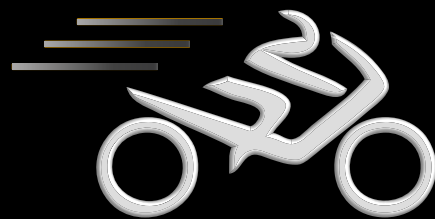




THE BEEMER BEAT



Newsletter of the BMW Riders of Oregon

January 2021

Volume 45, Issue #1

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

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Riding in the Light of a New Year

December 7, 2020. Bob Metzger of Eugene captured this photo
at Coyote Creek Covered Bridge outside of Eugene Oregon

BMWRO President's Message

January 2021



Photo by Bruce Henriksen

I am humbled to be the designated driver for this "BMWRO bus" these next two years. Perhaps my election was more of a nomination as few members actually voted. This seems like a worthy position, and maybe we can increase the interest next time.

Moving this club forward will be challenging as we navigate protocols and vaccines in COVID times. Most of us are hopeful to resume our event schedule, but only if we can remain safe. Various limits and versions of the June Chief Joseph Rally are being discussed. Not sure when we can have an open quarterly meeting. Expectations are that we will have "in-person" club functions soon enough. We just do not know when. Thankfully our riding passion is mostly socially distanced. It's the stopping and masking we must continue to manage. Science, medicine, and data will guide us into the future.


At this moment, I have finished reading the December Beemer Beat. I am struck by the positive evolution of the "Beat". Carol Dallas, and her team deserve high praise for this colorful and thoughtful monthly communication. The articles are inspiring, interesting, and sometimes educational. Many thanks to all the contributors.

My wife Janice, and I are avid riders and proud of "GRETLE" our BMW K1600GTL. We fondly reminisce of GRETLE's 106K plus miles and finding new (to us) twisty roads. We are most happy when not extending her highway pegs by day's end. We are intrigued by all sorts of riders and enjoy sharing experiences and stories.

In closing, we should all be thankful for Alice LeBarron and the Executive Committee who provided stability and leadership to BMWRO. This group, along with many faithful volunteers, have kept our club viable and relevant. I certainly hope all will renew your 2021 club membership.

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Kim Dorsing



In The Headlight

IN THE HEADLIGHT WILL RETURN NEXT MONTH FEATURING A CLUB MEMBERS STORY.



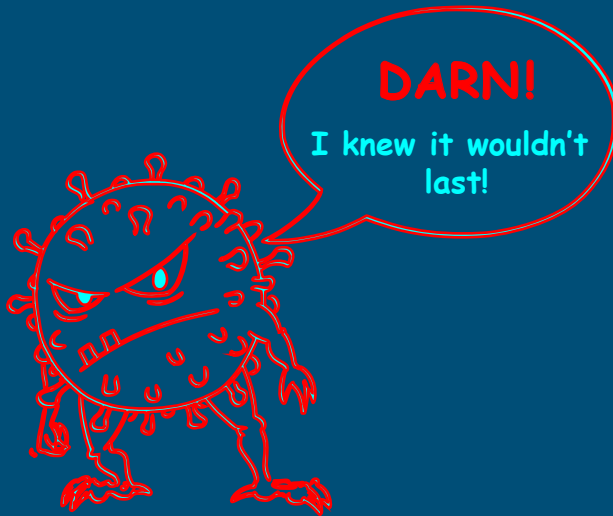
Want to tell *your* story?

Want to have someone else tell *their* story?

Please submit your article to BMWRO.editor@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

NO NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH



BYLAWS, POLICIES & GUIDELINES

These are located in the Documents section of our website:
www.bmwro.org and can be viewed by members who are logged in.

BMWRO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President:

Kim Dorsing, 503-572-7818
bmwro.pres@gmail.com

Vice President/ Activities:

Liz Jones, 541-285-7573
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Linnea Alvord, 503-816-9058
bmwro.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Dave Cook, 541-7402484
bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com

Webmaster:

(Position is currently vacant)

We are actively interested in finding one!

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Membership Coordinator

Gavin Silaski, 503-333-2386
bmwro.membership@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Carol Dallas
503-860-8787
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*Submission date for the newsletter is
the 14th (firm) of each month.

