



# THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the  
BMW Riders of Oregon



August, 2014

Volume 38, Issue 8

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



**Scot Lamper at Chief Joseph Rally, 2014**

*photo by Rex*

## Shot by Rex (not fatally)

This year at the annual Chief Joseph Rally, a professional photographer was roaming the grounds and Pavilion and took some amazing pictures. These are available on the [BMWRO club DropBox](http://www.bmwro.org). If you were at the Rally, there is probably a photo

of yourself available at the site ([Dropbox](http://www.bmwro.org)). There are some fairly fantastic pictures of bikes, the fair grounds replete with a tent city, and people who were there.

Check out Rex's website and consider requesting his services when a professional photographer is required.

## Shot by Rex

Email: [waypoints@mac.com](mailto:waypoints@mac.com)

[www.waypoints.zenfolio.com](http://www.waypoints.zenfolio.com)



# BMWRO President's Message

by Lane Weinberg



The first thing is our change of address. Lane and Nancy Weinberg, 516 King Arthurs Ct. SE, Salem, Oregon 97301. Our email and phone are the same.

A word about my spoofed email address. Someone is using my email address as the return email address so you think it is from BMWRO.pres@gmail.com and it is not. The subtle give away is that if you look at the address, it is from a foreign country. Second there is an attachment from a foreign social media site inviting you to open up a "Private Message" from Bmwro. pres. DON'T OPEN UP THE ATTACHMENT. Opening the attachment activates a virus that hijacked my contacts list and sent the email out to them. Third, the email address is spelled Bmwro.pres which is wrong. The correct spelling is BMWRO.pres@gmail.com. I am working with Google and others to get this cleaned up. I apologize for any pain you may have suffered from the invasive email. In the mean time I am using the [lane\\_weinberg@mac.com](mailto:lane_weinberg@mac.com) email address. You can continue to send mail to [BMWRO.pres@gmail.com](mailto:BMWRO.pres@gmail.com) as I am continuing to monitor this email.

In addition to the email problem, my computer decided to die a horrible and untimely demise. That—right in the middle of a move to a new house—put the icing on the cake, stress wise. I was in no condition to function let alone ride a motorcycle. At this writing we are relocated to the new house but not moved in.



There are a ton of boxes in the big room waiting for some place to fit in. Downsizing sucks.

Reading the Beemer Beat for this month I am reminded how important we all are to each other. The BMW Riders of Oregon is more than an appreciation of the badge. It is an acknowledgement of each other. It is a fellowship that goes much deeper than Leather, Kneepads and disk breaks. It touches on a singularity of what makes us human. That being, we all have a compulsion to tell our story. What better way than to share, in the context of our unique experience and our unbreakable bond to motorcycling. It is lifting your glove in recognition of another kindred soul as they pass you on the road and on the trail. Celebrate your unique experience. Strengthen the bond with everyone you meet on two wheels and three wheels. Take time to share and listen to shared experiences. I know of no other band of brothers so strongly bonded as motorcycle enthusiasts. It really is about the journey and not so much the destination.

Seasoned members are reminded to take the time to greet and get to know our new members. The new members names are published in the Beemer Beat each month. Take a moment or two to get to know them. Phone and email information is available from the Ambassadors. Who knows, you may find your next riding buddy or start a life long friendship or meet a really neat person. I know meeting new people with a common interest in motorcycling has enriched my life.

The club runs on good leadership. If you have an interest in sharing your skills with the club then contact one of the club officers and let them know. We are always looking for good leadership. Club officers nomination and election occurs in the fall months so it is a great opportunity. Check out the club bylaws for details at [BMWRO.org](http://BMWRO.org). I have to say that it is a really great club with very supportive membership. It is an honor to serve as President and to be associated with such a great bunch of BMW motorcycle riders. Thanks

Ride Safe

Ride Often



## Activity Committee ~ Our Radar is Always on ~ for more events

The Activity Coordination Committee is requesting that all members consider sponsoring an event or activity this year. We are in particular need of activities in Early

Spring and in the Fall of the year, Activities do not have to have full details yet but an idea of cost to the club, date and name of host would be very helpful. Please contact

Jay and Janet Bennett for help and assistance. Fresh ideas equal FUN!!!  
Thanks,  
Jay Bennett—Activity Coordinator



