



THE BEEMER BEAT

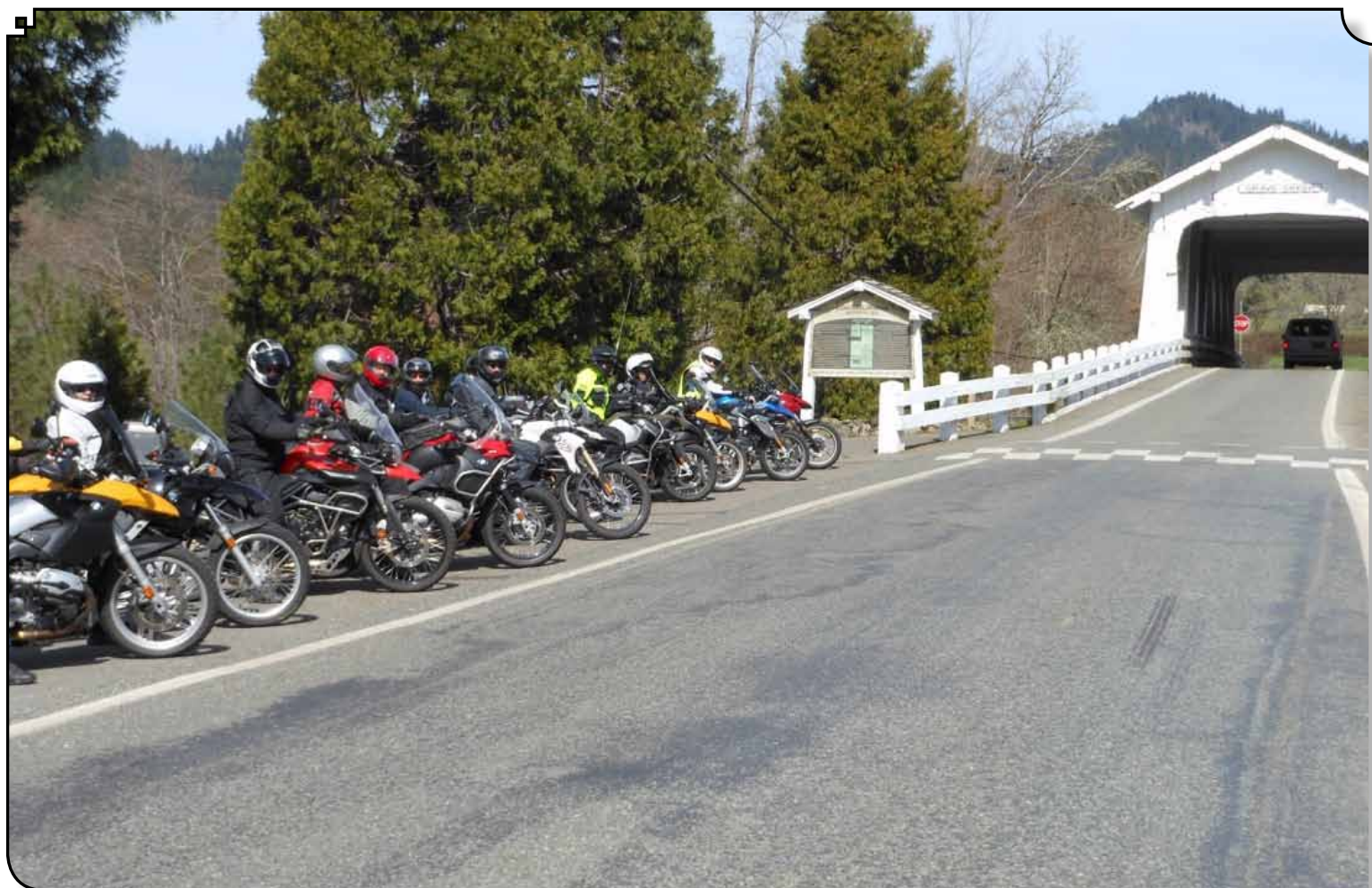
Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



April, 2017

Volume 41, Issue #4

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



Southern Oregon Ambassador Ride

Sunny Valley at the Grave Creek bridge

photo by Dan Hall

Chief Joseph Rally

Poster inside this issue. Print it and share it with a friend.

Ride Reports

David Peterson delivers another entertaining ride report (see pages 12-13) and Mark Collier delivers his first ride report (see page 9).