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)

Clarence Story—541-689-2822
ccstory@go-ducks.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

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

Camron Rust—(503) 307-2016
cbrust.00@gmail.com

Southern Region

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

Dan Hall—541-862-7411
dnehall@frontier.com
Mark Collier—541-499-1395
mcollier5895@gmail.com

Please call or email your regional Ambassador for club outings and rally information
We can assist you with learning more about BMWRO

Passionate Member Reaches Mileage Achievement

By Carol Dallas

November BMW Owners News featured our member David Peterson.

Reaching his awarded 200,000-mile acknowledgment on BMW bikes attained in 32 years of riding. Although David has ridden far more lifetime miles, 200,000 have been documented through record keeping on BMW models.

Planning and leading our clubs First Saturday Northwest Region Ambassador rides has contributed many miles and smiles to David, his wife Diane, and countless members. Spreading good will, safety and courtesy of our club members wherever they ride is part of the joy.

Riding from his home in Oregon City to places far and yon, some highlights have been Bear Tooth Pass, Big Bend National Park as well as many parts of Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. A trip to BC for Diane's Birthday was a romp through history, winding passes and National Parks. Diane has a fondness for Waterton Lakes National Park in BC.

David rides two bikes at present, a 2014 BMW 1200 RT and a 1999 R1100 GS. He's owned more than a few bikes to get here, including two 2003 1150 RTs.

He relates that his most memorable trips are the ones with Diane riding pillion; a 6,000-mile loop that included south Texas was a highlight. But if you ask him, he would likely tell you; the next ride is his best ride. David and Diane have also done some across the pond riding in Spain, Italy, Greece and New Zealand.

Fellow members can relate to his hardy passion for the ride, known to ride in all-weather yet always finding the sweet spot in every day. It seems that most of David's rides defy poor weather reports.

A master of road knowledge, it would be difficult to find a road David and Diane have not ridden in our state. While some call him 'map-guy' the newest RT bike has a GPS on which he has become well versed. Many First Saturday Ambassador Rides are posted to our FB page via an app called Relive. Always fun to see the trips take shape and follow a virtual ride route full of interesting roads, fun people, gas and food stops.

Quantity versus Quality? The grin in pictures of David and Diane leave little doubt that the quality is definitely there.

Way to Go David Peterson!

Have many more!

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Miles equal Smiles

Photo by David Peterson

Letters to the Editor

We all have a story about why we ride and an exquisite way with words. I received this ode to a sweet ride two brothers took in 1982.

Do you have a story of why you ride? Perhaps a most memorable ride? Please share it with your members.

BMWRO.editor@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

I saw the photos of that fall ride in the current Beemer Beat and it reminded me of a ride my brother and I took back in 1982 from my home state of Georgia into the Appalachian Mountains, and the little story I wrote about it. I was riding one of my favorite BMW bikes I have owned, a 1981 R65LS with a Rifle fairing and BMW cases. Hope you enjoy it; it brings back a flood of memories for me.

Thanks, Larry Cagle
Bandon, Oregon

Why we Ride/The Ride

October, 1982

By Larry Cagle

As my brother and I pointed our BMW's north from Atlanta our 2 wheels reacted instinctively, sensing the familiar lofty spires and winding roads awaiting us in the distance. And, as we approached our long-awaited goal, soft white clouds intermingled with the stately peaks, indeed the peaks often wore them like crowns, thrusting their elusive heads up into the clouds towering depths.

