



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



May, 2018

Volume 42, Issue #5

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



**Steve Stepanek, Gunther Hirschman,
Bob Burroughs, and Gary Stead at the Palisades near Clarno,
a recent Central Oregon Ambassador Ride**

photo by Alice LeBarron

Meeting Minutes of the BMWRO Club members

see page 11 of this issue.

Tips On Becoming a Better Rider – Part 2

see page 4 of this issue.

A Rainy Run to Monmouth

see pages 12-14 of this issue..



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **Premier Motogear's 14th Annual Swap**
Date/Time: June 2, 2018, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Place: Premier Motogear of Oregon
414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, OR
Description: see page 8 for details!
Contact: Debbie Weber, **541-926-2107**
- Event:** **2018 Chief Joseph Rally**
Date/Time: Friday, June 29, 2018 to Sunday, July 1, 2018
Place: Grant County Fairgrounds
411 NW Bridge St., John Day, OR
Description: Join us at the Grant County Fairgrounds, nestled in the scenic Strawberry Mountains, John Day Oregon, for a weekend of terrific riding, seminars, food and fellowship. This historic city is located at the Junction of Hwys 395 and 26. Enjoy the West's best riding; gold and cattle country, refreshing mountain passes, painted hills, river canyons, and wide open desert. All this in one day's riding! Visit the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument or any of four different museums. Begin planning your trip now! Oregon is for Riders! Come to John Day and see what we mean!
Contact: Robert Metzger, **608-642-1186**
bmwro.pres@gmail.com
- Event:** **Sixes River Coastal Campout**
Date/Time: Friday, July 27, 2018, until Sunday, July 29, 2018,
Place: Edson Creek Campground
Sites B & C, Port Orford, OR
Description: Bring your tent and sleeping bag to this beautiful grassy campground among tall trees. We'll cook the Saturday night dinner, you're on your own for the rest. Great paved and dual-sport riding in the area. Enjoy the warmth while getting out of the wind a little off the beach, about 10 miles inland from the ocean and highway 101. Cool off in Edson Creek, which bends around the big group campsite and has a nice little swimming hole. Groceries and restaurants are about a 15 mile ride away in Port Orford. We did this in 2015, and had a wonderful relaxing weekend—come join us again!"
Cost: For members:\$5.00
For non-members:\$10.00
It is preferred that you register on-line.
Contact: Keith Matteson, MotoMatteson@gmail.com

- Event:** **Walton Lake Campout and Quarterly Meeting**
Date/Time: Friday, Sept. 7th at 2 pm to Sunday Sept. 9th 1 pm
Registration ends September 4, 2018.
Place: Walton Lake Campground Large Group Site
Ochoco National Forest
Description: Primitive camping with fun paved and GS routes in the area. Nearest gas and supplies are 30 miles away in Prineville. Club will provide dinner on Saturday. All other meals are on your own. Quarterly Club Meeting will be held Saturday afternoon. We have the Large Group Campsite, which has more flat space for tents and is closer to the water supply than our last campout at Walton in 2016. See [campground website](#) for detailed directions to the site and for description of campground.
USFS places a limit on space for RV's and cars, so if you are planning to bring an RV or car, please contact Alice LeBarron prior to registering.
Cost: For members:\$5.00
For secondary members:\$5.00
For non-members:\$10.00
It is preferred that you register on-line. If you have a problem paying, on-line, contact Alice LeBarron to make other arrangements.
Contact: Alice LeBarron **541-647-7194**
bmwro.secretary@gmail.com
- Event:** **Women Riders Campout**
Date/Time: Friday Sept, 14th at 2 pm to Sunday Sept. 16th at 1 pm
Registration ends September 10, 2018.
Place: Cape Perpetua Campground Group Site
Description: Primitive camping (no showers, but there is running water). Nearest gas and supplies are three miles away in Yachats. See [campground website](#) for detailed directions to the site and for description of campground. The group campsite has a large covered shelter, a fire pit, and a large grassy area for tents. There are nice hiking trails from the campground as well as good riding in the area. The Women Riders Campouts are typically low-key events with plenty of shared stories and ideas, as well as opportunities to learn from one another in a supportive environment. Food is typically shared or on your own. Due to limited parking, there will not be room to accommodate cars or RVs.
Motorcycles & Spyders only, please.
Contact: Alice LeBarron **541-647-7194**
bmwro.secretary@gmail.com
Jalene Case **541-272-2337**