Lots of Events

Mileage Contest, 49er's Rally, and the Mohawk Valley Metric Century Bicycle Event. See page 8



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **Spring Meeting and Buffet**
Date/Time: April 30, 2017, 11:00 am until 3:00 pm
Place: Seven Feathers Casino Resort and Convention Center, 146 Chief Miwaleta Lane, Canyonville, OR
Description: Second quarterly club meeting of the members will be held at this location. **Please register online to pay for the meal.**
Cost: BMWRO Members & guests \$10.00/pp
Not a BMWRO Member: \$15.00/pp
Contact: Linda Tewksbury (541) 543-7943 & bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com
- Event:** **Memorial Day Weekend Camping**
Date/Time: May 26, 2017, 1:00 pm until Monday, May 29, 2017, 11:00 am
Place: Eagleview Group Campground 1771 Bullock Road, Oakland, OR
Description: There are only 10 RV pads available, so please be sure to register early. To assure an RV pad please email bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com. Otherwise it will be first come first serve. There are lots of tent sites available and notification is **not** required to save a site. Food will not be provided, but grills will be available. Eagleview Group Campground is situated between the Pacific Coast and the city of Roseburg, Oregon.
Contact: Linda Tewksbury, (541) 543-7943 bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com
- Event:** **Chief Joseph Rally 2017**
Date/Time: June 23-25, 2017
Place: Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day, Oregon
Description: The Fairgrounds has it all: green grass camping, hot showers, clean rest-rooms, a large Pavilion building for meals, improved **Wi-Fi** and an RV Park along the John Day River—doesn't get any sweeter. All within walking distance of downtown hotels, motels, shopping and restaurants & John Day's own micro-brewery & pub.
Contact: Doug Tewksbury at (541) 543-7320 or bmwro.rallymaster@gmail.com.
- Event:** **Women Riders Campout**
Date/Time: August 3-6, 2017
Place: Pioneer Ford Campground along the Metolius River, about 6.8 miles north of Camp Sherman.
Description: Rustic camping under Ponderosa Pine forest beside the Metolius River. Potable water, picnic tables, fire ring, vault toilets.

Limited space. Please sign up on the bmwro.org website event calendar or contact one of the hosts. Good paved routes and off-road routes in the area. Gas & groceries in Sisters, 22 miles away. Meals on your own or shared; we usually pool our resources and come up with some tasty creations.

Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com or phone (541) 647-7194
Robin Dunn robindunn2005@msn.com or phone (541) 226-6595

- Event:** **Umpqua River Campout**
Date/Time: Friday, Sept 8th 1pm to Sunday, Sept 10th 11am
Place: Horseshoe Bend Campground, Deer Flat Group Site in the Umpqua National Forest, 31 miles east of Glide on Hwy 138
Description: Rustic camping along the Wild & Scenic Umpqua River with good paved and gravel routes in the area. Potable water, picnic tables, fire rings, flush toilets. Plenty of space but please contact host if you are planning to bring an RV; no hook-ups available. Please sign up on the bmwro.org website event calendar or contact host.
Cost: Free to BMWRO members. \$10 for non-members
Contact: Alice LeBarron alicelebarron@hotmail.com or phone (541) 647-7194

Heard-On-The-Road

- Event:** **NorCal's Annual '49er Rally**
Date/Time: May 25, 12pm — May 29, 9am
Place: Mariposa (California) Fairgrounds.
Featured Speakers: Shalmarie Wilson & Stephanie Terrien of SheAdv. Other speakers include Richard Battles, Greg Peart, Dave Rankine, Wayne Boyer, Bill Stermer, Julia Stermer, Russ & Hillary & Reg Kittrelle!
Description: Held Memorial Day Weekend each year and offers grassy camping, hot showers, fantastic rides, cold drinks, and great food.
GS Giant's Field Trials
GS Training by Lance Thomas
Seminars by Doc Wong
Guided GS Historic Ride
BMS Custom Motorcycle Seats
Seminars • Live Music • Beer Garten • Daily Events • Children's Events
Cost: **Early Bird Registration** - \$55 until May 11, \$65.00 after May 11
Saturday Dinner: \$20.00
Contact: Joe Luthy mjluthy@gmail.com
more info at: <http://bmwnorcal.org/49er>

Recurring Events

Event: **Central Oregon 2nd Saturday**

Date/Time: Second Saturday of each month
Location: Various ride and lunch locations in the Central Oregon Region.