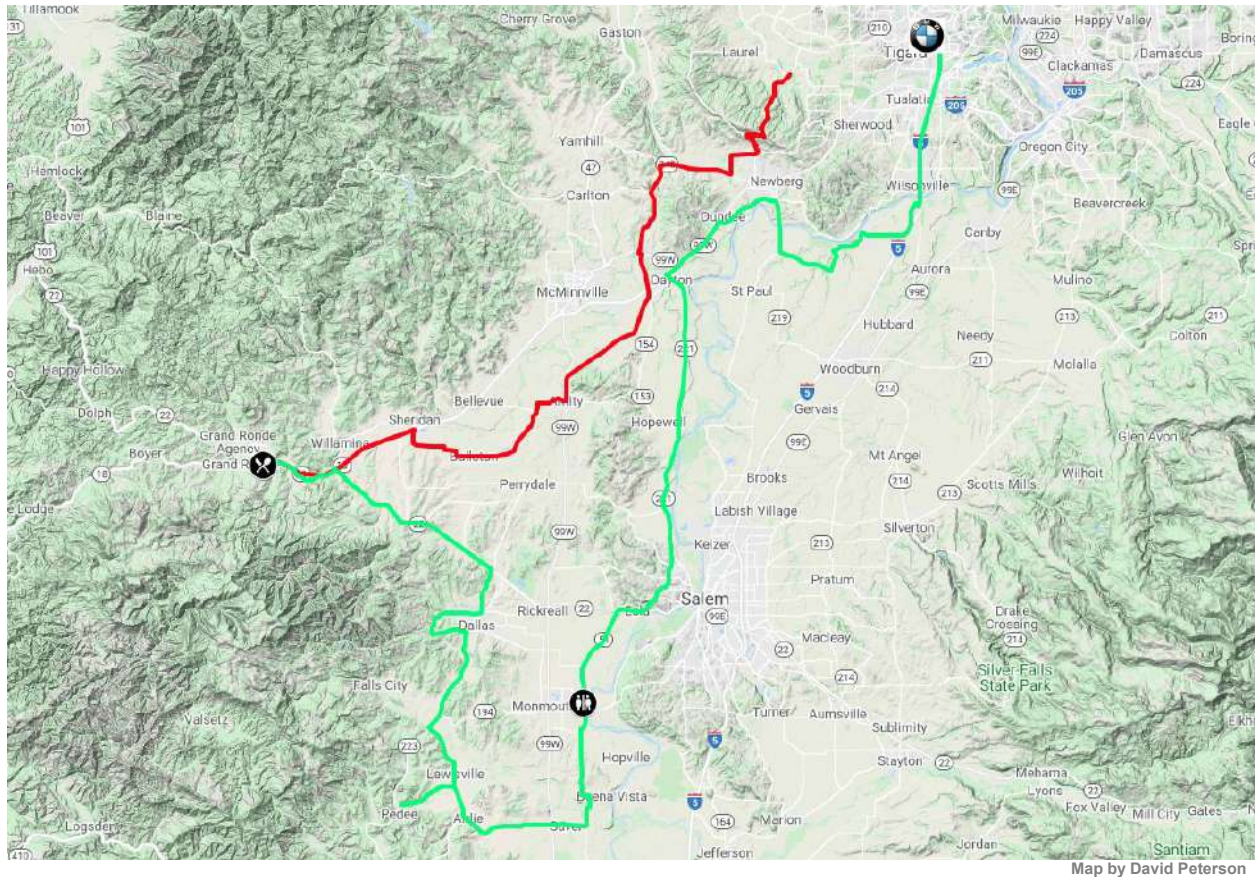
Our smoothly pulsing engines purred powerfully beneath us as we climbed happily up nature's staircase. Our nimble machines danced joyfully through relentless curves with flawless grace as the endless ribbon of road unraveled behind us. Often, rain washed us with its freshness as we moved like specters through soft quiet clouds, wondering what was beyond the white emptiness that surrounded our small world of man, machine, and nature's subtle beauty.

Then, suddenly, the world would lay once again at our feet as we sailed down and down toward fog covered valleys until we snaked through narrow intimate gorges with beautiful rock-strewn brooks, then on to cross mighty rain swollen rivers crashing undeniably toward their goal far away, and then we cruised broad pastoral valleys like grand color splashed canvases where we savored the aroma of curing tobacco, paused by fresh mountain streams, and watched deer browse nonchalantly as we passed. We then climbed ever upward once again with ease, but not without cost, for we keep a measure of this within us and in return, we leave some of ourselves behind, where we tamed the roads, conquered the mountains, smelled nature's sweet fresh fragrance, and sailed free before the wind.

Dashing Through No Snow

NW Ambassador Ride Report-December 2020

David Peterson #90113



[Click](#) map for video

It's Sunday morning, 6 December. Even though it's foggy, gray, and raining, I can't help my giddy mood.

Because yesterday was gorgeous.

And yesterday we rode. Not a wisp of fog, barely a cloud in the sky. A little chilly perhaps; a negligible reminder that it is December and that this was our last First Saturday Ride of 2020. And while the weather has a habit of changing dramatically over the course of a day this time of year, the December ride ended on the same dry note it began.

But you don't care only about the weather. You want to hear about the exciting places and the fun people who joined us. While always on the lookout for routes new and interesting, we have to temper our expectations this time of year. Nothing too shady or elevated. And COVID adds an extra wrinkle, if we have any hope of an indoor lunch.