# BMWRO

## Coming Events



### Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **Rogue River/Grants Pass Campout**  
**Date/Time:** August 15–17th 2014  
**Location:** Indian Mary County Park, Grants Pass, Or  
**Description:** Park is located on the Rogue River appx 20 miles northwest of Grants Pass. We will be in the group site at the east end of the park. The first 12 people are included free, additional people are \$3/person. The park has showers and a small beach on the river.  
On Saturday night we will BBQ Brats and have a fruit salad. No meal on Friday night, but **Galice restaurant** is appx. 5 miles from the park, it has a nice, shaded deck overlooking the river.  
**Directions:** From I-5, take exit 61 and go west on Merlin-Galice Rd for appx. 10 miles, park is on the right. Farther north, take exit 76 at Wolf Creek and take Lower Wolf Creek Rd all the way to the campground.  
Coordinates: N 42 33 10.4, W 123 32 20.6  
**Contact:** Dan Hall: [dnehall@frontier.com](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)  
**Please RSVP.**
- Event:** **BMWRO Women Riders Camp-out**  
**Date/Time:** August 21<sup>st</sup>–24<sup>th</sup>; Thursday–Sunday,  
**Location:** Dairy Point Group Camp in south central Oregon, Lake County, Fremont National Forest  
**Description:** There's plenty of off-road and paved-road routes to explore in the area. The campground has potable water, clean privies and cell phone service. We can gather firewood. Gas in Silver Lake, Paisley, and Lakewood. Plan your own food or plan to stop in at the cafes in Paisley, Lakewood, or Bly.  
**Directions:** The easiest way to get there is to take Route 31 to Paisley, OR. In the little town of Paisley, turn west at the gas station onto Mill Street. Follow Mill Street southwest until it becomes Forest Road 33 at the "Y" junction. Turn to the left and continue on Forest Road 33 for 20 beautiful miles. At the "T" intersection with paved road 28, stay to the left. Stay on Forest Road 28 for 2 miles; cross the Dairy Creek Bridge and you will see the campground on the left immediately after crossing the bridge. It is paved roads all the way to the campground by this route.  
**Contact:** Alice LeBarron: [alicelebarron@hotmail.com](mailto:alicelebarron@hotmail.com)  
**541-647-7194**  
Kris Jacobson: [kjacobson62@gmail.com](mailto:kjacobson62@gmail.com)  
**541-520-7785**

- Event:** **Steens Mountain Campout**  
**Date/Time:** September 5–7, 2014  
**Location:** The Narrows Campground and RV Park, OR  
**Description:** A Saturday and Sunday morning continental breakfast and a Saturday night meal of **PRIME RIB** and green salad, plus more. All this for only \$15.00 for Club members. (Non-members pay \$30.00).  
**Directions:** The Narrows RV Park is 26 miles south of Burns on Hwy #205, on the way to Frenchglen and Fields. General Meeting to be held Saturday afternoon.  
Please **RSVP no later than 8/29/14** with Jay & Janet Bennett at [jlennett60@gmail.com](mailto:jlennett60@gmail.com) or **541-760-0823** to reserve a space in the tent area and/or for dinner. An accurate head-count is needed, for the Saturday night meal. RV hookups at your own expense: call **(541-495-2006)** to make reservations for RV camp spots or visit: [www.narrowsrvpark.com](http://www.narrowsrvpark.com). Also checkout: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/recreation/steens-mtn.php>  
**Contact:** Jay & Janet Bennett—**541-760-0823**
- Event:** **Fall Ride to Eat, Eat to Ride**  
**Date/Time:** October 11, 2014, time: 9:00 am–11:00 am  
**Place:** Forest Grove—address to follow  
**Description:** A ride through the autumn colors with breakfast/brunch in Forest Grove.  
**Contact:** Carol Lamper: [Carol.Lamper@gmail.com](mailto:Carol.Lamper@gmail.com),
- Event:** **Fall Hardy Souls Campout**  
**Date/Time:** TBD: Oct 17–19 likely  
**Location:** Seneca/John Day area  
**Description:** TBD  
**Contact:** TBD
- Event:** **Winter Celebration and Quarterly Meeting**  
**Date/Time:** November 1st, 2014  
**Location:** Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, OR  
**Description:** Join BMWRO club members for our Annual Winter Celebration to be held at the Oregon Gardens Resort in Silverton, Oregon. Dinner for club members is \$15 per person; Associate or Non members \$30 per person.  
There will be a meet and greet at 5:30 p.m. in the lounge, dinner starts at 6:30 followed by a short club meeting. Make it a weekend by booking a room at the resort. The resort is holding rooms for both Friday and Saturday night; guest rooms are **\$89.00 plus tax** (1-to-2 people per room). **Room Rate** includes breakfast in the morning and **Garden** admission. Rooms

with pet allowances are available—call the Resort for further information regarding pets. Participants can book online or call the reservation department at the Oregon Garden Resort **503-874-2500** and reference "BMWRO". If you would like to book online, just follow this link: <https://reservations.moonstonehotels.com/irmnet/login.aspx?resort=15>  
PASSWORD: BMWRO