Contact: Alice LeBarron **541-647-7194**
alicelebarron@hotmail.com

Event: **Central Western Friday Lunch**

Date/Time: Every Friday around noon-ish
Place: Various places around Eugene. Check the events calendar [onLine](#) for locations.

Event: **Central Western Region 1st Saturday Ambassador Ride**

Date/Time: Various dates and times. See the event calendar on the web site for more information.

Location: European Motorcycles of Western Oregon

Description: Various routes.

Contact: Jim Breen, **541-912-4500** or jpbmOR@aol.com or
Bob Metzger **608-642-1186**
bobmetzger51@gmail.com

Event: **Southern Oregon 1st Saturday**

Date/Time: First Saturday of each month
Location: Various lunch/breakfast and ride locations for southern Oregon members.

Contact: Dan Hall, dnehall@frontier.com
Mark Collier **541-499-1395**
mcollier5895@gmail.com

Event: **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

Event: **Spring Meeting and Buffet**

The Spring meeting has been set up for Sunday, April 30th at Seven Feathers Casino and Resort Conference Center in Canyonville, OR. The time is from 11 AM to 3 PM, with lunch around noon time, in the Grape and Huckleberry rooms. Although the lunch and meeting will not take the full length of time, the space will be available for those who prefer to hang out and visit with one another.

Registration is strongly encouraged so that the proper amount of food can be ordered for the buffet. Half the cost of the meal will be picked up by the BMW Riders of Oregon club. Members are charged a fee of \$10.00 while the club will also pick up some of the cost for non-members, the cost will be \$15.00.

To register, click [here](http://bmwro.org) or go to the club event calendar at <http://bmwro.org> and select the Spring Meeting And Buffet—4/30/2017

Buffet lunch:

The menu has been determined and posted on the event calendar. Please check the event calendar for updates.

Canyonville, OR is about 20 miles south of Roseburg with some fantastic roads for riding your motorcycle. Temperatures in the area in the end of April are forecasted to be in the high 60's to low 70's during the day and mid 40's at night. This will be a great opportunity to explore a new area with other riders.

A group ride will be arranged for those of you that would like to join in after the lunch and meeting. The route has yet to be determined and more details will be posted as the time approaches.

For those that would like to spend some time in the area, a small block of rooms has been blocked off at the resort with discounted room rates. For one king bed or two queen beds the rate for Saturday night will be \$115 plus room tax and/or \$95 for Sunday night at members own expense. To reserve a room, call **1-888-677-7771** and let them know you are with BMW Riders of Oregon for those rates. For those of you with motor-homes or travel trailers that wish to bring your home with you, there is a beautiful RV park across the highway, that is part of the resort with 24 hours a day shuttle service. Both the hotel and the RV resort have a heated indoor pool and hot tubs. Rates for the RV park for April 2017 have not yet been established. To reserve at the RV Resort, call **541-839-3599**. There is also free RV dry camping in one of the Resort's parking lots. For the real hardy tent campers (since temperatures are usually in the mid 40's at night at the end of April), Stanton Park is within walking distance, at a rate of \$15 per night for tents and \$23 for full RV hook-ups. The phone number for reservations is **541-839-4483**.

Although it is some time away, it is never too early to think about Spring riding. I hope many of you can join us for what looks to be a great meal, fantastic riding and be a part of the club meeting.

BMWRO President's Message

by Bob Metzger



The Eyes Have It!

It occurred to me that the elliptical trainer is one of the few things in my life with which I have a love-hate relationship. One half of my brain says, "It's good for you." The other half says, "Who are you trying to kid?" To make this a more "pleasurable" experience, the elliptical faces a rather large flat screen television to distract me from the task at hand.

Since we are in the middle of our off-riding season, I tend to dial up a YouTube video of someone having a good time on a BMW under sunny skies. On this particular occasion I found a video of a gent riding a new RT up Stelvio Pass. Wikipedia tells us, "The Stelvio Pass is a mountain pass in northern Italy, at an elevation of 2,757 m above sea level. It is the highest paved mountain pass in the Eastern Alps. Great, I like good scenery and perhaps I'll ride there someday. The road is narrow and has switchback (hairpin, if you will) after switchback after switchback.

Now, I am not trying to pass myself off as an expert on cornering, however I have a fair bit of training and experience on this subject. I can spot good habits vs. bad habits quite easily. What I spotted in this video was a veritable plethora of bad cornering habits. Routinely, the rider with the GoPro fastened to his helmet failed to:

- 1) use all the available road surface to his advantage,
- 2) used poor apex selection,
- 3) failed to use effective head turns, and
- 4) worst of all, finished his turns in the opposing lane of traffic.