Arriving at Tigard BMW a little early, it was clear that more than a few others saw the same potential in today's ride that I did. I gave my usual pre-ride soliloquy — here's where we're going, watch for those behind as well as in front of you, here's where to meet if you get lost, yada yada. Then I called the restaurant and told them to be on the lookout for 15-20 well-behaved social distancers. Only then was it time to blast off.

...Continued on Pg. 9



Photo by Diane Peterson

Marching orders are given a wide berth in a time of COVID.

19 riders on 17 motorcycles were chomping at the bit. We quickly split in two, with **Camron Rust** leading the first phalanx. Five minutes later, my group of nine began to give chase. Up the hill, then down the ramp put us on OR-217. Minutes later, we were heading towards Salem, yearning for the first chance to break free of I-5.

That chance always comes with the crossing of the Willamette. I always appreciate how immediately bucolic the scene becomes just a few hundred feet off the interstate. My state of mind is infinitely happier when I'm not jockeying for position with a semi.

Miley Road quickly became Boones Ferry before teeing into Arndt. A few minutes earlier, **Lonnie Wolff** idled here, waiting for the group to pass by. A right on Arndt took us deeper into farm country. It's stark this time of year, but beautiful at the same time, as I reminded myself the blooms are not that far off. Even though we crossed back to the other side of the Willamette, I chose these roads for their exposure to the sun. In December, who knows?

We bypassed Newberg (my favorite new construction in Oregon) and motored toward Dayton, where we exited for thirty miles of meandering between thoroughfares. Wallace Road makes for a relatively straight shot to Salem, and Doaks Ferry Road kept the 25 mph zones to a minimum. After a short sprint on OR-22, we exited toward Independence, our first break of the day.

Cam and company were there wildly chirping about how nice a day it is. It's easy to bask in the sun, but with nightfall at 4:30pm, we didn't have all the time in the world. Still, it was fun to catch up with folks we don't see all the time, like **Tom Jackson** and his friends **Larry Kline**, **Darryl Williams**, and **Dave Hamilton**. **Louie Robida** was there, as sure a sign as the sun itself that we did not start this ride in the rain.

With Cam's pack ten minutes down the road; it was time to begin the chase anew. We limped slowly out of town, but soon got caught up in the property line curves that define Corvallis Road. It's a fine expanse of tarmac, but one surely not designed by a motorcyclist; none of the curves exhibits a smidgen of bank to add character to the corners!

...Continued on Pg. 10



Photo by Diane Peterson

Decorations, not the weather, reminded us of the season



Photo by Diane Peterson

Waiting for stragglers on Doaks Ferry Road.

After quickly checking my mirrors to assure myself no corners were stuffed, it was time to watch for the next junction. Suver Road arrived without warning and fortunately, I was paying attention. A slow transition allowed for the accordion to contract and I soon saw my tailgunner, **Kyle Emerson**. Now we could have some fun as we made our way toward Dallas.

...Continued on Pg. 11



Photo by Joy Trapp

Time for a break in Independence.

Crossing US-99W, Suver becomes Airlie Road, one of my favorite escapes west from greater Salem. It offers a number of alternatives to Kings Valley; we chose Maple Grove Road on this ride. Imagine my surprise to see Cam and Co. heading toward us, flailing frantically, urging us to turn around. A major accident near the Kings Valley junction made everything clear. Back we came.

Newton's First Law states a body in motion stays in motion. That's how my pack took the lead when overtaking Cam after we turned around. A quick left on Airlie led us to Kings Valley and soon it was if nothing unexpected had happened. We looped around Dallas (much more fun that way), then sprinted up Perrydale toward OR-22, alas, our only route to lunch. After a quick aside along the Yamhill River, we finally gave into OR-18 and the remaining few miles to lunch.

Spirit Mountain Casino is the property of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and as such, is subject to the sovereign powers of the tribes, not the state. The tribes have kept the casino and its businesses open, with careful COVID protocols. It was therefore permissible to have lunch at the [Mountain View Sports Bar](#).



Photo by Joy Trapp

Detour!

...Continued on Pg. 12

While several folks preferred more isolation, those of us who opted for the casino were treated to a full menu, with tables of four or fewer situated more than six feet apart. My chili and salad were excellent. Unfortunately, there are only two Indian casinos in the club's Northwest Region. So our ride options may have us ping-ponging between Spirit Mountain and Ilani until the weather gets more picnic-worthy.