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
Gary Stead **541-593-7461**
garystead67@gmail.com
- Event:** **Central Western Region 1st Saturday 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: Dan Russell, **541-221-0990** or danrussell@gmail.com
- Event:** **Southern Oregon 1st Saturday**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month
Location: Various lunch/breakfast and ride locations for southern Oregon members.
Contact: Dan Hall, dnehall@frontier.com
Mark Collier **541-499-1395**
mcollier5895@gmail.com
- Event:** **NW Oregon 1st Saturday Ride**
Date/Time: First Saturday of each month
Location: Various breakfast and ride locations in the Northwest Oregon Region.
Description: Finding the twisties and connecting with our membership for grins and food sharing.
Contact: David Peterson **503-327-5592**
dwpeterson01@yahoo.com
Mike Ripley **503-789-2966**
gobeezer@live.com
- Event:** **Doc Wong Riding Clinic**
Date/Time: Second Saturday of each Month, 9:00 am
Location: Mr. Ed's Moto: 414 Queen Avenue, Albany
Contact: Don Weber **541-791-5142**
don@mredsmoto.com

Heard-On-The-Road

- Event:** **NAMOA Riding Competition**
Date/Time: May 16-18, 2018
Place: Hillsboro Stadium, 4450 NE Century Blvd, *just off Hwy 26 at the NE Cornelius Pass exit.*
Description: Hillsboro Police Department Motor Unit is hosting the 2018 North American Motor Officer Association Conference.
Details: More information on page 8 of this issue and at namoa.org

- Event:** **Oregon Vintage Motorcyclists Event**
Date/Time: Sunday May 20th from 10:00-3:00
Place: Benton County Fairgrounds, 110 SW 53rd Street, Corvallis, OR
Description: The featured Marque this year is BMW. Ride your vintage (or not) to the event.
Cost: Gate fee \$5.00 per vehicle.
- Event:** **Norcal BMW Riders 49'Er Rally**
Date/Time: Thursday, May 24, 2018, 8:00 AM until Sunday, May 27, 2018, 5:00 PM
Place: Mariposa County Fairgrounds, CA
- Event:** **2018 Giant Loop Ride**
Date/Time: Friday, June 1, 2018 to Sunday, June 3, 2018
Place: Crystal Crane Hot Springs, 59315 Hwy 78, Burns, OR
Description: Explore incredible areas of the state like Steens Mountain, the Owyhee River, the Ochoco Mountains and the Alvord Desert while meeting new riding friends. All bike types and riders are welcome! **SPACE IS LIMITED - YOUR DEPOSIT SECURES YOUR SPOT!**
Cost: Due by May 1, 2018
Full payment: \$200.00
Non riders: 100.00
More details at BMWRO.org
- Event:** **BMW Freeriders, Tri-Cities WA Campout**
Date/Time: Friday, May 11, 2018, 8:00 AM until Sunday, May 13, 2018, 5:00 PM
Place: Biggs, OR
Description: Freeriders will hold their annual Deschutes Campout near Biggs, Oregon. Everyone is invited.
Contact: Tom Steinert, **509-995-1433** or visit www.bmwfreeriders.com
- Event:** **46th Cascade Country Rendezvous**
Date/Time: Thursday, July 19, 2018 to Sunday, July 22, 2018
Place: Ferry County Fairgrounds
14 Lawson Way, Republic, WA
Description: Registration will include Friday evening dinner, morning coffee, cold refreshments in the afternoon, evening beer garden, camping, off-road training, seminars, off-pavement and on-road guided rides, access to GPS tracks, and door prizes. Saturday's dinner will cost \$25 and is **only** available to **preregistered guests**. As usual, this will be fabulous catered meal.
Registration: Due by July 8, 2018. Register online at Washington State BMW Riders

BMWRO President's Message

by Bob Metzger



Figure 1

Tips On Becoming a Better Rider – Part 2

Last month's President's Column focused on tips to become a better rider. We covered items such as the proper use of first gear at stops, leg and foot position, the benefit of talking to yourself, paying strict attention to the task at hand, and developing the discipline to look further into the distance, or as I like to call it, "Your Future!"

This month I have a few more words that may provoke some critical thinking on your part to help you become a better motorcyclist. Let's begin.

Practice Technique

Most of us would consider ourselves fairly competent riders with many miles and years of riding under our belts. However, throw a new "task" at any one of us and we may fail – miserably. A few months ago I participated in a riding clinic designed to enhance my slow speed, precision riding abilities (Figure 1). How did I do?

I give myself a solid "C". Average. That's right! After 50 years of riding motorcycles and countless miles, I found my Achilles heel. Going slow in a tight controlled manner takes an entirely different skill-set. So, I urge you all to go out and take a slow-speed riding clinic, or at least take some cones to a parking lot and practice tight circles and figure 8's. Remember practice does NOT make "perfect"! Only perfect practice makes "perfect"!

Cover The Controls

A few months ago I spent quite a bit of time talking about effective motorcycle braking. You must practice braking technique to get the most out of your brakes; marvels of modern engineering. But let's step back for a moment.