It was his lucky 41 minutes of YouTube fame. He completed all his corners on the way to the pass without encountering an oncoming vehicle.

Paul Simon wrote, "When I look back on all the crap I learned in high school, it's a wonder I can think at all." I can relate. I did have a few useful "take-aways" from those bygone days. Mr. Dan Rowden, my Driver's Ed. teacher, would be proud because a few of his teachings stuck. Dan routinely said, "get the big picture" and "aim high while steering."

Those two pieces of advice are directly translatable to good riding technique. Get the big picture on a motorcycle means *turn your head while cornering*. Look where you want to go. Keep your head turned as you seek the exit of the turn. Aim high in steering on a motorcycle means *keep you head and eyes up*. Find those critical hazards before they find you. Maximize your directional control and stability.

You may recall someone in your riding career telling you to, "use the outside-inside-outside path of travel" while cornering. Good advice but not for all corners.

For very tight corners, such as switchbacks, you need to be guided by a different technique: outside-inside-**exit**. The rider in the video I referenced above put himself at risk by first and foremost poor apex selection. As you will recall, the apex of a corner is where the motorcyclist places his / her machine closest to the inside of the curve. Often, it is critical that we delay our apex selection in order to set-up for the corner correctly. We call this a late apex.

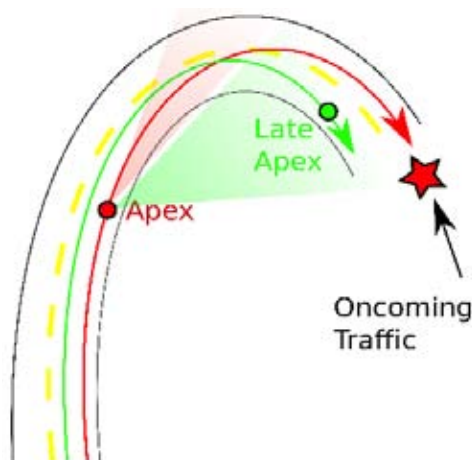
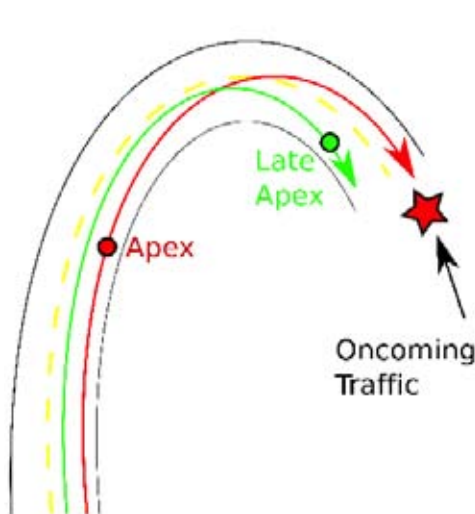
As a motorcycle instructor, I am fond of asking a student who is exhibiting poor technique, "How do we fix this?" Lets take a look at a few diagrams I produced to stress the importance of lane position and apex selection in tight hairpin curves.

In the following diagrams, green is good. Red is bad. Red represents the path of travel of the rider in the video, and his line of sight.

First, notice the rider has positioned the motorcycle too close to the inside of the curve. He then proceeded to select his curve apex too soon. On a tight switchback curve, such is the one shown, the rider must press the right-hand grip more to initiate more lean. This has the effect of producing a tighter corner. Failing all the above, the motorcyclist is likely to find themselves in the path of oncoming traffic.

Apex Selection On Hairpins

O.K. How do we fix this? *Practice and discipline*. The rider should adopt a path of travel closer to the outside of his lane (green). Next, the apex should be delayed (late apex). The rider now has to press the right hand grip more to initiate greater lean angle to carve a tighter turn. This will keep the rider in the correct lane and avoid oncoming traffic.



Sure, this all sounds great and looks good on paper because it is perfect theory. No other traffic present, and no road surface irregularities. None of this theory can be put into practice without “getting the big picture”. You must turn your head.

Let’s turn our attention to next diagram showing bad and the good head–turn technique. In the video frame, it was easy to see that the rider was not turning his head. As human beings, we have great binocular vision. Our eyes are set close together with overlapping fields of view. This eye arrangement gives us great depth perception, but a rather lousy field of view. To compensate for the lack of field

of view we MUST turn our heads to gather directional information early and find the exit of the turn. The red wedge on the diagram represents minimal head turn at the selected apex. The consequence is that the rider is not looking where he needs to be in the future. He is looking where he is. Big difference!