**Contact:** Janet Bennett, [jlennett60@gmail.com](mailto:jlennett60@gmail.com)

## Recurring Events

### **Event: Central Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

**Date/Time:** July 12, 2014 (& First Saturday of each month)

**Location:** Various breakfast and ride locations in Central Oregon area.

**Contact:** John Beeson **541-420-3275**  
Steve Miller **541-977-6787**

### **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)

### **Event: NW Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Ride**

**Date/Time:** July 12, 2014 (& First Saturday of each month)

Leaving parking lot at 9:45 a.m.

**Location:** Various breakfast and ride locations in northwest Oregon

**Description:** Finding the twisties and connecting with our membership for grins and food sharing.

**Contact:** Dave Peterson **503-327-5592**  
[dwpeterson01@yahoo.com](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com)  
Susan Ortiz-Renteria **503-779-7842**  
[dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.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)

### **Event: Eugene 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Coffee**

**Date/Time:** First Saturday of each month 9 to 11am.

**Location:** Eugene BMW store, 2891 W. 11th Ave

**Contact:** Jim Breen (new Ambassador) **(541) 912-4500**,  
[jpbinor@aol.com](mailto:jpbinor@aol.com)

### **Event: Tigard 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Coffee**

**Date/Time:** First Saturday, each month, starting at 10am.

**Location:** Tigard BMW store, 12010 SW Garden Place

**Contact:** Susan Ortiz-Renteria **503-779-7842**,  
[dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.com)

## **The newest Ambassador to the BMW Riders of Oregon introduces himself:**

"My name is Jim Breen and I have volunteered to be an ambassador for the Central/Western region of the BMWRO. I have been riding motorcycles for nearly 40 years, and the last 17 years have been on BMW's. I have been lucky enough to have ridden many of the popular motorcycle rides around the country. I have visited our neighboring countries to the north and south and ridden coast-to-coast. Most of my riding to this point has been a solo adventure.

I have recently become aware of another layer of enjoyment in our sport, and that is participation in motorcycle organizations. I am a long time member of the MOA and have attended many rallies, but other than that I have not been much of a joiner. Over the last several years, in addition to the MOA, I have joined two MOA affiliated clubs. I am now a member of BMWRO; SEAT in southern Arizona; and the RETREADS. I have met so many great riders whose experience and knowledge far exceed mine. As a result of this fun and enriching experience, I have chosen to ramp up my participation and serve as an ambassador for the BMWRO.

My goal for this year is to establish a twice per month, regularly scheduled ride for the months June through September. These are scheduled for the second and fourth Thursday of the month. You can expect these breakfast/lunch rides to be of moderate length so we can be back home by mid-afternoon. I am notifying the Central/Western members by e-mail—with the meet up and destination information—the week before each ride. If you have not been getting these notices, and you wish to receive them, let me know and I will add you to the list. I also would like to schedule one longer ride for this season so look for that in September.

As I have become more active in the BMWRO I have met some great people. I know I can count on their support and it makes me really look forward to serving as ambassador."

If you need further information, Jim can be reached at **541-344-5779** or e-mail via [jpbinor@aol.com](mailto:jpbinor@aol.com)



## NEW MEMBERS

### Motorcycle

**Doug & Shawn Brenizer**, Salem, OR..... R1150RT  
**William Brackman**, Tygh Valley, OR ..... Unknown  
**Jim & Maxine Fuls**, Veneta, OR..... R1200R & R1150R  
**William Davey**, Molalla, OR ..... Unknown  
**Steve Stepanek**, Bend, OR..... R1200GS & R75/6



Take time to write a story about your riding adventures and submit them to the newsletter—[bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com)

It is amazingly gratifying for one's ego to have a story printed in a semi-professional publication.

### FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:

[HTTP://BMWRO.ORG/JOIN-US.HTML](http://BMWRO.ORG/JOIN-US.HTML)

### 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)

## BMWRO Club Officials

### President:

Lane Weinberg, (503-522-1067)  
[bmwro.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

### Vice President:

Jay Bennett, (541-760-0675)  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

Ed Foltyn,  
[bmwro.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.secretary@gmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Gordon Taylor (802) 356-4954  
[bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com)

### BEEMER BEAT Editor:

Forest McGregor, (541) 761-2320  
[bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com)

### Webmaster:

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

### Club Liaison

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

### Activities

Jay Bennett, (541) 760-0675  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com)

## Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

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

Dan Hall – 541-862-7411,  
[dnehall@frontier.com](mailto:dnehall@frontier.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).

