adopted in order to manage one’s time and daily activities in a more efficient way.” Many life hacks use what I like to call adaptive reuse of an object, or idea, to facilitate another.

Let me give you a few examples of a life hacks. Take a standard cardboard toilet paper tube. Close off one end. Stuff the tube full of dryer lint. Next time you go camping use the tube to start your campfire. It will burn for quite some time. Next, take a single Pringle’s brand potato chip and stand it on end using a piece of modeling clay. Light the upper end and presto, you have a candle that will burn for quite some time.

Now, not all life hacks need involve fire, which I know is a great disappointment to my male readers. Over the next several newsletters I am going to regale you with some of my favorite motorcycle hacks. Many hacks are born from miles and miles on the road. Some I’ve purloined from the Internet. Some are born just

from experience that elevated age brings. We call this wisdom, rightly, or wrongly. So, without further ado, here are my favorite motorcycle hacks, in no particular order.

Duct Tape - We all know that duct tape has a myriad of uses beyond actually taping things together. I once heard someone refer to it as 100 mph tape. Allegedly, it will cover up a rust hole in your fender and stick up to 100 mph. If you happen to be wearing your summer riding boots on a cold mountain morning, cover the mesh air intake panel with duct tape. Ahhhhh! Peel it off when the temperatures warm up.

Motel Room Glove Dryer - Place a four-legged chair on the vanity in the motel bathroom. Drape the extra towels over the seat of the chair to form a loose enclosure beneath the seat of the chair. Turn the hair dryer on LOW and place it under the seat with your gloves. The towels will trap the warm air and dry your gloves quicker.

Dry Boots Faster - All boots get wet at some point. To dry boots quicker stuff each boot with newspaper. Change the newspaper frequently. The newspaper will wick the moisture out of the boot lining. Can be used with the above.

Bicycle Cable Combination Lock - I like to carry an inexpensive cable combination lock with me when I travel. When you are ready to go into a restaurant, simply thread the cable through the sleeve of your jacket and through the helmet D rings. Loop it through the bike and presto.... You don’t have to carry it all into the restaurant, and your expensive gear is secure.

Baby Wipes - They clean everything from leather to filthy hands. They are truly the campers’ friends. Go with the unscented variety in bear country!

Split Key Rings - Murphy’s Law says, “If something can go wrong it will.” By the way, Murphy was a real person, born in California, 1949. Smith’s law says, “Murphy was an optimist.” Those little split ring key holders come in several sizes and make a great quick fix if you break the

zipper pull on your riding gear. Simply slip the ring through the zipper slider and you’re back in the game.

Road Rags - Hopefully, we all can appreciate that it is really bad karma to use hotel / motel towels and washcloths to clean our motorcycles. Several years ago while traveling through Minnesota, I walked toward our bikes early in the morning and noticed a stack of old towels placed neatly on the seats of both Beemers. I thanked the clerk when I checked out. She said they were happy to do it for their two wheeled guests for obvious reasons. What a nice gesture. After that, I just developed the habit of asking the desk clerk for old towels. They are happy to be rid of them.

Spare Cables - Nothing can ruin a day faster than when you are miles from nowhere on a forest service road and a clutch or brake cable fails. A clever way to carry spare cables is to zip-tie a spare cable right next to the original. Now, you always have a spare tucked neatly away and on the ready if you should ever need it.



Can I get a drum roll please? Here is your last motorcycle hack.

Hockey Puck - Here is a motorcycle hack for the GS riders among us. We are told to crush a soda can to keep the side stand from sinking into soft earth and toppling our motorcycle. Frankly, when off road, pop cans are few and far apart (hopefully). I carry a cheap hockey puck with a cord attached (drill a hole in the puck to attach the cord) in my tank bag. Stop, pull out the hockey puck, let it down with the string, tap it under the side stand with my left foot, and loop it over my handgrip for easy and unforgettable retrieval. This is way cheaper than the aftermarket products and does not cost the price of an evening’s motel room. Your friends will be impressed by your ingenuity!

If you have some motorcycle hacks you would like to share send them to me at: bmwro.pres@gmail.com. I will include them in the future Motorcycle Hacks – Part II. Also, if you have ideas for a future President’s Column please send them along as well. I’ll do my best to research the topic and feed it back to the membership.



In closing, remember this is **YOUR** newsletter. I encourage you to participate. Feel free to write about your travels, share some knowledge, or author an equipment review. Share some images. It is so simple, and so greatly appreciated. Until next time, Happy Trails!

Head and eyes up,

Bob



Letter to the Editor

Forest, I don't know if you need any pics this month, but here is a short writeup (*of the So. Oregon Ambassador Ride, July 2017*).