Lines Of Sight On Hairpins

The use of maximum effective head turn in the situation as diagramed allows the rider to:

- 1) use his/her entire lane to their advantage,
- 2) find critical hazards early,
- 3) maximize directional control and find that late apex point and
- 4) the exit of the curve. Finally, and

most importantly, proper head turn kept the rider in the correct lane avoiding a potential head–on collision with oncoming traffic. Now you too should have a few take–aways, just as I did from Dan’s driver’s–ed class.

I want to leave you with a final thought. Someone once asked Yo Yo Ma—arguably the best cellist in the world—why he continued to play scales, that is to say practice. His answer was profound. He said, “Because I’ve almost got it right!” It is ALL about practice and discipline.

Head and eyes up!

Bob



2017 EMWOR Mileage Contest

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

European Motorcycles of Western Oregon

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

send questions to Jeff Sawyer (jsawyer@emcwor.com) for details.

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

NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Bruce Cheeseman, La Grande, OR 2015 1200 GSA
James Howard, Aloha, OR 2009 BMW F650GS Twin
Ken Maxwell, Grants Pass, OR 2007 R1200GS
Rick Storm, Bend, OR '02 R1150 RT, '77 R100RS,
. '67 R69S, '08 MG Norge



Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

If you are interested in any of the above, just visit our website and download. www.bmwro.org

FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:

[HTTP://BMWRO.ORG](http://BMWRO.ORG)

BMWRO Club Officials

President:

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

Vice President:

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)
bmwro.vp@gmail.com

Secretary:

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

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Club Liaison

Doug Tewksbury,
bmwro.news@gmail.com

Activities

Scot Lamper, (503-706-1601)
bmwro.vp@gmail.com

Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

Central Western Region

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

Jim Breen—541-912-4500

jpbior@aol.com

Bob Metzger—608-642-1186

bobmetzger51@gmail.com

Central & Northeast Region

(East of The Dalles, including I-84 to Ontario, south of Columbia River to US 20, Baker City & including US 20 to LaPine. Includes Camp Sherman/Bend/Redmond/Sisters & Prineville area).

Alice LeBarron—541-647-7194

alicelebarron@hotmail.com

Southern Region

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

Dan Hall—541-862-7411

dnehall@frontier.com

Mark Collier—541-499-1395

mcollier5895@gmail.com

Northwest Region

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

David W. Peterson—503-327-5592

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

Michael Ripley—503-648-0578

gobeezer@live.com

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



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 rally fee. On site food vendors and in town restaurants available for other meals. Beer garden on site. Experience organized tours to selected attractions; self guided maps with touring and off-road routes. Tech sessions, seminars, door prizes, awards, entertainment and more are scheduled. Commemorative Rally T-Shirt will be available for sale.

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. This helps us efficiently plan food and the rally schedule.

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:

\$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, 2017

OnLine Pre-Registration: June 12 2017

Refunds: June 12, 2017

Grant County Fairgrounds ~ John Day, OR
June 23-25, 2017

WWW.BMWRO.ORG

Mohawk Valley Metric Century Bicycle Event

from Scot Lamper

On May 13th, Eugene Velo is sponsoring the Mohawk Valley Metric Century bicycle event and they are looking for about four (4) volunteers to provide motorcycle support. Basically, they would like these volunteers to ride sweep and carry a few spare parts for bicyclists and be reachable via radio should you come across an emergency situation.

- If you are interested in volunteering to help at this event, please contact **Scot Lamper** at bmwro.vp@gmail.com.
- For more details about the event please link to www.mohawkvalley100k.org



People Helping People.

A non-profit organization supporting people with developmental disabilities.

The '49er Let's Roll!