John Beeson – 541-420-3275,  
[beeson@bendbroadband.com](mailto:beeson@bendbroadband.com)

Steve Miller – 541-977-6787,  
[shuntermiller@gmail.com](mailto:shuntermiller@gmail.com)

**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)

**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)

Susan Ortiz-Renteria – 503-779-7842,  
[dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.com)

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

## Pubs & Parks

by Katrina Nielsen

Last September Joe Collins and I road south for a pub crawl. We were looking forward to another chance to ride the Redwoods and there are a few breweries we wanted to try in NorCal. So Joe and I headed south to our getaway cabin in Weed (the guest room above Russell and Kathe's garage). We arrived in time for a wonderful concert on the lawn by local musicians Tom and Leslie. It was a chance to enjoy the music, a chilled beverage and meet some locals.



**Musicians Tom and Leslie.**

photo by Katrina Nielsen



**Get-away Cabin**

photo by Katrina Nielsen

That socializing resulted in an invitation to visit Mowatt Apiaries the next day. We got a great explanation from the owners about how honey is processed. Later that afternoon we sampled the improved offerings at Mt. Shasta Brewing. This is where the good fortune of visiting Russell and Kathe becomes clear... we parked the bikes and employed the Subaru for all of the pub crawls if distances were too far to walk. The next morning Russell rolled out his bike and Kathe headed towards Chico in the car, all set to meet us at the historic B & B we had reserved.

As it turned out Kathe got to visit Sierra Brewing all by herself because

after a fabulous ride on 89 through Mt. Lassen National Park the three of us on bikes got stuck on a hot detour. We did arrive in time for dinner (at a place recommended by the staff at the Sierra tasting room.) We stayed at the 1874 Durham House south of Chico. It's a beautifully restored Italianate mansion with lovely gardens and pool.



**Joe in the Taproom**

photo by Katrina Nielsen

The next day we headed west on 20 to Ukiah and from there on 253 to Boonville, home of Anderson Valley Brewing. Kathe chauffeured us up to their tap room just outside of town. We had fun there, but were surprised that such a large and popular facility did not offer any meals. That's okay, walking distance from our hotel we found a delicious dinner at Lauren's, including a bottle of the local sparkling wine. We should have stayed another night at the comfortable and funky Boonville Hotel. The Anderson Valley features many vineyards and we could have added wine tasting to the brewery tour.

All that toasting did not prevent us from another early start the following morning. Starting northbound on 128 we soon reached Highway 1. Even a short segment on that ultimate riding road is worth the trip. And then, just when you are getting sad to leave the stunning coast, you reach the Redwoods. The Lost Coast and cruising up the Avenue of the Giants is the perfect day for a motorcyclist. We caught up with Kathe in Eureka. When she got to town she found us rooms recently re-opened Eureka Inn. I loved the period ambiance of the 1922 hotel, and they loved motorcycles. They offered us locked, secure parking inside the pool courtyard. And it is walking distance



**The Eureka Hotel**

photo by Katrina Nielsen

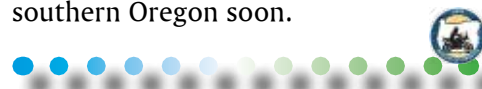
to one of my favorite spots on the whole coast: Lost Coast Brewery. If you are passing through Eureka don't miss it. You can't miss that bright yellow storefront.



**Lost Coast Brewery**

photo by Katrina Nielsen

The next morning more coastal curves beckoned but a phone call from my pet sitter caused us to make a change in plans. We left Eureka as early as possible and made the 101, 199 and I-5 run all the way home. At least we beat the rain back to town. We left many roads, vineyards, towns and beaches unvisited so I know we'll return to ride northern California and southern Oregon soon.



See last page (back cover) for a photo of Burney Falls ~ editor.



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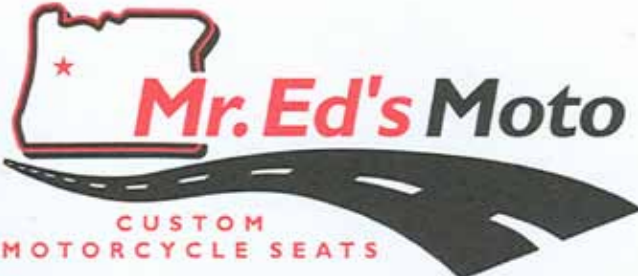
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## Vendors at Chief Joseph Rally

*photos by Rex*



The photos here represent a small number of the Vendors that were at Chief Joseph. More images can be found on [Dropbox](#).