From the moment you decide to engage your brakes until you actually stop is made of up two components: 1) the riders reaction time and 2) actual braking distance. Take a look at Figure 2. When a

rider's speed is 50 mph, it will take the average rider 175 feet to stop. That is more than one-half the length of a football field. Note that of the total braking distance, almost 30%—or 50 feet—is consumed as reaction time. Recall, as we age our reaction time slows. Developing the discipline of covering the front brake and clutch in heavy traffic or perceived upcoming traffic dangers can reduce your reaction time and aid in decreasing your overall stopping distance. Covering your controls can mean the difference between stopping safely or crashing.

Be Blind Spot Aware

After a crash between a motorcycle and a car, the driver of the vehicle usually says, "I didn't even see him/her!" Non-seeing could be a result of either the inattentiveness of the driver, or the motorcyclist's poor choice of lane positioning. Make certain you are always visible. It is incredibly easy to hide a motorcycle in traffic.

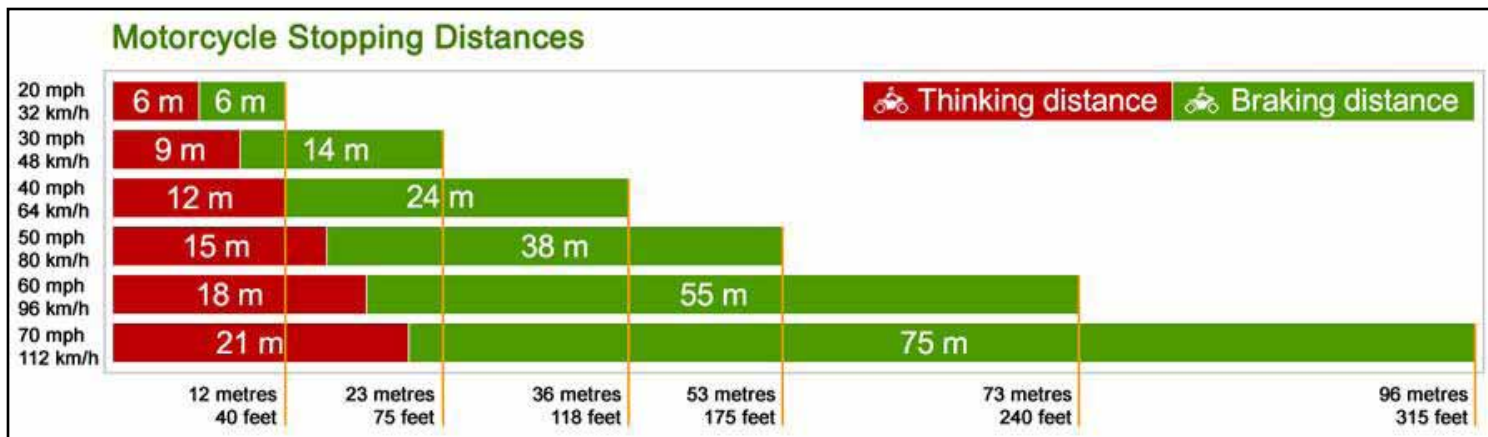


Figure 2 - From motorcycletesttips.com

Don't linger in the blind spots of other vehicles. Remember, if you can't see the driver in their side view mirrors, they can't see you.

Motorcycles have blind spots, too. Before changing lanes always make a head-check (turn your head) to insure a vehicle is not hiding in your blind spot. The Irish call them "life-checks". I like that term.

Fight Over-confidence

I've spoken with many riders who could not wait to regale me with the daring deeds on a motorcycle. Their story usually

starts with, "One time..." and then the yarn begins. There is a great difference between a confident and an over-confident rider. The confident rider is one who works on mastering the craft of motorcycling. For the confident rider every ride is an opportunity to improve their skill level. Confident riders are self-critiquing.

Over-confident riders critique others. Every ride is an opportunity to try to impress their pillion passenger, riding buddies, or just get another adrenaline rush. Their motorcycle is an ego extension.

The over-confident rider pushes the limits and rarely learns from their mistakes. A crash is usually blamed on anything other than their own behavior and lack of self-discipline.

If you find you are scaring yourself—slow down. Concentrate on technique rather than speed. Never let your brain write a check that your skills can't cash!

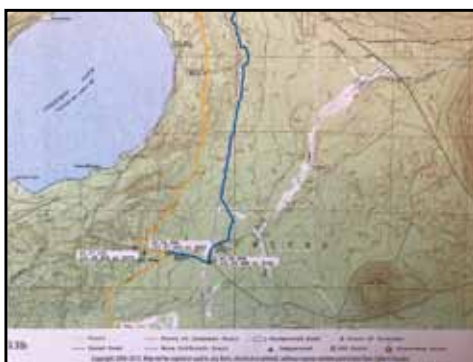
Roll on,



Oregon Back Country Discovery Maps Available

from Bob Metzger

Last year, Milt (Butch) Farrand donated—to the BMW Riders of Oregon club—the entire series of the **Oregon Back Country Discovery** topographic route maps. *Thank you Butch!*



Since our membership is spread across 98,466 square miles—known as the State of Oregon, and beyond—it is hard to find a central location where everyone can access these map volumes. Therefore, I am the default custodian. If you wish to borrow them, I will happily loan them to you via USPS.