Mariposa, CA 2017 May 25 - 29
BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California

**Seminars • Live Music • Beer Garden
Daily Events • Children's Events**

**Early Bird Registration - \$55 until May 11
\$65 after May 11
Saturday Dinner - \$20**

Register Online: bmwnorcal.org/49er

2017 Highlights:

- Registration starts Saturday, March 4th at European Motorcycles of Western Oregon
- Final mileage will be verified on Saturday, October 7th
- Monthly prizes will be given during 1st Saturday Coffee each month
- Grand prize will be awarded during finale party on October 7th
- Bonus miles will be awarded for:
 - Attending 1st Saturday Coffee (100 miles)
 - Attending shop rides (200 miles)
 - Getting a non-BMW or non-Ducati friend to participate (200 miles)
 - Tag us on your Facebook ride post (200 miles)
 - *Submitting picture of you & your bike with police officer, Oopa! (300 miles)
 - *Submitting picture of your bike's flat tire, Ouch! (300 miles)
 - *Submitting picture of you & your bike at designated landmarks:
 - Haystack rock at Cannon Beach (100 miles)
 - Mary D. Hume Shipwreck (100 miles)
 - Crater Lake (200 miles)
 - Steens Mountains (300 miles)
 - Hells Canyon (400 miles)
 - Craters of the Moon National Monument (500 miles)
 - Leavenworth, WA (500 miles)
 - Petrified Forest, Sonoma, CA (600 miles)
 - Cape Flattery, WA (1000 miles)
 - Portland, ME (5000 miles)

*Submit pictures to Jeff @ jawyer@bmwof.com



Southern Region Ambassador Ride

by Mark Collier

With a well-needed break in the rain and snow, southern Oregon BMWRO Chapter riders got together for the second time this season for a ride that started in the city of Rogue River. Gathering in early morning fog and drizzle for coffee and b-fast, our illustrious group came in from all points of the compass, including Jacksonville, Ashland, the Applegate, Grants Pass and various homeless shelters. Members' bikes ranged from the gas-sipping singles, to the Adventure Series—notorious for their dent in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, once filled—to the envy of afore-mentioned endurance—challenged singles. As this was just our second ride—after a long delay dating back to February of this year—we inched out cautiously and sloooooowly, as we made our way along the River into Grants Pass and out the back door toward Hugo and eventually, Wolf Creek.

Our group progress revealed our rustiness, as we inched our way faster, then slower, speed up, then slow, appearing more like



**The old church at Golden
Oregon.**

photo by Dan Hall

that worm in the movie Dune, as we progressed our way along said route. *(By the way, names are willfully left out, to protect these flat-footed riders, and indemnify against lawsuits alleging slander towards this author.)*

Rehabilitative training was prescribed in the form of, “Grab right-hand-grip, rotate counter-clockwise, experience increased thrust and exhilaration. Repeat step one.” We left Wolf Creek for the lost enclave of Golden, Oregon—go ahead, find that on a map. A well-deserved stop and re-forming of the group elapsed, and all were lost or accounted for, according to

their pace—by the Grace of God, and some well-placed GPS-sharing. Leaving Golden, inching back along I-5 south off at Sunny Valley, and “out the back door” across Graves Creek and into Wimer the back route. Lunch, then home—some via Sam’s Valley, others via Evans Creek. (There’s water everywhere, and creeks, streams, rivers were all at max capacity as an early spring run-off filled the tributaries of the Rogue to capacity.)



The Cafe at Golden

photo by Mel Ortnier



Group Photo

photo by Mel Ortnier

From Jalene Case's Facebook Page a Photo Journal of Earthship



Welcome to Patagonia Earthship!
<http://www.earthshippatagonia.com/>

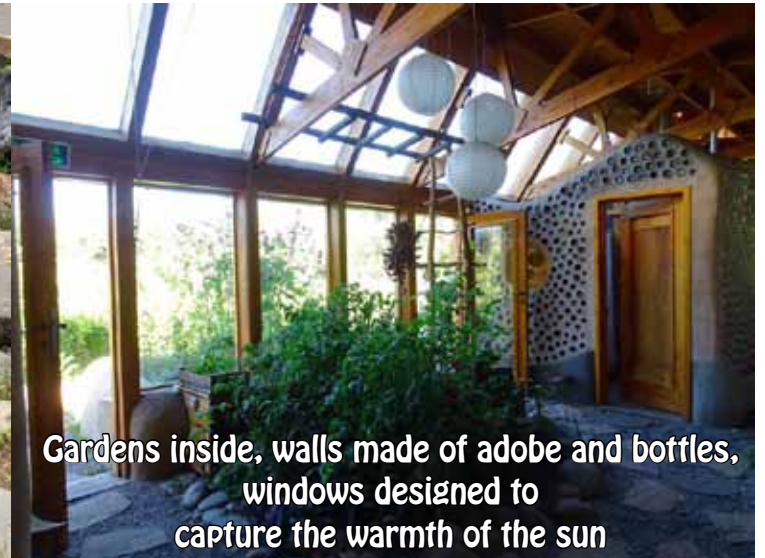


Our room was inside the Earthship, which is a specific biotecture construction



We soaked in our first hot springs of the trip! I cannot tell you how delightfully luxurious this felt. Cheap hostels don't have bath tubs.