The club is expressly thankful to all the vendors that presented their goods and services at the 2014 Chief Joseph Rally.

It wouldn't be a rally without them.



# NW Oregon Ambassador's July 2014 Ride Report

Susan Ortiz-Renteria #106802

David Peterson #90113

For riders who are serious about the back roads, the July announcement was tantalizing: Come join us if you are curious about visiting Mt. St. Helens without touching I-5. We would like to believe that it was solely the route that captured their interest, but mild temps and crystal clear skies didn't hurt either.

David & Diane Peterson led the merry band, followed by (in no particular order) Kim Dorsing & Janice Mathern, Scott Pell, Willy & Kris Paul, Colin Luther, Mike Ripley and his son Justin, Gary Zinn, John Vissell, Andy Sulla, Yonty Urrutia, Craig Pickens, Neal Malagamba, Dan Noble, and Karl & Ramona Perlich. Carol Lamper joined the procession as we passed through Banks. A group of this size can be unwieldy, but Susan Ortiz-Renteria was a very capable sweep and René Renteria advanced the science of ride management by floating in the middle of the pack, effectively breaking the band into two groups. A prized Australian cattle dog couldn't have guided its herd any better.

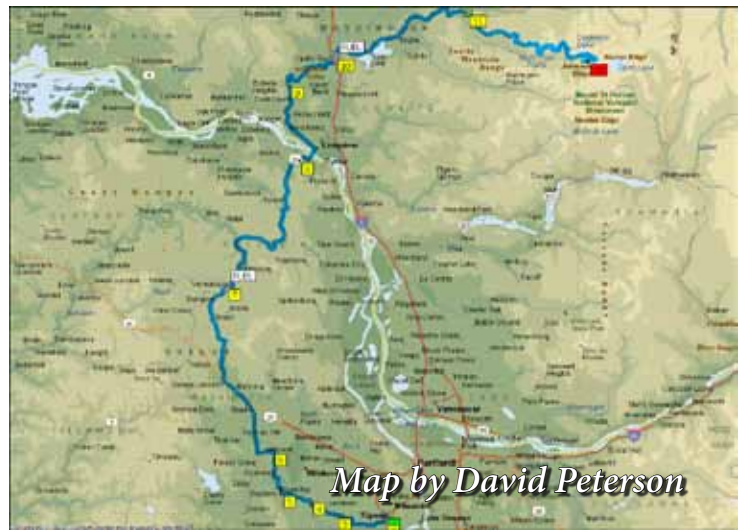
When one considers riding to Mt. Saint Helens from Portland, he or she pulls out a map and look up and slightly to the right. But when one's goal is to entertain a group while avoiding I-5, the route heads slightly south, then west, then north, then east, with lots of twists and turns in between.

We were proceeding apace, until two unfortunate events occurred. First, an innocuous announcement at the Vernonia gas stop sent the bulk of the group off in literally a different direction. As we were saddling up, David reminded folks to look for the next major intersection. "Turn right towards Apiary, about ten miles up the road." One rider was so impressed at the passion and force with which David invoked the command "Turn right", that he ignored the rest of the announcement. At the first opportunity, right he turned—as did fifteen other bikes! Fortunately, internal gyroscopes prevailed and the group was again soon moving in the right direction.



**Our group makes its way at a brisk pace...**

*Photo by Diane Peterson*



*Map by David Peterson*

Our second incident was just bad timing. It has seemed to us that many of our favorite back roads have been freshly striped this season. We always thought that ODOT just pointed to a magic map in the office and presto – new fog and center lines! It turns out that they actually send crews out in a truck to do their dirty work – we know this now because all 22 of us followed one!

Nevertheless, we soon crossed the Columbia and continued our ride. At our final gas stop in Castle Rock—having successfully crossed I-5 without contact—we said good bye to Kim and Janice. The rest of us continued to **Patty's Place @ 19 Mile House** for lunch. Patty's had reserved its choicest real estate for the group: its shaded porch overlooking the Toutle River. You may stop for a burger, but—take our word for it—you'll return for the cobbler.



**...brisk pace no more**

*Photo by Diane Peterson*

Mt. St. Helens was showing off in all her glory. Clear skies and low 90s provided spectacular conditions for all those who continued to the **Johnston Ridge Observatory** and enjoyed the big reveal at the end of observatory's volcano video. Carol Lamper got her National Parks passport stamped and the group slowly dispersed. The last of the group meandered down the big hill where the temperatures peaked at 94 degrees. In Castle Rock we made one last and very important stop - ICE CREAM! All in all, it was a beautiful 300+ mile ride.

## August First Saturday...

...is just around the corner. We're back on regular schedule this month, so First Saturday actually means first Saturday. Join us for a short run to Oregon's favorite artesian spring – Little Crater Lake this Saturday, August 2nd. We've got another tasty route planned – it even includes a ferry crossing! Meet at Tigard BMW. Clutches out at 9:45AM. From Tigard BMW to LCL is about 100 miles. How far it is to get home is entirely up to you.

One thing August's ride doesn't have is a lunch stop. So here's the plan: Pack a lunch. Or...pre-order your lunch at Subway in Estacada. They will be expecting your call. **(503) 630-7588** is the number. Tell them you will pick your order up at 11AM. You may even be able to prepay by phone. But don't wait to order in person—or you may be finishing the ride to LCL alone!

**Meet at:** Tigard BMW, 12010 Garden Place, Tigard

**When:** August 2nd clutches out at 9:45PM

**Lunch:** Pre-orders for lunch?  
call Subway in Estacada

**Phone:** **(503) 630-7588**

Email Susan at [dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.com) or David at [dwpeterson01@yahoo.com](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com) so we can have a general headcount for the ride; no worries if you just show up. But remember to bring or pre-order your lunch! See you Saturday.



## THE LONG WAY TO JOHN DAY

*By Ron Wardman*

My riding partner, Dick Vigue and I decided to go to this year's annual BMW rally in John Day, but take a longer route to get there. He had never been to Sun Valley so we decided to ride there and then back to John Day for the rally.

The first day took us from Myrtle Point to Burns by riding to the Diamond Lake junction, south on 97 to the Klamath Marsh, through Christmas Valley and on to Burns. The section across the marsh and on to Silver Lake is a great road for motorcycles as it's little traveled, good paving and lots of curves. If you are ever anywhere near this road, don't miss riding it. The ride from Christmas Valley to Burns, not so much fun.

Our next day took us to Sun Valley. We rode on to I-80 at Ontario then turned off at Twin Falls and on to Sun Valley. It is near the town of Ketchum, Idaho. We stayed two nights in order to do some exploring of the area. I had been there in 1980 on my way to the national rally in Missoula; and actually tent camped at a KOA campground, which is no longer there. The town before Ketchum is Hailey, which is the home town of Bowe Bergdahl. Lots of yellow ribbons around the area but not too many people

talking about it—Ketchum has changed greatly since my previous visit.

We really enjoyed walking around town. Here's one interesting thing about the main street: as it is very busy, crossing the street could be a bit of a challenge. Nearly every other intersection has a traffic light. Those that don't have traffic lights have red flags in holders. You remove the flag, wave it, traffic stops and you cross the street. Once across, you place the flag in the holder and walk on. Lots of interesting places to visit. We walked out to the Sun Valley lodge—a distance of about 1.5 miles. I was surprised to learn that Sun Valley was the first place on earth to have a ski lift. The developer had seen bananas transported by a cable-lift system in South America and wonder why one couldn't use chairs. So he built one and just attached what looked like ordinary chairs to the cable system. So one could say, the rest is history.

One museum had several of the biggest covered wagons I have ever seen. The signs said they were used for hauling ore. They were very tall but narrow. They dwarf what we recognize as a typical Conestoga covered wagon. My guess is they were narrow to allow them to use existing trails. One picture shows a wagon being pulled by a team of 16 pairs of horses. These were some of the longest wagon trains in the country. Once a year, they are removed from the museum and are part of the annual **Wagons Days Parade**. This parade is the largest non-motorized parade in the US. It takes place the last week of August. Next time I go there, I will check the calendar and make sure I see this event.

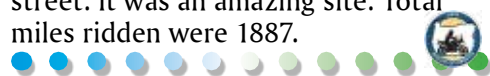
From Sun Valley, we rode on to Stanley which is in the middle of the Sawtooth Mountain Range. There were spectacular views with great riding along our route and huge ranches as we dropped out of the higher elevations into valleys. It was cold up high but quickly warmed up as we dropped down. We rode down to Payette, Idaho then north to Cambridge, west and down into the Snake River area. We crossed the river at the Oxbow Dam. The ride down to the dam was one of the windiest roads I have ridden. We were just glad we weren't driving trucks or RV's. By now, it was quite warm, in fact the warmest of our trip. After crossing the Snake River, our plan was to follow the Snake River north to Joseph, Oregon, where we were to spend the night. However, the road was closed as they were in the process of redoing the entire road. It was to open on a limited basis the following weekend. We then rode to Halfway and stopped in the shade of a market, got cool drinks and made calls to change our reservations. We rode on to Baker City for the night. Next day, we rode on to Sumpter, through the mountains to Ukiah where we turned south to John Day.