Simply contact me, I will give you my PayPal account number and you can drop the round trip postage into my account. If you don't have a PayPal account, you can still contact me and we can work out a hand-off at a mutually agreeable time and place.

Journey on!



NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Gary Harkins, Albany, OR 1994 BMW K1100LT
Roger Tay, Portland, OR 2003 Ducati Multistrada
Mark Butcher, Bend, OR 2013 BMW R1200 GSA Adv.
Richard Schuurman, Keizer, OR 2003 BMW R1150RT,
..... Honda CRF 250L
Chris Burch, Oregon City, OR 2014 BMW F800GSA
Jay Jones, Terrebonne, OR 2004 BMW R1150RS
Dan Jensen, Bend, OR 2001 BMW R1100S
Steven Pringle, Eugene, OR 2014 BMW F700GS
Robert Morris, Springfield, OR Bike unknown
Richard Peck, Grants Pass, OR 1992 BMW R100RT,
..... 1969 BMW R69S, 2003 BMW K1200GT
David Tucker, Medford, OR 2008 BMW R1200GSA

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:

WWW.BMWRO.ORG

BMWRO Club Officials

President:

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

Vice President:

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

Secretary:

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

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bmwro.news@gmail.com

Activities

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

Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

Central Western Region

(South of Salem, including Eugene & Oakland from the coast to the Cascades).

Dan Russell—541-221-0990

danrussell@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

Gary Stead —541-647-0135

garystead67@gmail.com

Southern Region

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

Dan Hall—541-862-7411

dnehall@frontier.com

Mark Collier—541-499-1395

mcollier5895@gmail.com

Northwest Region

(from Longview, WA south through Salem, OR, the coast to the Cascades, including The Dalles).

David W. Peterson—503-327-5592

dwpeterson01@yahoo.com & www.wfodave.smugmug.com

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



BMW Riders of Oregon present CHIEF JOSEPH RALLY

Join us at the **Grant County Fairgrounds**, nestled in the scenic Strawberry Mountains, **John Day, Oregon**, for a weekend of terrific riding, seminars, food and fellowship. This historic city is located at the Junction of Hwys 395 and 26. Enjoy the West's best riding; gold and cattle country, refreshing mountain passes, painted hills, river canyons, and wide open desert. Visit the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument or any of four different museums.

Friday and Saturday evening dinners are provided in pre-registered rally fee. Gate registration will NOT include meals. On-site food vendors and in-town restaurants are available for other meals. Beer garden on-site. **Geology Rocks Tour** and guided on and off pavement tours; self guided maps with touring and off-road routes. Tech sessions, Team Oregon seminars, door prizes, awards, entertainment and more are scheduled. Rally T-Shirts must be pre-ordered online: bmwro.org.

The Grant County Fairgrounds, on the **John Day River**, offers green grass camping and hot showers! Reservations required for adjacent RV Park [541-575-1900] extra cost involved. Excellent motel accommodations, dining options and shopping are just three blocks from the Fairgrounds. Leashed pets are welcome.

Oregon is for Riders!
Come to John Day
and see what we mean!

We encourage everyone to pre-register for the rally. **Those who do will get a meal ticket** and, you save \$10.00!

The first 500 pre-registered guests are guaranteed a rally pin.

Pre-Registration:

\$50.00 per person for club members

\$60.00 for non-club members

More info at: www.bmwro.org

click the Chief Joseph Rally link

Gate Registration:

No dinner ticket

\$60.00 per person for club members

\$70.00 for non-club members

12 yrs and younger: \$10.00 per person

Deadlines:

US Mail Pre-Registration: June 12, 2018

OnLine Pre-Registration: June 12 2018

Refunds: June 12, 2018

Grant County Fairgrounds ~John Day, OR June 29 – July 1, 2018

WWW.BMWRO.ORG

NAMOA Riding Competition

May 16-18, 2018

Ready for something new and different to see? Most BMW riders are appreciative of excellent riding skills and if that applies to you, here is something you will enjoy!

On May 16-18, 2018, the Hillsboro Police Department Motor Unit is hosting the **2018 North American Motor Officer Association Conference.**

The event will be held at the Hillsboro Stadium located at 4450 NE Century Blvd, just off Hwy 26 at the NE Cornelius Pass exit. **Plus, there are no entry or parking fees!**

The North American Motor Officers Association annual conference has been a leader in police motorcycle training in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. The conference committee works hard to put together the best training itinerary for 3 full days of police motorcycle training! Friday is the final day of competition and the best day to see what these exceptional police officers can do on their bikes!