The joy of soaking in hot water has been missing from our lives for fifteen months.



Gardens inside, walls made of adobe and bottles, windows designed to capture the warmth of the sun



Hand of the Desert.

Pretty cool to finally be at this well-known spot.



The bedrooms were dug back into the hillside with an adobe dome shape. Peaceful. Comfortable.

Chief Joseph Rally—2017 Only the Stalwart Need Apply

(a work of fiction)

by Forest McGreggor

The Chief Joseph Rally—as many of our members know—is the shining star event which this club sponsors every year. We ‘d love to see all of our members attend and get the feel of the atmosphere that is created in what has come to be known as “The Best Little Rally in the West” Of course, the Chief Joseph Rally is not just for the BMW Riders of Oregon; and motorcyclists come from many places out-of-state; some ride down from Canada.

Mostly we want our club members to be as enthusiastic about this event as we are. We adore our volunteers—special helper positions reserved for members only—as it takes many hands doing their part to create the magical wonder of this little rally known as the “Best in the West”—not a small title to uphold. Now that the Club has a teepee (tipi)—which can be set up for the weekend and taken down at the end—it is even more magical. If you have never sat inside one of these



Native American structures, I cannot begin to describe how it manages to feel bigger on the inside than it is on the outside—and with a twenty-two foot diameter, it is large enough to seat a crowd around the fire-pit. The tipi has the BMWRO logo painted on the outside which is quite visible from the Registration Gate—even the local community has expressed curiosity about the tipi. This addition of the tipi—the signature emblem for the Chief Joseph Rally—adds a little more to the story of the Best Little Rally in the West; it's the rally with that tipi-thing.

It is true that we did not have enough people to help set-up the tipi at last year's Chief Joseph Rally. It was not well-planned and less than a handful of volunteers knew how to set up a tipi—okay, only one person knew how. I would like to say in my own defense, that the expected rain fall drove off most of the volunteers after it started getting dark; and we still had not tied the structure together. The canvas portion was spread out on the grass ready for the final step of lifting it into place—a mistake that will not be repeated. When the lightening became truly enthusiastic, my volunteers headed for shelter. As a result, the weight of the lift pole with the wet canvas

was too heavy for one person to lift into place. I cannot say that I blame my crew for leaving me out there alone, unable to complete the task. But I also must say that it showed a complete lack of team work. It's only when the going gets tough that one shows their true colors—and their's was the yellow belly color of self-serving cowards.

In spite of all the reasons why the tipi did not make it's debut appearance at the 2016 Chief Joseph Rally, I—under the supervision of Rally Master, Doug Tewksbury—have been given permission to set the tipi up at the 2017 rally. This means I need volunteers to assist. We need to arrive as a group on the Thursday before the rally and have the tipi set up before it gets dark. We want this to be the first thing people will see when they come to the Registration Gate on Friday morning. I need a minimum of three people—five would be better—and I need volunteers with stalwart resolution; people who understand what Team Building means!

This has been a work of fiction.

This version of the story has been truncated for word-count. You may request the full (fictional) story by contacting Forest McGreggor. If you like the idea of the Chief Joseph Rally with its own tipi, let BMWRO Rally Master—Doug Tewksbury—know that you approve of the tipi.