A gathering of the misfit toys under the tree at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Photo by gracious stranger

Our leisurely lunch left us with just a couple of hours before dark. Fortunately, the afternoon route was shorter, but no less fun. It was decidedly more overcast when we left the casino than when we arrived, a reminder that in December, weather changes quickly. We said so long to our southern friends **Dave Miller** and **Steve Woodward** and a few others who needed to get home. The rest of us ambled toward Amity, lollygagged around Lafayette, navigated near Newberg, before shooting up Chehalem Grade and scattering for home.

It was a fine capstone on a not-so-great year. I hope everyone is happy and healthy and planning to celebrate the holidays in quiet quarantine comfort. The next ride we have occurs with lengthening days, a sure sign of better times ahead. I eagerly look forward to seeing you then.

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, December Ride: 230
Total First Saturday miles – 2020: 2,284

...Continued on Pg. 13



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May all your 2021 adventures be twisty!

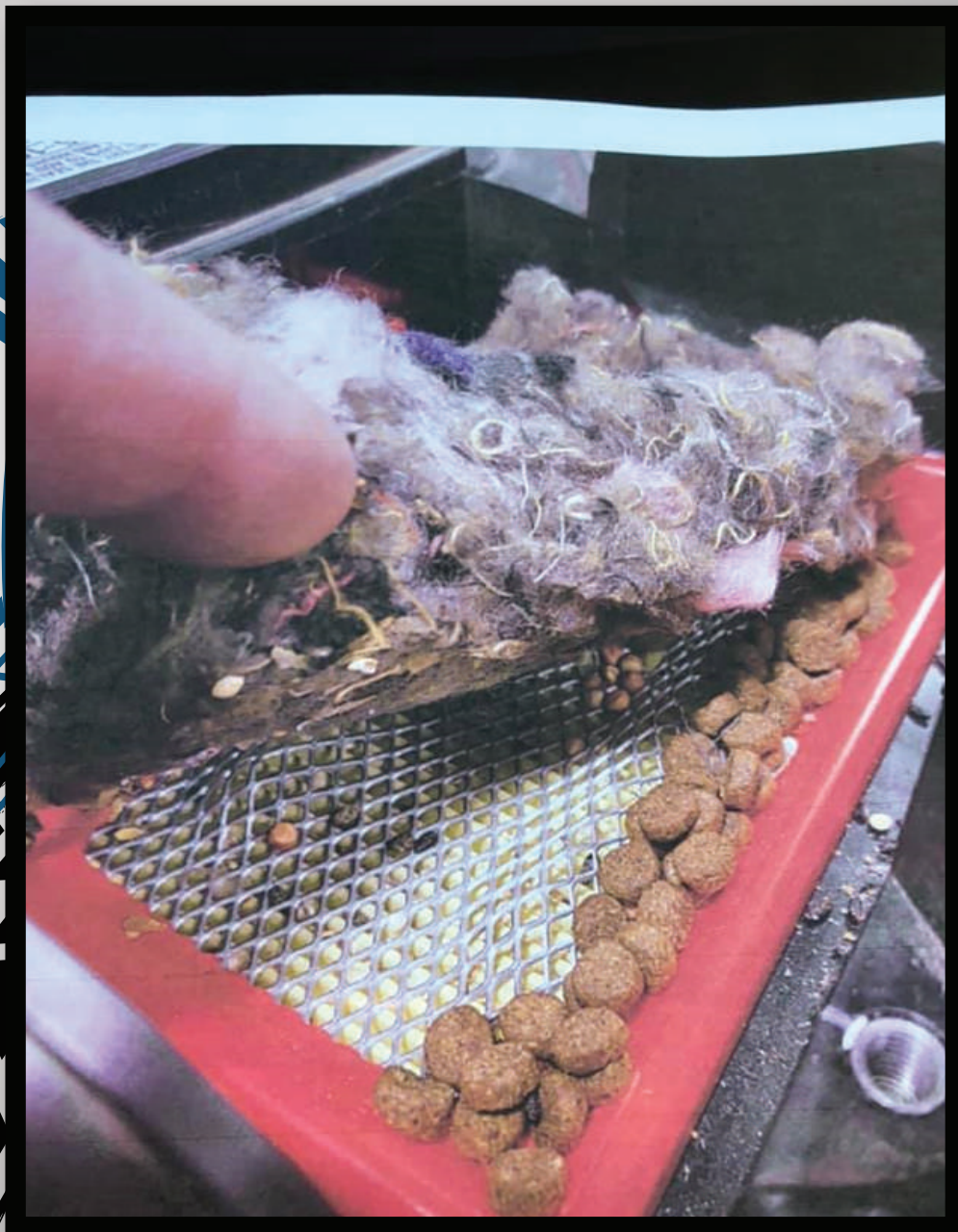
Photo by Diane Peterson

From our Members

Off Season Maintenance Tip

Check the nooks and crannies of your bikes when they've sat for a while. I know, some of you never let your bikes sit for very long, but for those of us forced to:

Art and Cathy Fouch of Hood River had quite a surprise this autumn when they popped the lid on their air filters. Both of their BMW bikes had been occupied by mice.