Competition at the 2018 conference course will feature:

1. Two separate primary cone courses that will not intersect providing a continuous riding experience and expediting course time for riders
2. Two slow courses
3. Two barrels courses, including pairs competition and single barrels competition
4. An advanced course and "Last Rider Standing" course



Also, on Friday, May 18, the Governor's Committee for Motorcycle Safety will have a booth set up and will be asking for feedback from riders, police officers and motorists for issues regarding motorcycle safety. Stop by and share your opinions! Hope to see you there!

Premier Motogear's 14th Annual Swap

June 2, 2018, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Premier Motogear of Oregon,
414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, OR**

- We supply the space, you supply the table!
- Fun and Free way to clean your garage of all motorcycle and camping related stuff!
- Enjoy refreshments, camaraderie, and lots of great deals!

Please **RSVP** by calling:
541-926-2107, or e-mail:
premiermotogear@comcast.net

We hope to see you here!



April, 2018 CW Ambassador Rides

by Dan Russell

Do you get tired of riding the same old roads, even eating at the same old places? Sure, throwing that leg over the seat of your favorite motorcycle, pressing the starter button, and then adroitly maneuvering through whatever lies ahead is exhilarating; but, can it be better? Even flying jet airplanes on the same routes can begin to get boring and lead to complacency, which can have tragic consequences. Why not liven up things a bit—not by increasing speed and adrenaline-laden risks; but, by joining some new and old friends to explore new roads to some destinations freshened up with slightly different venues?



Brian & Laura Scott

That's exactly what eight of us on seven bikes did on our March Ambassador's ride. **Brian Scott**—a long term member whom we hadn't seen for a long time—and his wife, **Laura**, were lured out with us by the prospect of riding new backroads. They found six other welcoming BMWRO family members eager to share the day with them.

Today, the southern Willamette Valley attempts to cast a pall over our plans with a low overcast; but we cannot be deterred. Our attitudes are up, as are the temperatures which brought ice the prior month, forcing a postponement of this same



Viet Nam Memorial

Left-to-Right: Milton Farrand, Bob Whitlock, Bob Metzger, Brian (& Laura Scott—mostly hidden), Tim Cruse, Doug Tewksbury

plan. It's 39°F at 8:30 a.m. That isn't exactly an appealing riding temperature, but it is warm enough for us to get through a little fog and drizzle on Highway 126 to a forecasted 54°F on the coast. We arrive on schedule at Coffee Roasters in Florence to pick up two of our riders. There is enough delay created by the wait for the single restroom that our hard-core coffee drinkers grab a quick cup. We will ride nearly 300 miles today, so I encourage all to get underway without further delay (so that we don't have to rush lunch or other brief stops). Most want to be home by about 4:30 or 5:00.

We ride in two groups along familiar Highway 101 toward our backroad entry just north of the **Conde B. McCullough Memorial Bridge**. We regroup at the Vietnam Memorial just before the bridge that was built in the 1930's to cross Coos Bay. This mile-long (5,305 foot) bridge is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. We exit east off of Highway 101 at the traffic light before the bridge and take the East Bay road through the one-store town of Glasgow. The

road climbs with twists and turns along the bay's northern shore and then descends to cross Kentuck Inlet. We pass through Cooston, hardly noting it, and then cross Coos River to join the South Coos River Highway toward Eastside. Catching Slough Road—our desired route—exits left, but we continue a couple miles for a restroom stop. Coffee drained, we U-turn back to follow Catching Slough. This route meanders through farm country and along the slough's riparian vegetation before we join Old Wagon Road. Then, a right turn onto Coos-Sumner Road excites each of us with its hairpin turns before we reach Highway 101 just before the bifurcation with Highway 42. With all of us jazzed from these new roads, we glide along 101 until rolling to a stop at Tony's Crab Shack along the Coquille's river mouth.

Tony's Crab Shack with its copious and reasonable prices garners 4-stars on Yelp's 334 reviews. Each of us finds our favorite item: oyster sandwich, clam chowder, hamburger, fish and chips, etc. We've ridden a long

way, much of it on curvy country roads. The sky has turned mostly blue. We enjoy a little extra time in the restaurant and along the waterfront. The sun feels warm, and the air is fresh.

We depart on Highway 101 North, but stay on it only briefly turning east onto North Bank Lane. We roll along the Northshore of the Coquille River passing farms and cattle until we merge onto Highway 42 toward Coos Bay. We drop into Roaster's in Florence for coffee and chit-chat, all except for **Bob Whitlock**. He has to rush home to let his doggie out for a potty break. Today was one of our longer single-day rides, but there were no complaints, except maybe by Bob's dog. Everybody has enjoyed the new roads, the food, and the fellowship. Riders on the trip were: Brian & Laura Scott, **Milton (Butch)**



Tony's Crab Shack



Mural on Tony's Crab House

Farrand, Doug Tewksbury, Bob Whitlock, Tim Cruse, Bob Metzger, and I. We sure enjoyed seeing a couple new faces this time, and I trust that Brian and Laura will be back soon. If you haven't been out with us recently, or perhaps not at all, what's holding you back? There is lots of fun to be had with new and old friends, and we guarantee you will enjoy some new roads and make some new memories. Watch the BMWRO Events Calendar and email notices for upcoming rides.

Then, press that starter button and join some good friends for a good ride.



Coquille River Lighthouse

Cowboy Ride & Lunch at **Chief Joseph Rally** Friday June 29, 2018

Back by popular demand, the Grant County Stock Growers have stepped up to support us with another farm visit and LUNCH (not breakfast as in the past). In 2018 we will be going on a scenic ride around the back of the Strawberry Mountains then thru Seneca and finally to Izee for lunch (approximately 78 miles). At the Izee Ranch will then be served a chuck wagon lunch. Lunch will consist of custom made, all-beef BBQ brats, home cooked beans, salad, drinks and cookies. After lunch there will be a presentation on the operations of the ranch with an emphasis on recent watershed improvements. Please come with a full gas tank as fuel won't be available for around 115 miles.



Each year this popular event has provided the attendees with an opportunity see how an operating ranch works, have a tasty chuck wagon style lunch and a great group ride with others to boot.

We will ride (or drive) to the ranch starting from the fairgrounds main gate around 10:00 am. Maps will be available. Lunch will be served around noon by the Stock Growers Association and their helpers.

Please reserve your spot early, as the spots are limited and on a first come first served basis (75 maximum—the sooner you sign up and pay for your meal, the more assured you are of getting a spot). Please sign up online at www.bmwro.org.

Cost: \$15.00 with proceeds going to financing the Grant County Stock Growers Association.

Come out and enjoy this unique experience of having a ride and chuck wagon meal at a working Grant County ranch.

For questions, contact Jay Bennett, jabennett.2012@gmail.com, or 541-760-0675



BMWRO Quarterly Meeting

April 28, 2018

Meeting held at Camp 18 Restaurant, Elsie, Oregon; hosted by **Scot & Carol Lamper**.

The meeting was called to order at about 1:15 pm by Vice President, Chris Henry. The meeting had been preceded by socializing and eating! It was good to see everyone.

Introductions were made of the 26 Members in attendance. Executive Committee members in attendance were VP **Chris Henry**, treasurer **Nate Levin**, and secretary **Alice LeBarron**.

Chris was standing in for our club president, Bob Metzger, who was unable to attend due to illness. He reports that volunteers are needed to help out at the rally. Please email Bob at bmwro.pres@gmail.com if you are interested in helping out.

Chris reported that Bob is requesting nominations for nonprofit charitable organizations to receive donations from BMWRO. Please email your nominations to Bob at bmwro.pres@gmail.com by September 1, 2018. Past president, **Roger Paquette**, stated that traditionally, BMWRO has made donations to benefit the children of Grant County, (CASA or funding school field trips) since we work closely with Grant County residents to put on the Chief Joseph Rally each year.

As the Activity Coordinator, **Chris Henry** reviewed the upcoming BMWRO events on the calendar: Chief Joseph Rally in John Day June 28, 29, 30. **Keith Matteson** spoke briefly about the Sixes River Campout that he is hosting July 27 & 28, Saturday dinner will be provided by the club. **Alice LeBarron** spoke briefly about the Walton Lake Campout scheduled for Sept. 7th–8th—which will be the site for our next quarterly club meeting. Saturday dinner will be provided by the club. The Women Riders Campout is scheduled for Sept. 14th–15th. Alice reports that the ExCom has heard from several members wishing to have another campout at the Steens. She met with the owner of The Narrows RV park a couple of weeks ago and has started making arrangements for a return to the Steens in 2019. (The calendar for this year was already filled.) The Steens Campout in 2019 will be the traditional weekend after Labor Day, as it has been in the past.

Alice LeBarron introduced **Nate Levin** as our new treasurer. She also encouraged members to consider

the upcoming elections for club president and secretary, which will be held this fall. The offices are for two (2) year terms.

Alice reported that the current membership count is 288. This includes 261 primary members, 25 secondary members, and two tertiary members. Of the primary memberships, 30 are complimentary and four are Lifetime members. Alice explained that about one year ago, the club started offering one-year complimentary memberships to buyers of new BMW motorcycles through the dealerships. This is in an effort to help spread the word about our club; and its effectiveness will be monitored and evaluated by the club officers. It was suggested by one of the members in attendance that we also offer a free one-year membership to anyone who buys a used BMW motorcycle. This suggestion will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Nate Levin gave the **treasurer's report**.

We currently have a balance of \$43,523.03. Discussion ensued regarding making charitable donations and using the money to host more activities and to be more generous with our budget for planning activities. Chris Henry mentioned that the wintertime activities that we've had in the past, such as the overnight at The Oregon Garden and the Beach Bash have not been scheduled due to lack of volunteers to host these events. The Executive Committee can make money available for events, but we also need volunteers to host events.

David Morganstern reports that he is coordinating the *vendors* for the Chief Joseph Rally and would like members to contact him if you know of anyone who would like to exhibit. There is no charge to vendors. You can email David at Portlandia09@comcast.net

David Peterson, Dan Russell, and Alice LeBarron—all of which are regional club ambassadors—invite members to join their rides. Check the Event Calendar for details.

Rolf-Immo Gabbe (aka: the Rok-Strap guy!) brought some Rok-Straps to offer as door prizes. The lucky winners were: **Linnea Alvord, Charlie Trapp, Scot Lamper, and Dan Russell**.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Alice LeBarron,
Secretary, BMWRO



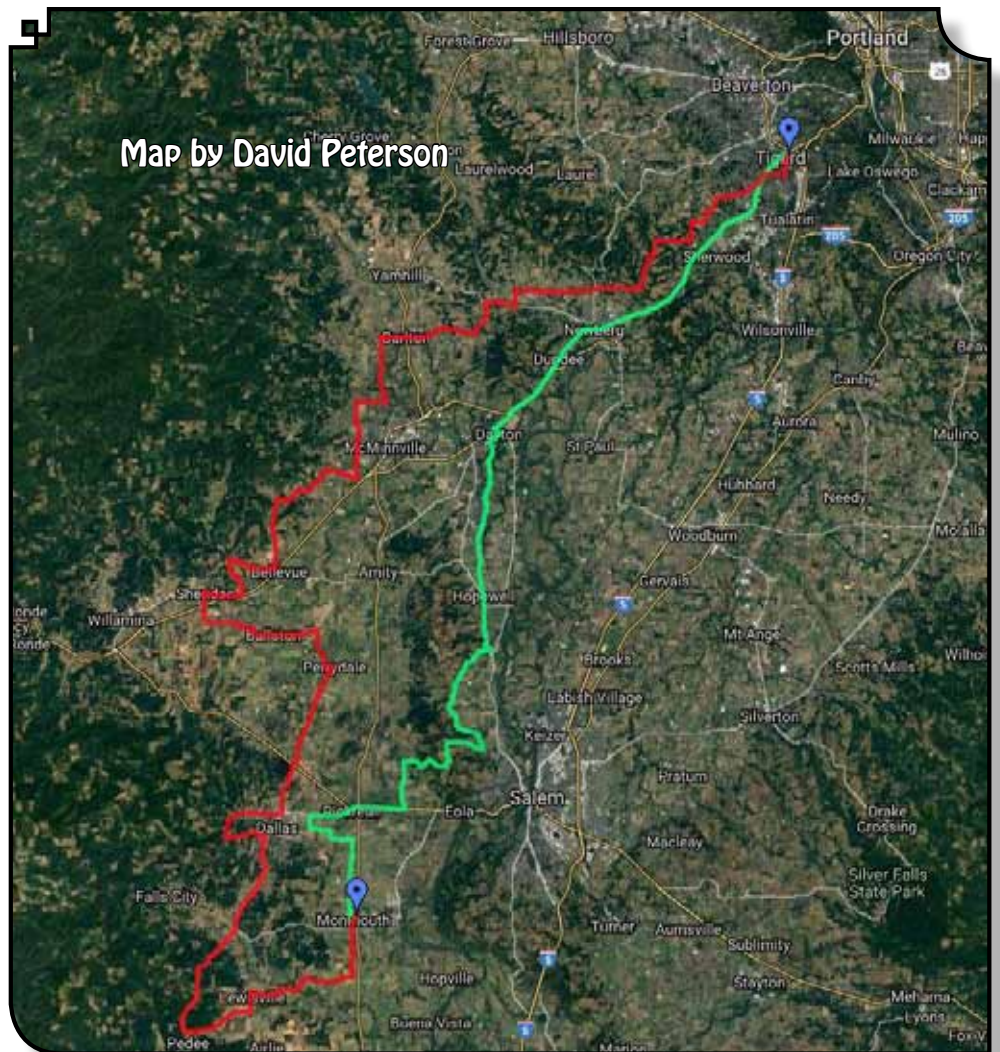
A Rainy Run to Monmouth NW Ambassadors Ride Report April 2018

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The way the talking heads were describing it, you would have thought we were riding into another Columbus Day storm. It did turn out to be a wet and wild weekend. In the end, however, the storm's bark was much less worse than its bite.

But it sure did dampen attendance. When it was time to roll, seven stalwarts had made their way to the start. On a warm Friday pre-ride, a couple of weeks earlier, no fewer than ten of us wended our way to Monmouth. We're beginning to think that the propensity to ride and sunny, dry weather are correlated!

After giving the rest of you a few more minutes to show, we were off! And off, we should note, under threatening skies, but so far anyway, along dry pavement. David was this train's engine, rolling westward while responding like Pavlov to his GPS. Close behind were **James Kim, Charles and Joy Trapp, Jeff Yarnall, and Mark Wegener.**



Mike swept us along, his last official motorcycle act as an Oregon resident.

Today's destination was Monmouth, home to Western Oregon University. Like Lebanon last month, one can blast there in about an hour. But the challenge on each ride is to find the road not taken, and this pursuit can turn an hour ride into an all day affair. Today's route would swing us to the west of Carlton and McMinnville before heading south. We quickly pranced through the stoplights of Tigard, and continued into the estates and vineyards of suburban Sherwood. There are dozens of roads that traverse this section of the Willamette Valley, now officially designated the Chehalem Mountains American Viticultural Area. After a very twisty and scenic stretch from Edy to Bell Roads, we found ourselves north of Newberg and back in the flatlands.

Spring riding in Oregon is among the most sublime treats of the year. There is always something sweet in the air, along with the falling dogwood pedals. And the vistas are magnificent, green and lush wherever you look. That can be a problem on a motorcycle at speed, but we know these roads well,



A stop for coffee before the storm

Photo by David Peterson

and beyond that, our motto is “Safety first.” We continued west toward Carlton, anxious to finally cross the urban growth boundary. Therefore, it was with mixed emotions that we encountered development construction on Hill Road. A detour accommodated a reroute of this key urban barrier, which itself was accommodating a bevy of new homes. It was then we decided it was time for a coffee break. As we removed our helmets, it began to rain.

Thirty warm minutes later, the rain had become steady. Undaunted, we pulled on the GORE-TEX® and began anew. Some of the best riding lay ahead: Peavine Road to Youngblood Hill to Muddy Valley to Gopher Valley. Eventually, we hit real traffic again on OR-18, but for a moment only, as we exited at Sheridan and ramped over the freeway into rural Polk County. The rain was intense, but the increasingly Soggy Seven handled it well.

We avoided Dallas, preferring to loop to the west (Ellendale to Oakdale—a fine alternative to the stoplights in town). South of Dallas, we revved it up across the Kings Valley. Named for its first settler, Nahum King, the valley extends some 27 miles toward Philomath. OR-223 runs its length, one of the finest stretches of road the state has to offer. Today we only ventured halfway, for we were past Monmouth and it was time for lunch.

Grain Station Brewery Works is new to Monmouth. Formerly J’s 99 Grill, McMinnville-based Grain Station expanded its operation in January. Most of the old staff and menu stayed and



Après lunch at Grain Station Brew Works.

Photo by David Peterson

the food and service were okay. The restaurant’s back room is a little sterile, but it mattered not a bit, as we were all just glad to be able to be in away from the rain.

We lingered as long as we could, until the weather looked like it was breaking. As we departed town, it was clear the break was a head fake. No matter. With full bellies and working electrics, the ride was surprising comfortable.

Although lunch was on OR-99, an easy escape from town, we chose to backtrack a couple of blocks and tour the campus instead. WOU was established in 1856 as Monmouth

University. It now incorporates colleges of education and liberal arts and sciences, educating approximately 6,000 students.

As we picked up speed after crossing the campus, the rain picked up as well. A few lefts and rights put us on OR-22, but only for a few moments. A left on Greenwood Road quickly whisked us away from mainline traffic. Across open fields, we teed into aptly-named Farmer Road, then quickly climbed toward Eagle Crest on Orchard Heights Road. Up and over on Gibson Road, then a left on Brush College found us back in the lowlands again. The rain was steady as we raced along Webfoot Road into Dayton.

It was three-thirty – time to go our separate ways. But thumbs up all around made one thing crystal clear – rain or shine, the Soggy Seven would be riding high again soon. Even Mike. Although he’s moving to Arizona, he’s keeping a bike in town with First Saturdays in mind.

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.

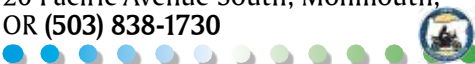
Total miles, March Ride: 216
Total First Saturday miles – 2018: 801



Playing follow-the-leader near Ballston

Photo by David Peterson

[Grain Station Brew Works](#)
20 Pacific Avenue South, Monmouth,
OR (503) 838-1730



Our cycle train approaches Hopewell Highway.

photo by David Peterson



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