Here is the infamous Tom Mitchell attempting to cross the Applegate River. We usually just ride straight across this bridge, but Tom is attempting to ride it sideways. Tom is an infamous elderly gentleman rider from

Eugene visiting the wilds of Southern Oregon. Maybe they don't have bridges in the Eugene area, I'm not sure. My friend Ken, on the Ducati is about to try a jump over Tom since there seems to be no way out for Tom. We eventually managed to get Tom off the bridge and continued on for a nice uneventful ride.

Dan Hall



BMWRO Executive Committee Nominations and Upcoming Election



Have you ever thought to yourself, "I have some ideas that could make this club better"? Do you enjoy the camaraderie and friendship that our club provides?

Coming in October our club will be holding elections for Vice President and Treasurer. These are 2 year terms of office. The Vice President also fills the role of Activities Coordinator. Nominations are received from now until the September meeting which will be held this year on **Saturday Sept 9th at the Umpqua Campout at Horseshoe Bend**. Nominations will be closed after that meeting. Elections are held in October and will be conducted on-line. New officers will be announced at the November meeting. Please contact the current VP, Scot Lamper,

at bmwro.vp@gmail.com or the current treasurer, Linda Tewksbury, at bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com if you are interested in details about the positions.

As we all know, this club thrives due to the work of volunteers. As a member of the executive committee, you would have the opportunity to influence the direction of the club and drive its continuous improvement.

Please consider this opportunity to use your own personal talents, experience, and love of motorcycling to help BMWRO continue to be a great club. If you are interested in running for one of these offices, please contact Alice LeBarron at bmwro.secretary@gmail.com.

NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Greg Aitken, Eugene, OR. . . . 2003 Yamaha WR450, 2007 Suzuki SV650
Don Anderson, Salem, OR 1981 BMW R65
Lester Appel, Hood River, OR unknown cycle
Rodney Burke, Portland, OR unknown cycle
James Campbell, Burns, OR unknown cycle
Jim Maddox, Brownsville, OR unknown cycle
Nancy Mensch, Portland, OR 2009 Yamaha V-Star 250
Dale Mosby, Arch Cape, OR unknown cycle
Vicki Strader, Bandon, OR unknown cycle
Jessica Trapp, Forest Grove, OR unknown cycle

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)
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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

R1200 GS & GSA Fork Tube update

from Mark Collier

The Southern Oregon Chapter skipped a group ride in lieu of the 4th of July holiday weekend, so I'm writing on what info we have on this technical bulletin.

What started out as a simple Internet FB petition has gone full tilt recall. Initially, in 2015, a fork tube failure on one Aussie's R1200 GSA, and ended his ride with 10 broken ribs and other injuries, led him to start a petition at www.BMWfatalflaw.com.

I can't say the petition directly translated into a recall, but here we are. The recall affects 185,000 bikes, worldwide. (this from a web site in South Africa...

"BMW AG has announced a global safety recall of the BMW R 1200 GS and R 1200 GS Adventure models (models K50 and K51) from the production period November 2013 to June 2017. This was done as a precautionary safety measure because the fixed fork tube of the specified models can be damaged due to unusual incidents with momentary high stress and if these incidents are not attended to or ignored and further high stress incidents occur, the plug may become completely loose."

BMW South Africa's corporate communications manager, Thando Pato called the service campaign a 'safety recall' and said, "BMW Motorrad is retrofitting the fixed fork tubes of the front forks with a fixed fork tube bush on the R 1200 GS and R 1200 GS Adventure models produced between November 2013 and June this year. He added: "BMW Motorrad has determined during ongoing field observations that the fixed fork tube of the specified models can suffer preliminary damage due to unusual incidents with momentary high stress without the user noticing the damage. As a result the pressure joint of the fixed fork tube seal on the front suspension can become loose and a slight gap may arise between the fixed fork tube and the seal plugs.... And further: "If this gap is not detected, the gap may increase later due to persistent high stress especially in off-road operation and in extreme cases the seal plug may become completely loose. The safety recall is retrofit the fixed fork tubes with a fork tube bush which will support the existing pressure joint."

According to Pato, it is not yet clear to what extent the seal plug was the cause or consequence of these [known] accidents.

The best, and I mean the best, information that I can share with you is to view this u-tube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaGaR9Fn4WE> Sorry for asking you

to type all this in, but it simply is the shortest and sweetest means to explain what is being inspected, what the limits are, and the two repair options depending on the actual measurements of your tube(s).

From our shop, Hansen's in Medford / Talent, the Fork Bushing Recall bulletin was received in shop on or about 10 July. Craig has shared that, "(the) bulletin for the Fork Bushing Recall on 2014 to 2017 R12GS & GSA's... doesn't apply to the 2013 or older Water cooled for Oil Head GS's, the bushing was installed in a different way. This is NOT a stop ride for current owners, they can keep riding their GS's."

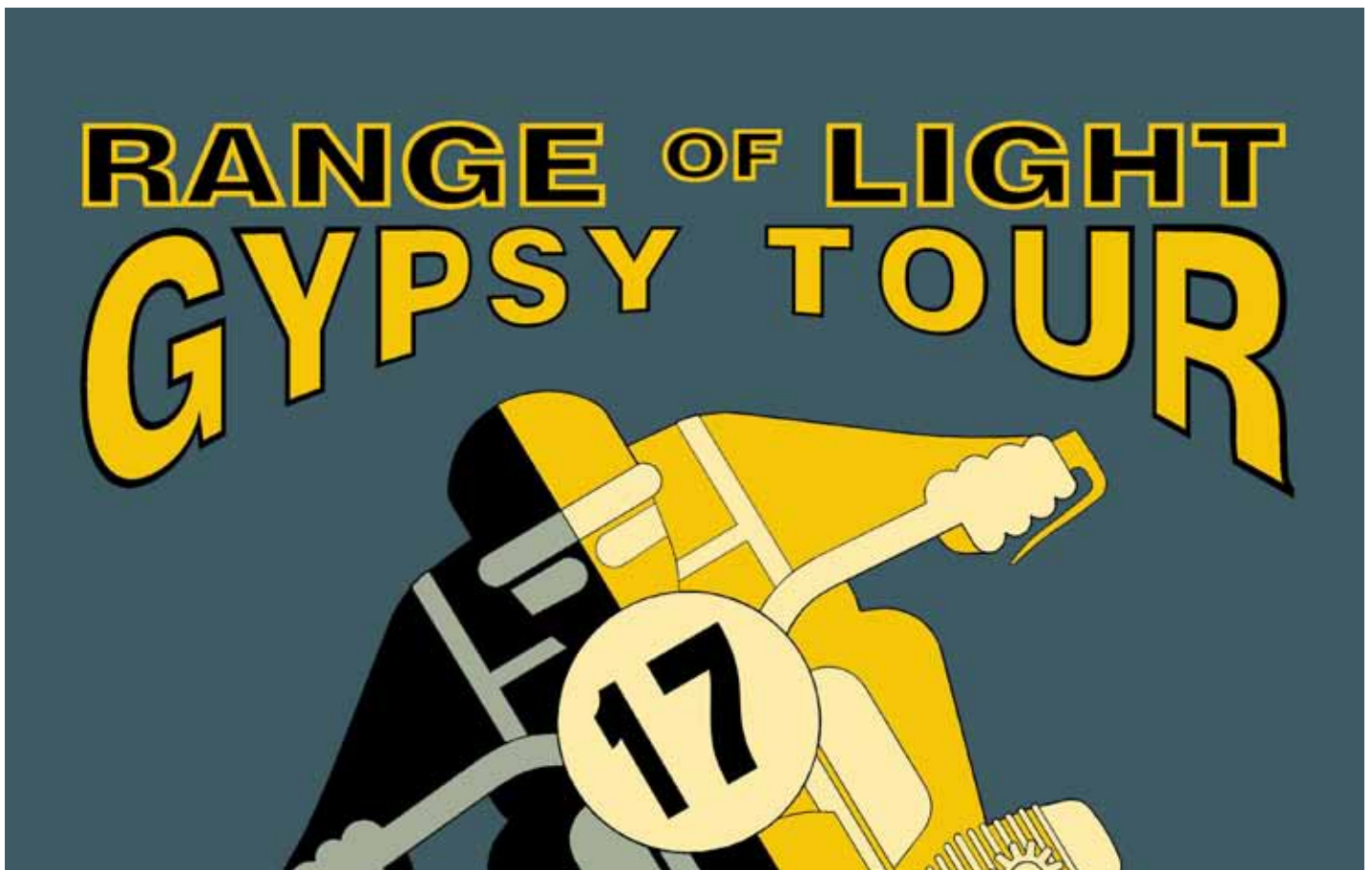
How quickly this went from "Service Action" to full-blown recall is amazing to me. I'd like to share how Craig has explained it to us here in So. Oregon... here are the particulars in his e-mail to us...

Here is what I know so far.

- The first bulletin was sent to dealers Monday June 26 and at that point it was a Service Action not a Recall. No parts or tools available.
- July 3, initial but very limited parts supply for one or two motorcycles per dealer were shipped.
- July 3, \$700 tool for repair also shipped.
- Thursday July 6, the Service Action was changed to a Recall.
- An updated bulletin is coming but not yet sent to dealers.
- At this point it appears to be 2014 to 2017 GS's, not 2013's
- The only way consumer can confirm if their GS is affected is to contact their Local BMW Dealer with their VIN number.
- At this point it is NOT a stop ride but I need the final bulletin to confirm.
- Customers will be notified by mail over the next 60 days but once parts & tools are available they won't have to wait for recall letter.
- There is a potential of a customer loyalty program, but details are not available until we see the bulletin.
- My best guess, it will take a couple of months for us to handle all the recalls and larger markets will be longer.

CRAIG HANSEN, HANSEN'S LLC.

Back next month with who-knows-what. Enjoy the ride, and please keep an eye out for Chis Henry, he seems to be skipping along the continental divide with spectacular pace. ;-)



2017 Labor Day Weekend

The start point of this year's Range of Light is the Calaveras County Fairgrounds at Angels Camp, located in the historic 49er gold country of California. This event is open to all motorcyclists and features spectacular and scenic riding, showcasing some of the best roads and stunning beauty of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range of Northern California. Each day the routes cover nearly 300 miles and offer some fun GS options, as well as decent shortcuts for those not interested in riding the full route (the shortcuts are great roads too). Each day the ride ends at a fairground with hot showers, cold drinks, catered dinners, grassy camping, and best of all, great camaraderie! A sag wagon will haul your gear for you. This event is not to be missed!



For more information and registration go to <http://www.bmwnocal.org/ROL> or contact Nick Gloyd at rolchair@bmwnocal.org.

2017 Chief Joseph Rally Recap

by Doug Tewksbury,
Rallymaster, 2017

This year the Chief Joseph Rally was held June 23-25, the weekend after Father's Day weekend. A survey was conducted last year and the resounding thought was to move the rally a week later in hopes of avoiding a conflict with individuals hoping to enjoy Father's Day weekend with their families and in hopes of having less chance of rain. **The official registrations totaled 476**, however, there were only **454 attendees at the rally**. Some had to cancel due to medical reasons and others decided not to come for one reason or another. Our weather was fantastic - temperatures were in the upper 80's low 90's. We were competing with the Touratech rally about 370 miles to the north so perhaps a few decided to join them instead of coming to our rally. Everyone has a choice as to which events they wish to attend.

50/50 Prize winners:

Fred and Gladys Hasse once again covered the fairgrounds getting people to purchase tickets for the 50/50 drawing. They collected a total of **\$1,198.00**. The money collected was split into two pots of 50% each. The first pot goes to a worthy cause and the second is then split into three pots 25%, 15% and finally 10%. The worthy cause this year was the Grant Union Jr/Sr High School's historical field trip to Philadelphia. Their amount is **\$600.00**. The remaining winners are as follows: Crystal Albers of Susanville, CA – 1st Prize Winner **\$300.00**; Beecher Snipes of Mt. Vernon, WA – 2nd Prize Winner **\$180.00**; Sheri Berger of Durham, CA – 3rd Prize Winner **\$120.00**.

Rider Awards:

Each year awards are given for riders in various categories. This year we had six (6) categories but only a total of nine (9) people signed

up. **The Long Distance Female rider** was Valley Jenkins from Rockport TX (the only one to sign up). She later voluntarily forfeited the award saying her husband signed her up but she trailed her motorcycle to the rally.

The Long Distance Male Rider was Greg Ruth from San Diego, CA. **The Youngest Rider** was Josh Grimm, 19, of Edmonds, WA. **The Oldest Rider** was Bill Habel of Portland, OR. Finally, the Vintage Motorcycle award went to Richard Lee of Ridgefield, WA with a 1973 R75/5.

Vendors

We had several vendors supplying door prizes for our rally. The BMW dealers, **European Motorcycles of Western Oregon**, Eugene and **BMW Motorcycles of Western Oregon**, Tigard donated ten gift certificates in various denominations; **Sheri Berger Decals**, Durham, CA; **Rok Straps**, Puyallup, WA; **Giant Loop**, Bend OR;

Bob's BMW, Jesup, MD; **Steve's Bavarian Motorcycle Service**, Dundee, OR; **Suburban Machinery**, Willoughby, OH; **Murphy's BMW Service**, Eugene, OR; **David Hough**, Port Angeles, WA; **Roger Paquette**, Eugene, OR; **Lee Parks Design**, Victorville, CA; **Happy-Trails**, Boise, ID; **Jesse Luggage**, Glendale, AZ; **Streetmasters Motorcycle Workshops**, Corona, CA; and **Ozzie's BMW**, Chico, CA.

Grand Prize Winners

Dwight Gladden, Walla Walla, WA won the Happy-Trails Pannier Kit; **Lynne Clark**, Lincoln City, OR won the set of tires from Ozzie's BMW; Jay Henderson, Snohomish, WA won the Gift Certificate from Lee Parks



Design; **Reid Carlton**, Ontario, CA won the Odyssey II luggage from Jessie Luggage; and, **Simone Boulton** (from New Zealand) won the Streetmasters Cornering Workshop; however, not being able to attend the workshop, she presented the certificate to **Janet Bennett**.

Group Rides

Hangover Ride—Chris Henry & Scot Lamper led a paved road ride at a legal pace. Approximately 150 miles of beautiful Grant and Baker Counties; **Middle Forks Ride**—Alice LeBarron & Jay Bennett led a ride to Mt. Vernon and north along Hwy 395 to Middle Fork Road to Galena and Bates. They returned via Hwy 26, stopping in Prairie City for lunch. Sixteen bikes and 18 riders completed this ride; **GS Ride**—Steve Miller & Linnea Alvord led a route of paved and unpaved roads. It was for serious GS'ers. Approximately 175 miles; and finally, **Brie GS Ride**—Staci Vaillancourt & Jeff Jones led a short 120 mile paved and good gravel road ride.

Wine & Cheese Tasting

A favorite activity at the rally is held on Thursday night in the RV park. Rally go'ers bring a variety of bottled wines, cheeses and finger foods to be enjoyed by all. It is a great time to kick back and socialize before all the activities begin during the rally. This year the activity was hosted by Linda Tewksbury in RV space #9. It was well attended and lasted until after dark.



Seminars

For many, the ride to and from the Chief Joseph Rally in John Day, Oregon covers some of the best riding roads around. Once they arrive at the rally they are ready to be entertained and enjoy some of the many seminars put on during the rally. Here is a list of those seminars and the presenters. **Helite Safety Vests by Mark Collier**—**Hansen's BMW**, Medford, OR provided the vest and materials needed for several demonstrations during the rally. **Coffee with Dave—Round Table Discussion—David Hough**—David Hough has conducted his “coffee” sessions at BMWMOA and BMWRA rallies, where he has developed a reputation for impromptu discussions, demonstrations, bad jokes, contests and—occasionally—unique insights into riding skills and street survival. **What's your plan for the rest of the ride?**—**David Hough**—A forum to help motorcyclists grapple with motorcycling options as we age moderated by David Hough. **“The R.I.D.E.” by Richard Battles**—focused on communications and audio for you and your motorcycle. **Research, Integration, Decisions, Expansion. “Everything you always wanted to ask an expert about motorcycle dynamics and control” by Walt Fulton III**—your nagging questions answered about motorcycle dynamics and the appropriate tactics for controlling the machine. **4 Corners Pacific NW Tour by Dan Muir**, President of the Washington state BMW club. Dan was available to answer questions regarding the first such tour which includes the rallies in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia. He was also able to get several attendees to sign up for the tour. **Adventure Touring by Keith Matteson & Jalene Case**—They provided insight into their journey through South America. **“Cornering Control”—Walt Fulton III**—Walt knows a thing or two about cornering, and he shared his insights, with the emphasis on riding on public roads. **Creating a Motorcycle Emergency Kit—Don Chase**—participants listed all the items they felt are needed in a motorcycle emergency kit and then they went through and prioritize the items. **“Controlling the Situation”—Walt Fulton III & David**



Hough—Insights into being fully in control of the bike, but it's even more important to have the mental skills to comprehend what's happening so you can stay in control of the situation. **“Video 101” by Richard Battles**—focused on how and where to mount and use a “Sport Camera” and what to do with the media once you have recorded it. **Grant County Stock Growers**—held a Team Roping exhibition in the open arena at the fairgrounds for those wanted to take a break from motorcycling.

Geology Rocks! Tours

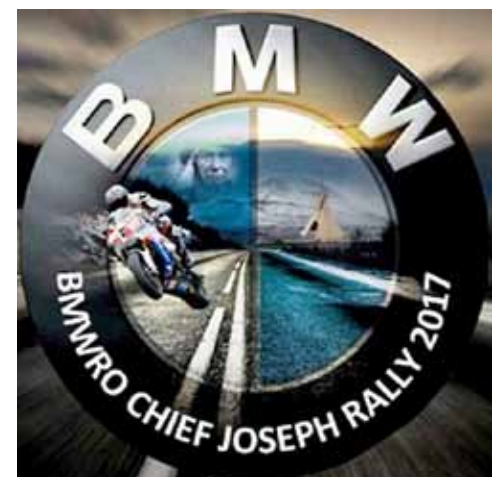
Once again we were happy that John Fiedor, a retired Park Ranger, said he would do the tours again this year. There were a total of 49 registered for the event but only 38 actually went along on the tours with John's trusted Corvair in the lead. The \$20.00 fee per motorcycle, a non-refundable donation, was collected by the BMW Riders of Oregon club and passed through to the Juniper Arts Council per John's request. A check was sent to them for \$1,000.00 with the club graciously passing along the difference from what was collected in appreciation for John's 4th year of giving the tours.

Artwork

Last year, it was decided to have local school students submit designs for the rally logo. The process began in September, and a winning design was chosen in December. Kris Beal, president of the Juniper Arts Council, and Grant Union Junior-Senior High School art teacher Judith Collier

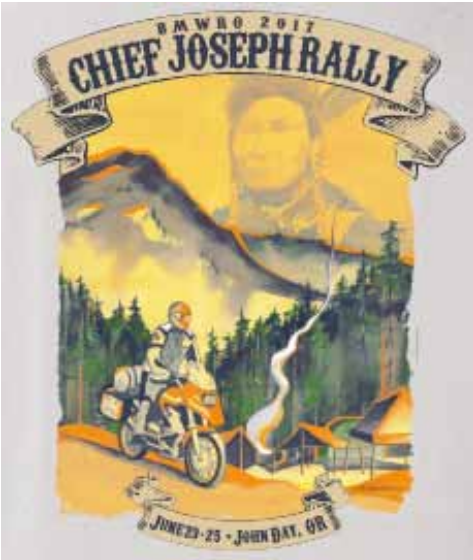
helped organize the contest, and members of the BMW group judged the 108 submissions received. The winning design was by 7th grader Paige Gerry and was featured on the front page of our rally program. Paige's design was also used for our rally pin. Paige received a check from BMWRO for \$100.00. The second place winner was by an 8th grader, Kenna Combs, who received a check for \$25.00. The Blue Mountain Eagle newspaper, did an article last winter in regards to the competition and its winners and did a follow-up at the rally with the collage that Linda Tewksbury created, depicting all the entries. By communicating with Kris Beal from the Juniper Arts Council, we were able to provide her with a program and a rally pin, both with the art design, for Paige to keep as a memento.

Our rally T-shirt design was by one of our own club members, Steve Ludeman. Along with Steve, Linda and I worked with Oregon Screen Impressions. Their art staff was able to



put the final touches on Steve's design by reducing the number of colors needed and by adding the lettering and scroll design. The T-shirts and sweatshirts were sold only by pre-ordering prior to the rally. Any unclaimed merchandise was then sold over the counter starting at noon on Saturday. The pre-ordering helped to keep our merchandise costs down by ordering just what was needed, along with the sizes desired, to fulfill the orders.

It was an honor to be "Rally Master" this past year. After many years of assisting with all the



processes and activities, to manage from start to finish all aspects of the rally was a whole new chapter for me. It is once again time to look forward to next year and to begin planning for another wonderful and exciting event. The club will be looking for a new rally master for 2018 and if you are organized and can delegate some of the tasks needed for a successful

rally, reach out to Bob Metzger, our club president. For forty plus years this club has provided events and riding experiences, for all those that are willing to be a part of something. Please join in and assist in making club activities that are enjoyed by so many. You can email Bob at bmwro.pres@gmail.com. My thanks to all who volunteered to help at the rally.



photo by Bob Metzger



Dan Muir, President of the Washington State BMW club

photo by Bob Metzger

Tewksbury's 5th Annual Cookout

by Linda Tewksbury

Once again, I want to thank all of you that make the club activities worthwhile. My fifth annual club cookout—at my home—was again a wonderful success due to all that attended. This was the second year the club has sponsored my event, and I want to thank the club for their support. There were individuals that came by car and many more that came with their true rides—on their motorcycles—whether it be individually or as a group.

I personally want to thank **Carl** and **Sheila Boulden** for arriving three hours early to assist with the last-minute preparations. Although I set up the buffet tables the day before along with baking the desserts, there was so much more to be done. It was glorious for me to know that Doug was assisted by Carl setting up the four ten-by-ten foot canopies, along with my new 10 by 20 canopy. I will attest—from assisting with the dismantling of 10 by 20 canopy—it definitely was a chore. Yet they managed to not only set up the canopies to provide shaded areas—which were enjoyed immensely by everyone—but also set up the tables and chairs, and shucked three dozen ears of corn.



Meanwhile Sheila assisted me in the kitchen with the last-minute preparation of green salads, dicing of vegetables and such. There was the nine pounds of pulled pork, which was started at 4:30 AM, that needed to be pulled apart and the fried rice that needed to be cooked. As we baked the six dozen home-made rolls, did the last-minute food preparations, and plugged in the multitude of heating dishes and crock pots, we began our transport of food items and accoutrements to the outside tables. Thankfully, Doug and Carl did the heavy lifting with the hefty items (like my mini-frig that was set outside

to accommodate items requiring refrigeration).

We then moved all the food items to the buffet tables and set the grill fires to burning. We not only had Sheila's home-made baked beans, but I am ashamed to say, my canned baked beans. The menu also included many home-made items like pulled pork, marinara with pasta, BBQ chicken, hot dogs and rolls, corn on the cob with melted butter, fresh home-made rolls, green salad, tri-colored pasta salad, potato salad, pork fried rice, fresh blueberries, watermelon, the oversized blueberry cobbler with the French vanilla ice cream, four strawberry



rhubarb pies and strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Hence the need for the mini refrigerator.

Like clock-work people began arriving around noon time. There were a large number of people that graciously made me aware of their pending arrival, which is always appreciated, but a few that I had hoped would appear and did. Point in case: **Murph** and his lovely wife **Mary**. As a lot of the older members remember, Murph has been not only active as a club member, but has done work on a lot of members bikes. He had the misfortune of having a literal run in with a van slightly over a year ago, which has drastically changed his life. It was wonderful to see him and allow him the opportunity to connect with some of the long-standing members of the club, to remind him he is valued and not forgotten.

There was a contingent from the Portland area led by **Dave** and **Diane Peterson**. Even I was impressed, as they pulled into my back driveway and I said to myself, "I need to get some more corn, chicken and hot dogs going."

As the day progressed people came and people went. After the Portland contingency left, Steve Miller arrived with a few of the dusty Bend riders. Thankfully **Alice LeBarron** had arrived earlier—unfortunately without



her bike which was in the shop—but she was still able to join up with the East of the Cascade contingency.

There was even a new member couple from the Falls Creek area, south of us who arrived and were able to meet some of the other members. What a great way to meet other riders and to join in the camaraderie.

After having 55 to 60 people attending, things began to wind down. Around 5:30 PM people were leaving and several people assisted in bringing chairs and food items in the house. Thank-you. Then at around 6 PM—as I was doing dishes—there

was a soft knock on my front door. Low and behold, a couple had arrived asking "are we too early", to which my sad reply was, "no, you are late, but come on in". All I was able to offer them were leftovers that had not been discarded, but we were able to enjoy their company for the next hour, which we truly enjoyed.

When all is said and done: "thank-you" to all who attended and made this a great event. People doing for and with each other is what makes any club great and special.

all photos by Doug Tewksbury



NW Ambassadors Ride Report July 2017

David Peterson #90113

Michael Ripley #191665

The way this year has shaped up, one might have braced for another chilly day with possibility of showers. Not this time. July has arrived and with it, the warm, dry weather we relish as riders. As if the conditions weren't enough, today we could look forward to free lunch...complements of Linda and Doug Tewksbury's annual club BBQ! Who could resist?

As it turned out, many of our brethren had other things to do (July is vacation season). Still, that left us with sixteen riders on ten bikes. Six of the ten were two-up, making this the closest we've come to an actual "couple's" ride. Today's challenge would be to find the Tewksburys, while avoiding I-5 as much as possible. Since the back roads are what riding is all about, we were fairly sure our meander would keep everyone happy.

After a brief rider's meeting, it was time to hit it. **David** and **Diane** took

the lead, while, in no particular order, the rest of the gang assembled. **Karl** and **Ramona Perlich**, **Karen** and **Louie Robida**, **Dave** and **Michelle Miller**, and **Dan** and **Louise Noble** rode two-up, along with **Steven Polansky**, **James Kim**, and **Dave Klepinger**. **Ripley**, enjoying his generous Intel sabbatical, is riding in the far reaches of eastern Canada and these United States. **Neal**

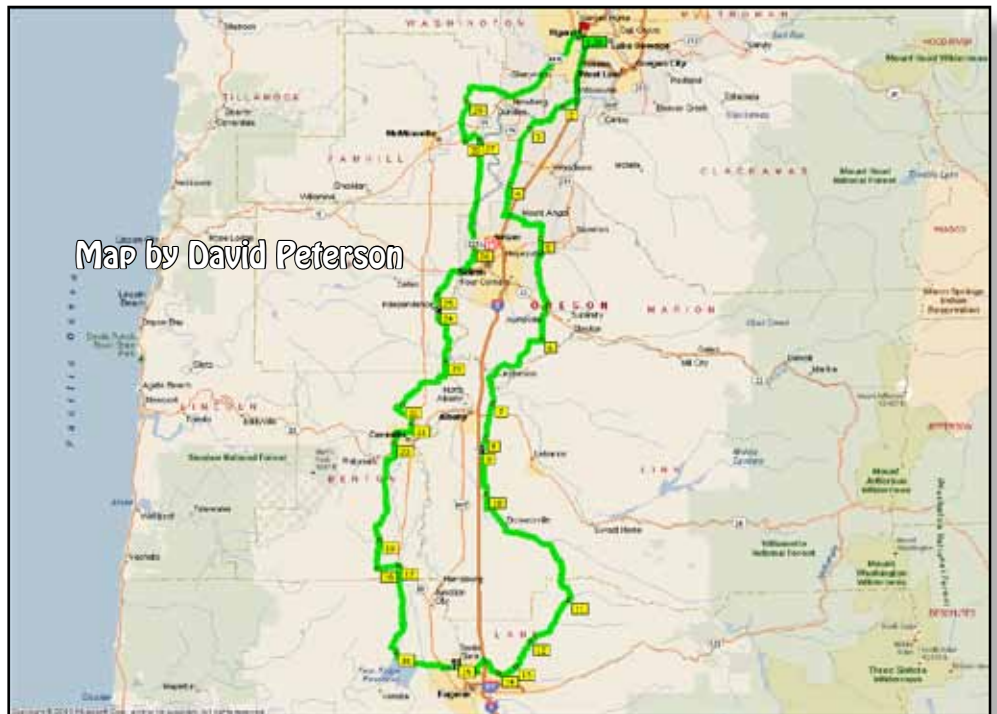
Malagamba has graciously taken on sweep duties, making sure no one turns left while everyone else goes right.

Crossing the Willamette, we exited I-5 the first chance we got. There are a multitude of alternatives heading south on either side of the interstate. Today we headed south along the west side. After twisting along tree-shrouded Butteville Road, we turned south down French Prairie. It was a beautiful morning, still cool, and we were surrounded by the crops that put Oregon on the map—sod, hops, blueberries, and acres of fragrant lavender.

A quick left on Brooklake, and we sailed to the east of I-5. Here the road was a little twistier. Your humble correspondent, easily confused in his dotage, took a left when he should have gone right. But all roads in this area lead to Howell Prairie, and once corrected, we made meaningful time on the road south.

Aumsville gave way to Jefferson and beyond. The prior week, an accident on I-5 shut down the highway in both directions. As we approached OR-99E in Jefferson, the back up felt Eugene after a Duck game. This week? Piece of cake.

South of Albany, we gassed up and relaxed for a few minutes, until we



Strafin' along Butteville Road near Champoeeg Park.

Photo by Diane Peterson

were joined by the last of our group. **Steve Garetz** and his wife, **Traci**, motored over from Corvallis, not to be missed on his spotless K1600GT. A few greetings were exchanged, then we were off to complete our ramble.

South of Crawfordsville is rapidly becoming one of our favorite routes in the state. First discovered on our covered bridge tour a couple of years ago, Brush Creek Road runs through the Mohawk Valley through the hamlet of Marcola toward Springfield. Today though, we made a slight jog right onto Hill Road, then McKenzie View Road, which follows the Mohawk River as it flows into the McKenzie. Slipping under I-5, we teed into Coburg Road and reluctantly reentered suburbia to have lunch.

And what a lunch it was. Linda and Doug pulled out all the stops as we gathered with our riding brethren from all over the region. Pulled pork, barbecued chicken, hot dogs, all the salads and pies and strawberry shortcake for dessert—there was something for everyone and nobody went away hungry. Behind it all stood Linda, barbecue tongs in hand, making sure plates were full and asking anyone she approached, “Do you want pie with that?”. It was a superb feast and a great chance to visit with folks we don’t see every day.



Relaxing and gorging at Chez Tewksbury.

Photo by David Peterson

It was now after three and time to return home. We expected more than a few dropouts as the party continued. But when the stands were lifted and the clutches released, we were still a merry band of twelve. By now our riders have come to learn that there is no such thing as out and back. And the hills east of Eugene and Corvallis offer endless possibilities.

Heading across the valley north of Fern Ridge Reservoir reminded us how warm it had gotten while we stuffed ourselves. Soon we were heading north on Territorial Highway, a graceful ribbon stretching north to Monroe, and one of the oldest routes in the state. There we veered east, finding Belfountain Road and following it as it traces farm boundaries north toward Corvallis. We managed to stay on the fringes, bypassing town, then ducking back into the trees as we twisted our way along Sulphur Springs/Soap Creek Roads. A final sprint to Independence allowed us to gas up and relax, before saying so long to all as the huddle broke for home. The day served as another gorgeous reminder of how lucky we are to live in this part of the country. Thanks to all who rode and especially to Linda and Doug for making it all worthwhile.

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.



A well-fed pack awaits the rest of the ride.

Photo by Steven Polansky

Total miles, July Ride: 327

Total First
Saturday miles – 2017: 1,271



Jalene Case & Keith Matteson campsite South On A Bike trip to South America

photo by Jalene Case



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