For me, the highlight of this year's rally was the geological/historical tour of the area led by a recently retired John Day Fossil Beds park ranger who worked there for over 17 years. Turned out to be one of the best things we have done lately. Unfortunately, it was raining but the allotted 25 bikes went on the tour anyway. One of the most interesting things was the guide's discussion of the impact of volcanoes on the geology of the area. He said that the



eruption of Mt. Mazama resulted in Crater Lake, had the greatest impact in recent times—which was over 7,000 years ago. Residue from it can be found as far away as Iowa even today. Near Dayville, he pointed out a two-track “road” heading south. It was developed as a military road that ended in Yreka, California. Once home, I used **Google Earth™** and was able to easily find this route. Another thing he noted was that school houses were located approximately 11 miles apart. The rule at that time was that schools must be located no further than 5 miles apart if students were to walk there or 11 miles if they rode horses. If you have wondered when you see school houses located in what seems like the middle of nowhere, that is the reason for their existence.

The next day, we headed back toward home. We rode south on the John Day-Burns road then turned west which took us through Paulina and then Post. The temperature was only in the 40's when we left and was quite cold riding. We stopped in Post at the Post General Store for breakfast—which was great—and to warm up. Post is the geographical center of Oregon. Interesting place to stop and visit. There is a post office in the general store and looks like one from a 100 years ago. From Post, we rode on to Prineville, Sisters and on home. The day we rode through Prineville and Redmond was flag day. Both cities had American flags about 20' apart all through town on both sides of the street. It was an amazing site. Total miles ridden were 1887.



## Edson Creek Campout Amazingly Fun! July 25-27, 2014

Jalene and I were digging the Winter Meeting in Salem, having a great time, when Jay Bennet slides up. “Hey, you guys should revive the Umpqua Campout this summer. It’s real easy, just reserve the campsite and that’s about it. What do you think?” Uuhh, sure Jay, why not, sounds like fun.

And fun it was! Not at first, mind you, because I learned the hard way about the reservation system for group campsites. It seems like each outfit—be it the Forest Service, BLM, or various county park systems—has it’s own way of doing things, and I was just a little too late figuring out each one (typical me). There was no getting the Umpqua site. But eventually, a friend with the BLM recommended a favorite of the BLM staff: Edson Creek Park, just north of Port Orford.

I checked it out with a ride down there with fellow member Paul Breen. We had to wade Edson Creek to get to the group site, and were pretty put off by the condition of it. Rowdy kids in 4-wheel drives had torn up the site pretty badly. But the BLM Ranger in charge assured me they would be working on it and would have it in shape for summer. Besides, all the other campgrounds I wanted had been taken up.

On the wade back across the creek, I got a strong good-luck sign that sealed the deal. Paul and I stopped and watched a big Chinook salmon idling in the shallows just 6 feet from us for about 10 minutes before it finally eased upstream. “That’s it – this is our place”.

With the campsite taken care of, Jalene and I puzzled over how we might do a Saturday night dinner. On a ride over Bear Creek Summit this spring, we decided we’d just keep it simple – grilled chicken, corn on the cob, and salad. To drink, BYOB. But how to cook all that chicken on our little grills? We stressed over that for a couple of months, but in June, we got our answer. We happened to be dropping some stuff off at Habitat for Humanity, and there was our savior: a humongous used gas grill for just \$70. Worked perfect. Sold.

Come the day before the campout, I packed it all up in my truck, pitched in a bunch of firewood and folding chairs and coolers, put the bike on the trailer, and headed out early Friday morning feeling like Jed Clampett. My brother, John, and brother-in-law, Cliff, had ridden down from Tacoma to Newport the day before (yeah!),



**The Three Amigos Ride.  
John (foreground), Cliff,  
and Jalene—Badass**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

and they fell in with Jalene to make a threesome for the ride to Port Orford later that morning.

I arrived at Edson Creek Friday early in the afternoon, stapled up some classic roundel pie-plates to guide folks in, and set up the grills and tent. The BLM had the campsite in great shape—kudos to the grounds-keeping crews! I stocked the big communal cooler with plenty of ice, and good thing, as it was stuffed with BYOB contributions in short order and stayed that way. These Oregon BMW folks like their beer!