Cathy exclaimed "Well it's a first time for that!"

BMWRO Rider Motorcycle Safety Program

Announcing a new benefit for members;

During the month of January, we'll be conducting a lottery for the BMWRO Motorcycle Safety Program. If you're thinking about taking one of the Team Oregon Advanced Training classes this year, you'll want to take advantage of this new membership benefit. At the end of January, BMWRO will be awarding \$50 rebates to ten BMWRO members for any of the Team Oregon Advanced Training classes that they wish to take during 2021. To apply for the lottery, simply submit an email with your name and mailing address to Kim Dorsing bmwro.pres@gmail.com and indicate that you are applying for the Motorcycle Safety Lottery. After February 1st, lottery winners will be drawn from the names submitted and winners will be notified by email. Then, after you've completed the Team Oregon class of your choosing, send a photo of your certificate of completion to Kim Dorsing to receive your \$50 rebate check. This lottery is open to all full Members of BMWRO, not Associate Members. Full members include Primary Members, Spouse/Partner Members, and Lifetime Members.

To review the Team Oregon class offerings and to register for a class, follow this link:

<http://team-oregon.org/advanced/>

The Team Oregon Advanced Training classes currently being offered and eligible for the rebate include:

Rider Skills Practice

Braking Clinic

Cornering Clinic

Precision Maneuvering

Advanced Riding Techniques (ART)

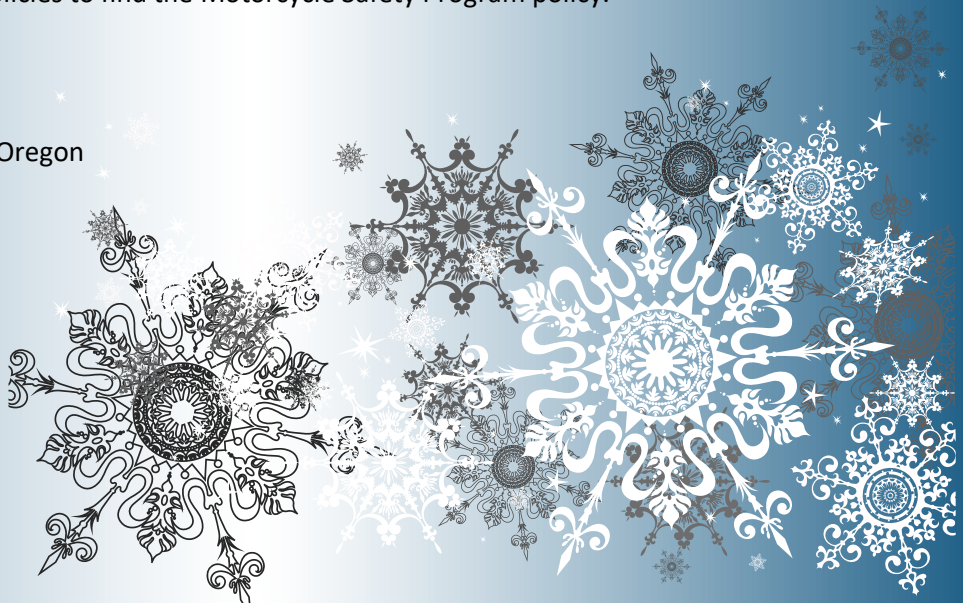
Details of this program can be viewed on the BMWRO website by clicking on Documents in the main menu and then click on Bylaws and Policies to find the Motorcycle Safety Program policy.

Alice LeBarron

2019-2021 President, BMW Riders of Oregon

Oregon is for Riders!

www.bmwro.org



Looking Back

Beloved members Doug and Gloria Watt of LaPine, Oregon

Chief Joseph Rally in Heppner Oregon estimated 1997.



Newsletter Editor
Carol Dallas 503-860-8787
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Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG