



# THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the  
BMW Riders of Oregon



September, 2017

Volume 41, Issue #9

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



## Solar Eclipse Campout – August 21, 2017

*photo by Doug Tewksbury*

### Ride Report

from David Peterson, this is one of his best—good reading. See pages 11-14 of this issue.

### Solar Eclipse Campout Review

from Linda Tewksbury, see page 7, images on page 8.

### Umpqua Campout

has been relocated to Walton Lake. See details on pages 2-3.



# BMWRO

## Coming Events



### Club Sanctioned Events

**Event:** ~~Umpqua River Campout~~  
**Now called:** **Walton Lake Campout**  
**Date/Time:** Friday, Sept 8th 1pm to Sunday, Sept 10th 11am  
**Place:** The Large Group Campsite at Walton Lake Campground in the Ochoco Mountains east of Prineville.

#### Walton Lake Campout

Due to fires—and travel restrictions within the Umpqua River basin—the club has moved the Umpqua River Campout and quarterly club meeting to Walton Lake, just fifteen miles east of Prineville. Directions from Prineville are detailed in the Coming Events section of this issue and at the website, [www.bmwro.org](http://www.bmwro.org)

**Note:** the host of this event, Alice LeBarron, requests advance notification if you plan to bring an RV, trailer, or car.

**Directions:** Travel approximately 15 miles east of Prineville on Highway 26. Turn right at the junction to Walton Lake and Big Summit Prairie (County Road 123). Continue for approximately 8 miles to the junction of Forest Service Road 22 and Forest Service Road 42. Turn left onto Forest Service Road 22 and proceed approximately 7 miles to Walton Lake. The campground will be on your left. These are all paved roads.

**Description:** This group camp site, will be the site for the September quarterly meeting. The meeting will be held late Saturday afternoon before dinner. BMWRO will be providing dinner Fri & Sat; and breakfast Sat & Sun (thanks to Linda Tewksbury, our awesome cook). **In order to help with planning, please be sure to register before Sept. 5th.** If you must register after Sept 5th, please contact the host. The area offers wonderful paved and GS routes. The campground is a quiet and serene setting in an area of Ponderosa Pines and mountain meadows. This is rustic camping with potable water, vault toilets, picnic tables. There is limited room for RV's but no hook-ups. **Please contact the host prior to registering if you plan to bring an RV, trailer, or car.** Campfires are currently prohibited due to high risk of wildfire. Has anyone tried S'mores on the BBQ?

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

**Event:** **Antique Powerland Museum**  
**Date/Time:** September 23, 2017  
**Place:** Antique Powerland Museum, 3995 Brooklake Rd NE, Brooks, OR  
<http://www.antiquepowerland.com>

**Description:** Plan to attend a BMWRO club gathering/lunch at Powerland Museum. Member entry fee will be paid by BMW Riders of Oregon.

- Main display building will be open.
- Car & motorcycle display will be open.
- The restoration garage where the high school speedster classes are held should be open.
- The Texaco gas station may be open.
- Some of the other museums at Powerland may also be open

**Contact:** Bob Metzger **608-642-1186**  
[bobmetzger51@gmail.com](mailto:bobmetzger51@gmail.com)

**Event:** **Winter Celebration and Quarterly Member's Meeting**  
**Date/Time:** **TBD.** November is the month this has traditionally taken place.

**Place:** **TBD.** Traditionally held at the Oregon Gardens in Silverton.

**Description:** **TBD.** Traditionally, a White Elephant Gift Exchange was part of the festivities; but it has been discontinued in recent years.

**Contact:** **TBD.** The event for this year needs a volunteer to be the contact person.

### Recurring Events

**Event:** **Central Oregon 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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 [jpbmOR@aol.com](mailto:jpbmOR@aol.com) or Bob Metzger **608-642-1186** [bobmetzger51@gmail.com](mailto:bobmetzger51@gmail.com)

**Event:** **Southern Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)  
Mark Collier **541-499-1395** [mcollier5895@gmail.com](mailto:mcollier5895@gmail.com)

**Event:** **NW Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com)  
Mike Ripley **503-789-2966** [gobeezer@live.com](mailto: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](mailto:don@mredsmoto.com)

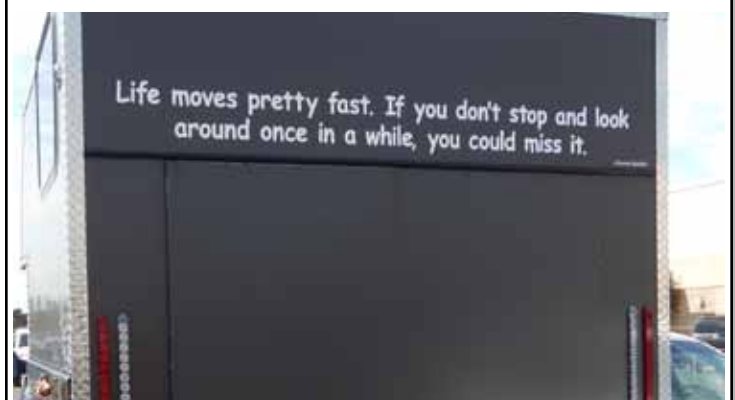
## Heard-On-The-Road

**Event:** **Ride the Tires Off Mileage Contest Ends**

**Date/Time:** October 7, 2017, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
**Place:** European Motorcycles of Western Oregon  
**Description:** Mileage contest finale party at European Motorcycles of Western Oregon. Celebration time TBA. Grand prize awarded!

**Contact:** Bob Metzger **608-642-1186** [bobmetzger51@gmail.com](mailto:bobmetzger51@gmail.com)

### Letters to Editor



A simple message. Yet profound.

*from Diane Peterson*

## 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 Walton Lake Campout. 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](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com) or the current treasurer, Linda Tewksbury, at [bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:bmwro.secretary@gmail.com).

# BMWRO President's Message

by Bob Metzger



## BMWRO Presidents Column – Motorcycle Hacks Part II

I certainly hope you enjoyed last month's Motorcycle Hacks Part I. This month I have another lengthy list of "hacks" for your consideration. Hopefully, you will find some of them new and interesting, and find a place for a few of them in your mental tool kit.

### Baby Powder

One day I walked into my local bicycle shop back in Wisconsin. I saw Tim putting baby powder on the inner tube of a tire he was repairing. Really? "What gives Tim?" "What's up with the baby powder?" Tim told me that oft times tubes don't roll into their correct position when inflated and possibly get a twist in them. That leads to a pinch flat. A very slight dusting of baby powder helps the tube seat itself upon inflation. Turns out baby powder—especially



the old time variety—has the mineral Talc (a form of asbestos) as a component. Talc is slippery stuff.

### Twist And Shout

When on the road I really don't like to take time out to find a Laundromat. Hopefully, the hotel may have one but often not. I like to wear synthetic fabric on the road. If it gets wet it dries very quickly, but after a few days.... phew! A few drops of shampoo in the bathroom sink, rinse your synthetic shirts / briefs, squeeze out as much free water as you can. Lay the cloths on a towel flattened on the floor. Roll up the towel with the damp articles inside. Step on one end of the rolled towel, grab the other end and twist. The article of clothing will be almost dry. Hang it up to finish drying and your good to go.

### Hang It Up!

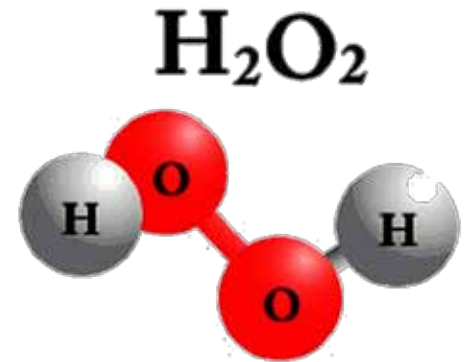
OK, so I can hear you thinking, "Hang up damp articles of clothing?" Where? Easy. Carry about 20 feet of parachute cord with you and a handful of small binder clips. String the cord across the room or your campsite and use the binder clips for clothes pins. They work great.

### Tennis Anyone?

Now, we all know that in order to get good, really good, at anything requires practice. Perfect practice. There is something called, the

Theory of 10,000 Hours. It postulates that in order to master anything from playing the piano to riding a motorcycle it takes, yes you guessed it, 10,000 hours. As I say, it is a theory. I personally can't prove it because I am a Jack-of-all-trades. "Jack-of-all-trades, and master of none", as the saying goes. If you

need some cones to practice your motorcycle skills in the parking lot, acquire a few tubes of cheap tennis balls. Cut the balls in half. Now you have a bunch of cones to plop down on the tarmac and practice your skills.



### Oxygen – Stat

Everyone recalls that water is two parts of Hydrogen bound to one part of Oxygen. Pretty simple stuff of Chemistry 101. Thankfully, we live on planet Earth where all the bugs are water-soluble. Now, warm soapy water works well on the vast majority of insect remains smattered on our motorcycles and helmets. Here is a bit of a trick to help them come off a bit faster. Get a bit of 4% hydrogen peroxide and put it in a spray bottle. Spray it on the bugs. The bugs foam and are more easily removed. Hydrogen peroxide is simply water with extra oxygen molecule. It reacts with the enzyme, catalase. Catalase is contained in every living cell. When peroxide foams, you are witness to the reaction of it breaking down into water and oxygen. I've used this for years and have never had it harm my paint or windscreen. After all, it is just water and oxygen.

### Blinding Sun

Riding west at sundown can be a pain. At low sun angles, we just can't see a thing and our eyes often have trouble reacting quickly enough to changing light conditions between low angle bright sun and



shadows. Place a 6–inch strip of electrical tape across the top of your helmet visor and angle your head slightly lower to block out those intense rays. Ah, now I can see again.



## Get A Grip – Part I

A great way to attach a new rubber handgrip to your handlebars is to use cheap hair spray. It functions as both a lubricant to push on the new grip, and then sets up to hold the grip in place. It is easily removed the next time around. Give it a “shot”.

## Get A Grip – Part II

If you are ever out in the boonies and you have an unintended dismount, you may find that your shift lever gets bent. As you attempt to strengthen it you feel a snap and find the lever resting comfortably in the palm of your hand. Oops. Despair not! If your tool kit contains a small ViseGrip, simply clamp it on the shifter spline and you have a temporary shift lever to get you home.

In closing, remember this is YOUR newsletter. Once again, 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, safe journeys.

*Head and eyes up, Bob*



## 2017 EMWOR Mileage Contest

As if we needed an excuse for riding, **European Motorcycles of Western Oregon** announces its first annual 2017 mileage contest—sign up began March 4, 2017 at First Saturday Coffee and group ride. The contest will conclude with a finale party on October 7th. Prizes are generous, so let's support EMWOR efforts!

### European Motorcycles of Western Oregon

2891 W 11th Ave, Eugene, OR (541) 338-0269

send questions to Jeff Sawyer ([jsawyer@emcwor.com](mailto:jsawyer@emcwor.com)) for details.

There are monthly prizes for mileage accumulation and unlike most mileage contests, there are ways to earn bonus miles; for example, tagging European Motorcycles of Western Oregon in a Facebook ride post. See full page details on page 7 of this issue.

## Donate your Eclipse Glasses

From the Grants Pass Daily Courier: **Astronomers Without Borders** is a non-profit organization that will take previously used eclipse glasses and donate them to schoolchildren in Asian and South America for the 2019 eclipses. They will only pass on the benefit of used eclipse glasses if they're from a NASA-approved vendor and have not been scratched, punctured or torn. Eclipse glasses that meet the current ISO 12312-2 standards will not “expire” after three years.

### Send eclipse glasses to:

Explore Scientific  
621 Madison Street,  
Springdale, AR 72762



## NEW MEMBERS

### Motorcycle

**Russell Lindsay**, Portland, OR ..... 1999 R1200C  
**Michael Dawson**, Portland, OR ..... 2012 R1200RT  
**Ronald Hyde**, Portland, OR ..... cycle unknown  
**Anthony Adoms**, Coos Bay, OR ..... cycle unknown  
**Dave Palmer**, Jacksonville, OR ..... 2016 K1600GTL  
**Bob Ash**, Bandon, OR ..... cycle unknown  
**Larry Lansdowne**, Bend, OR ..... cycle unknown  
**Anton Bokal**, Ashland, OR ..... cycle unknown



## Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

If you are interested in any of the above, just visit our website and download. [www.bmwro.org](http://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](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

### Vice President:

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

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

### Treasurer:

Linda Tewksbury (541-543-7943)  
[bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com)

### BEEMER BEAT Editor:

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### Webmaster:

Doug Tewksbury  
[bmwro.web@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.web@gmail.com)

### Club Liaison

Doug Tewksbury  
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### Activities

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jpbior@aol.com)

**Bob Metzger**—608-642-1186

[bobmetzger51@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:alicelebarron@hotmail.com)

### Southern Region

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

**Dan Hall**—541-862-7411

[dnehall@frontier.com](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)

**Mark Collier**—541-499-1395

[mcollier5895@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com) & [www.wfodave.smugmug.com](http://www.wfodave.smugmug.com)

**Michael Ripley**—503-648-0578

[gobeezer@live.com](mailto: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



# Solar Eclipse Campout

*from Linda Tewksbury*

As everyone knows, August 21, 2017 was the Total Solar eclipse. For those of you that viewed the event—whether it was from the gathering in Aumsville, from your homes or from another planned destination—I hope you had a great time.

Thanks to the generosity of **Skip** and **Susan Gosser**, the BMWRO club members were able to gather and camp on their farm land, along with a number of his friends and family. Although some people had last minute change of plans or decided the traffic would be too much to contend with, there were still 28 club members that attended. All those that came said the traffic to get to the site was merely normal traffic, those that left shortly after the eclipse occurred, were not nearly as fortunate. A handful of us waited until the next morning to leave and had smooth sailing.



**Louie Robida with his 8-inch reflecting telescope**

*from Alice LeBarron*

The entire weekend was sunny with warm temperatures. The evening temperatures dropped down providing comfortable sleeping conditions. Canopies provided shade during the day and multiple cooking surfaces were available for cooking, along with fresh running water.

Sunday night as the stars came out, club member **Louie Robida**, provided a night sky tour for those interested. With his eight-inch telescope he was able to allow people to view several points of interest, such as the Orange and Blue Star and Saturn's Rings. For some of us, we learned that the bright star we thought was the North Star was actually Sagittarius.

As the time neared for the event, people pulled out their eclipse glasses and watched. The viewing was wonderful from the open field; and as the temperatures dropped—as the sun's rays were being blocked—people's jackets were going on. Although I myself did not see it, a few other people mentioned seeing the ground shadow bands. According to the [NASA.gov](https://www.nasa.gov) website, "Shadow bands are thin wavy lines of alternating light and dark that can be seen moving and undulating in parallel on plain-coloured surfaces immediately before and after a total solar eclipse. Shadow bands have been noted throughout history." I think I was far too engrossed in the 360° view of the sunset the eclipse provided that I never even considered looking down.

Although the last Solar eclipse in this area occurred in 1979, people in this area, are not going to have to wait nearly as long, to view the next one. Although it will not be a Total Solar Eclipse, there will be an Annular Solar Eclipse in October 2023. Something to plan for.







## More Images from Solar Eclipse Campout





# August 9th, 2017 Central Western Umpqua Group Ride Report

*Bob Metzger*

Under smoky-hazed skies of the southern Willamette Valley, five riders set off for lunch at the Lighthouse Bakery / Restaurant in Umpqua, Oregon.

The ride began in Eugene for **Bob & Lindy Metzger, Doug Tewksbury, Tim Cruise, and Russ Mecredy**. One of the many pleasures of retirement and / summers off is the ability to cash-in on midweek group rides! We elected an early start and the temperatures cooperated for the first third of the ride hovering around 70 degrees.

The route took us south out of Eugene following the Territorial Highway to Anlauf / Curtin, Oregon. From Drain, we rode Oregon Highway 38 westward to just outside of Elkton, Oregon. At Elkton we turned southward and enjoyed scenic Oregon Highway 138 along the beautiful Umpqua River Valley. It was a bit surreal to see 80% of the river bottom with water so low this time of year. Just past the Bullock Bridge Road we turned onto winding Tyee Road and continued to parallel the Umpqua River into Umpqua.



Umpqua is nothing more than a small triangle of asphalt at the junction of Tyee and Ft. McKay Roads. The settlement consists of the US Post Office and the Lighthouse Bakery & Restaurant. The bakery and sandwiches are modestly priced given the copious amount of food. The food is first rate. If you are a meat lover beware. No meat here, only meat substitutes! There is plenty of both indoor and outdoor seating. The restaurant is spotless. They also have a small retail section stocked with bulk items such as teas, spices, honey, olive oils, and other miscellaneous items. Beyond lunch and bakery, you can also purchase their loaves of bread that range in price from \$5 to \$15 all baked on premises. Seriously, as a bread

maker myself, their loaves of bread are works of art!

Following lunch, temperatures rose to the mid 90's quickly. Time to get moving! We followed Garden Valley and Del Rio Roads again paralleling the Umpqua River. We picked up Oregon Highway 99 through Sutherlin and Oakland northward to Elkhead Road. Elkhead is a beautiful ride with more than its fair share of twists and turns. Elkhead Road brings us back to through Yoncalla and ultimately back to Eugene via 38 / Territorial Highways.





# Women Riders Campout August 3-6, 2017

Despite triple digit temps and smoky skies from the Whitewater fire on Mt. Jefferson, nine women attended the campout at Pioneer Ford Campground along the Metolius River north of Camp Sherman.



Setting up the bikes for a photo-op, Carol & Lynne are checking out something on Carol's bike.



Left to Right: Lynne Clark, Nita Burks, Judy Kincheloe, Alice LeBarron, Robin Dunn, Dichelle Chambers, Carol Lamper, and Nancy Kirner. Missing from this photo is Connie Cammack, who arrived a bit later.



**Women Riders Rock!**  
Carol Lamper, Robin Dunn, Dichelle Chambers, and Judy Kincheloe at the Dee Wright Observatory on McKenzie Pass Hwy 242.



Nita Burks, Judy Kincheloe, Robin Dunn, Dichelle Chambers, and Carol Lamper at Indian Ford Campground.





# NW Ambassadors Ride Report August 2017

David Peterson #90113

Michael Ripley #191665

As much fun as our day rides have been, the dog days of summer practically beg us to stretch our legs. Last year, we used our August weekend to loop Mt. Rainier. This year, we headed to the coast—specifically Reedsport—determined to stay off I-5 and US-101 as much as possible.

Why Reedsport? For one, it's far enough south to not be a "we weekend at the beach" destination, with the attendant congestion and traffic. But the main reason we chose Reedsport is that it is at the other end of one of our favorite coastal routes – along the Siuslaw and Smith River road system. Sixty-five miles of paved road stretching from just south of Crow (near Veneta) to the coast, it constitutes one of the most remote

coastal crossings in the state. Many of our party had no idea the route existed. Thus, the perfect route for a two-day ride. But we're getting ahead of ourselves.

The word was out for a month or two before the date that if you joined us, the club would subsidize your dinner. We thought that

alone would fill our 30-rider limit. But it's summer in Oregon and riders have choices. In the end, we were 13 strong, riding over hill and dale on ten motorcycles. We gathered an hour earlier than usual, looking forward to an early arrival, with ample time for feet up and beverage in hand.

Our merry band included many usual suspects, along with two first-timers. **Louie Robida** brought his friend **Michael Dawson**, who turned out to be a fine rider and meal raconteur. And **Dale Mosby** rode over the night before from his home in Arch Cape on his new RT, barely cool after a 2,100-mile break-in ride to Glacier NP. At the appointed hour we were off, **David** and **Diane** in front, followed by **Kim Dorsing** and **Janice Mathern**, **Karl & Ramona Perlich**, and all the other riders sans passenger – **Chris Henry**, **Steven Polansky**, and **Camron Rust**. **Neal Malagamba** followed us all, ably keeping us on the straight and narrow.

Last month we also headed south, so we were challenged with mixing up the route. This month we chose to head southeast through



**The sweepers near Sublimity are sublime...**

*Photo by Diane Peterson*



Silver Falls State Park, then to drop south through the Richardson Gap toward Waterloo and Sodaville, before heading into Brownsville for lunch.

It turned out that Mr. Dorsing's pioneer heritage was about to pay dividends. His cousin, Greg Hopla, is proprietor of a fine restaurant called **Kirk's Ferry – Trading Post**. It's also unusual in that Greg built the 4,000 square-foot log structure from the ground up—with his bare hands. Housed entirely within is the Kirk Ferry building, another log structure that was the center of operations for Brownsville pioneer, Alexander Kirk. Kirk ran a ferry across the Calapooia River around 1846-47. Over the years, the trading post became a tavern and inn, eventually ending up the property of Judd and Edna Porter—Kim and Greg's grandparents. Greg inherited the property and decided to build his restaurant while preserving the cabin.

Greg is one interesting character. Before building his restaurant, he had built a career travelling the world as a master horseman and



**Restaurateur, sword forge, and medieval knight, Greg Hopla.**

*Photo by David Peterson*



**Emerging from the forest canopy along Siuslaw River Road.**

*Photo by Diane Peterson*

medieval performance artist. His Brownsville operation includes a sizeable sword, lance, and shield manufacturing facility. We toured his workshop, which includes two CAD water jet cutters as well as a titanium forge. Most all of his production goes to supply the burgeoning medieval times show business, called by some (well, okay...by Medieval Times®) the #1 dinner attraction in North America. Who knew?

Well fed and rested, it was time to hit the road in earnest. We quickly traversed the rest of the valley and were back on the

west side of I-5. Finding Territorial Highway, we turned south, heading toward Wolf Creek Road. Once on Wolf Creek, the road twisted and narrowed, climbing out, then dipping into shrouded roadway, fraught with pot holes ready to take out anyone not paying close attention. Over a burned out ridge, we climbed to over 2,700 feet and encountered about 100 feet of missing road. That was the only washout, and as we began our descent, the road seemed to improve.

Another hour or so and we approached US-101 and the end of the day's adventure. Asked again why we chose Reedsport as our destination, David said, "Because... we're here!!!" Once off the bikes, everyone agreed that it was a great time to stop for the day. Five minutes later, we checked into the Reedsport Best Western.

The usual dinner fare in Reedsport includes a couple Mexican and one Chinese restaurant—and **Harbor Light**: it's been around forever; and over the last 30 years, chef/owner, Lauree Serang, has been steadily upgrading the food, the look, and the feel of the restaurant. Lauree prides herself on providing the best local meats, produce—and, of course, fish. And the desserts are all home



**Gastronome delight at Reedsport Harbor Light!**

*Photo by David Peterson*



made. It is always packed, but they don't take reservations. The pre-ride meal was so good, all the logistical concerns were dismissed and we decided this is where dinner would be. A discussion with the wait staff confirmed after a short wait on the patio, we would all be accommodated together. We agreed that we would begin our vigil at 6PM.

When we arrived promptly at 6:00, it was like we had made arrangements with a sister restaurant in another dimension. We would have to wait to be seated. "Fine," we responded. "Then we'll seat your group around the restaurant as tables become available." Uh, nooo...it's a group dinner!" Our hackles were up, but Lauree rose to the occasion and after a short wait, seated us together smack dab in the center of the restaurant. And it was worth the wait; if not for the Cedar Plank Seafood Medley, then certainly for the Bread pudding with ice cream and caramel sauce. If you find yourself in Reedsport (or anywhere nearby), make plans for dinner at Harbor Light. Preferably, just you and, if necessary, a companion.

Day two began with an unavoidable 50-mile slog up US-101. But it's easily the prettiest section of coastal highway in the state, especially from Heceta Head Lighthouse to Cape Perpetua, where we stopped for two brief diversions. Thor's Well was worth the walk to the beach. A gaping, seemingly bottomless sinkhole, the well is a huge hole in the coastal rock. Though less frenetic when we visited, the roiling sea in the hole was still mesmerizing and definitely worth the stop. A few minutes later, we rode the short, twisty, climb to Cape Perpetua Lookout. No finer vantage point can be found along the Oregon coast.\*



Soon we were back on the road and—after a welcome shortcut around Waldport—away from the milling masses. Experienced riders know that east of Waldport puts one on OR-34—the Alsea River Highway—one of the best motorcycle roads in Oregon. Today, we would have our cake and eat it, too. After twenty miles, we ducked southward on Five Rivers Road to chase along Lobster Valley Road instead. A twisty trail of tarmac almost swallowed by the surrounding vegetation, this ribbon was the highlight of the trip. And it teased us with suggestions for future rides, with signs indicating OR-36 only 22 mysterious miles to the south. The best part of the Alsea Highway is the last third, east of Mary's Peak Road. We still had that to look forward to!

But that would be after lunch. **Deb's Café** in Alsea is fast becoming a destination meal stop. The burgers are huge, the pies are homemade, and best of all, they reserved the outdoor deck just for us. The meal was terrific, a perfect ending to our two-day getaway. We said our goodbyes and looked forward to our next gathering.

After enjoying the Alsea corkscrew, the group began to fray for home. Those of us in the Portland area enjoyed one more sprint up the Kings Valley, then gas and goodbyes in Dallas. It had been another First Saturday ride for the ages. Perhaps we'll see you on the next one.

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](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com).

**Total miles, August Ride: . . . . 513**

**Total First Saturday miles – 2017: . . . . 1,784**

**Kirk's Ferry Trading Post,**  
217 W. Bishop Way, Brownsville, OR  
(541) 466-5614

**Harbor Light Restaurant,**  
US-101 & OR-38, Reedsport, OR (541)  
271-3848

**Deb's Café,**  
185 West Main Street, Alsea, OR (541)  
487-4424

*\*See final photo on back page of this issue.*



# Posing over Cape Perpetua

*photo by Anonymous*



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