**A bridge across Edson Creek  
brought you into the group  
campsite.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*



### **The campground scene Friday evening.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

Pretty soon my wife and brothers showed up, along with several others one-by-one. The chairs came out, and off we went laughing and telling stories around a nice fire for the evening. A group of us rode into Port Orford for fish and chips dinner at the Crazy Norwegian, highly recommended. Others went for the same at Griffs the next day, down on the Port Orford docks, and reported it was even better! Next time.



### **A classic Paradise breakfast – note the gravy on the hash- browns. Doctor recommended.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

Breakfast at the Paradise Café on Saturday morning was outstanding. Huge plates of classic breakfast fare had everyone smiling (and nodding off again back at camp). After a long day of riding in, many chose to just

hang out in camp, but a few of us went out for local rides. Jay Bennet, Kris Jacobson, and myself did a nice dual-sport loop that heads up the Elk River from 101, and then takes off on logging roads to the north, eventually coming down into the Sixes River drainage and taking us back out along the Sixes River to the campground. Phyllis Webb also did this loop on her own later that afternoon. There were a couple of sections that had been washed out and took a little tip-toeing to traverse, but it was, for the most part, an easy ride with beautiful views from the ridgelines it traversed.



### **Kris and Jay on the ridgeline road between the Elk and Sixes Rivers.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

The rest of Saturday, for me, was spent in camp. More and more bikes showed up, and it was fun to welcome folks to the campout, and get to know them a little bit. There wasn't much that needed to be said, other than "You can pitch your tent anywhere in the big circle, the bathrooms are over there", or "Go get yourself a beer out of that big cooler!" Everybody liked that last line. Edson Creek ran right around the group campsite, and there was a nice little swimming hole just perfect for taking a dip, with or without a little soap, and cooling off in the afternoon. Boy, did that feel good after a dusty ride.

Jalene and I eventually started the dinner preparations. We got out the salad fixin's and had plenty of good help from folks cutting up the veggies, finding a big pan to put the

salad in, and getting the paper plates and such put out. We put on a big pot and boiled up the corn after several folks pitched in with shucking duty, thanks! The teriyaki chicken had been marinating all day on ice, and once on the grill started announcing itself in people's noses. I was getting the usual "Is it going to be done soon?" by zombies holding an empty plate. When the food hit the table, it was pigs to the trough, and soon a second round was on the grill (all of that chicken in the grill photo was gone in about 10 minutes!). When it comes to eating dinner, this is a hard-working and reliable bunch.



### **Alice sneaks a look at the first round of chicken on the grill. Corn pot on the side there.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

As the dinner was being served, the group gave Jalene and I a nice round of thanks. Much appreciated, but it was so worth it to be amongst this wonderful group of fine people. After all, it's the group that makes the campout, and we were all very lucky to be able to gather with such a warm and friendly bunch. My brother John and brother-in-law Cliff both commented how much fun they had and how nice everyone was to them. Both have committed to John Day next June!

That evening we had another nice fire, with the final count of 17 people and 2 fine dogs all gathered around laughing and having a wonderful time with friends we knew as well as those just met. Clarence Story suggested a game of sorts – why





**The story-telling circle on Saturday evening.**

*Photo by Keith Matteson*

don't we go around the circle, and each person can tell a brief "motorcycle" story – anything they like. Turns out it was a wonderful idea, and the variety of what we heard was amazing. Some funny, some a little sad, some a little spooky. Each of us got to know a little bit more about the others, in a way that might never have come out in normal fireside or party small-talk. Thanks, Clarence!

Sooner than you know it, Sunday morning was upon us, and it was time to pack up. Some folks headed out bright and early, while a few of us piggies made another run to the Paradise Café for just one more bit of breakfast goodness. A few more photos were taken back at the campground while loading up the truck again, and we were off for home.

Thanks, all of you, for making this a beautiful weekend for Jalene and I. Sure, it took some planning and some work, but what a payoff. We're going to do it again next year, for sure. Please come join us!

RSVP'ed folks who attended: (If there are others who came but whose names are not here, my bad memory, I apologize.)

Alice LeBarron  
Clarence Story  
Cliff Johnston  
Dan Hall  
Forest McGregor  
Gene Fessbecker  
Jalene Case  
James Golden  
Jay Bennett

Jim Stewart  
John Matteson  
Keith Matteson  
Kris Jacobson  
Luc Roy (a dog)  
Phyllis Webb  
Ragnar Loki (a dog)  
Rich Titgen  
Sally Roy  
Todd Roy

Here is a link to all of Keith's photos on [DropBox](#). Click the link, and then double-click the first thumbnail and use the arrow keys to navigate – enjoy!



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## Burney Falls

*photo by Katrina Nielsen*