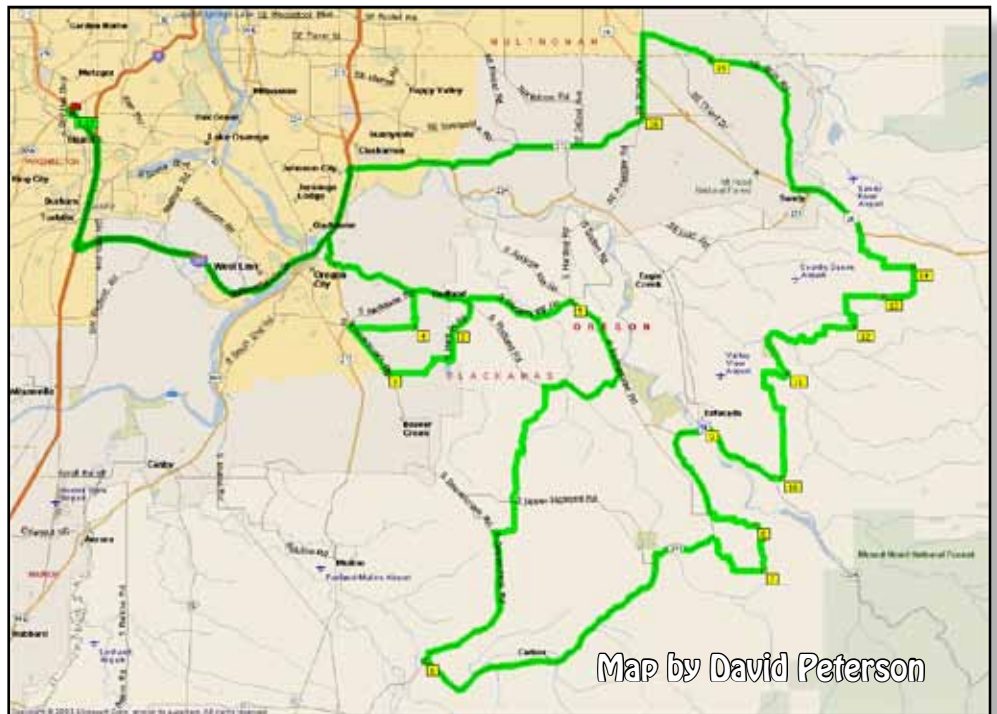
NW Ambassadors Ride Report – March 2017 –

David Peterson #90113

Michael Ripley #191665

Another month...another chance for rain. But despite the gloomy weather, our luck has held high. Sure, we missed January. And we'll likely get wet in April. In fact, since the new weather year began on October 1st, we have endured 123 rainy days out of 155 through and including our ride on March 4th, according to the folks at Weather Underground. But it's a funny thing with our group. Like Mike and David, they are chomping at the bit, watching the skies carefully in the days before every first Saturday, looking for any excuse at all to go for a ride. And while the pickings have been slim, enough folks have braved the weather to make the rides a joyful parade.

This time our intrepid group numbered 10 on 8 bikes. **Chris Henry** is fast becoming Mr. Stalwart, braving early mornings and fallible forecasts to join us all the way from Eugene. Our one-hour-later start time was fast becoming our usual appointed hour, though that will



end now that daylight savings time is again upon us. After a quick hello and head-count, we loaded up and headed out. Right into our biggest downpour of the season.

As we hopped on I-5 south, it seemed like we were in for a slog. Black skies dominated every horizon. But a funny thing happened. As we made our way east onto I-205, the skies—and the rain—lightened. Ten minutes later, the pavement was dry and we were off to the races!

Our route this month took us south and east. Estacada is for many a “pass-through” community, where one rarely ventures past the Shell Station at the south end of town, the last fuel on the Ripplebrook road to Detroit. But the roads to Estacada are twisty and rural, making it the perfect destination for an early-season outing without getting too far away from greater Portland.

We exited I-205 at exit 10, then quickly dove onto Redland Road. Out here, neighborhoods mingle with farm country. The terrain is hilly and rugged, with the roads clearly descendent from the original logging roads that preceded the neighborhoods. This happens to David's backyard, so—with Diane on the back—he led the procession along some of his favorite twisties and carousels. In addition to Chris, **Kim Dorsing** and **Janice Mathern**, **Ric Holderbaum**, **Neal Malagamba**, and **Frank Boyle** gave chase, followed by newcomer **Colleen Bennett**. Old reliable Mr. Ripley swept, his trusty amber beams a sure signal to David that the group was intact.



A photo op before the deluge. The mural is part of “The Cycle of Wood” by Joe Cotter, one of 24 murals painted in Estacada since 1994.

Photo by David Peterson

There are a number of relatively speedy straight shots to Estacada. But we wanted none of that. Instead, as you can see from the map, we doubled back on ourselves a couple of times, making our way south to Colton before heading to lunch. All the figure-eights took their toll on David, who, despite pre-riding with Mike just a week before, missed a turn and had us heading on a logging road to nowhere, which might have turned us into the Donner party. Fortunately, he caught himself, and with a confident twirl of his finger that said, "I meant to do that!", he turned the reins over to Mike for last run into Estacada.

There are few restaurant options in Estacada—and that may be because the one we chose is so good. [Cazadero Inn](#) sits above the Clackamas River at the south end of town. It's gone through many iterations over the years and we wish the current operators every success. They seated us along the picture window above the river and enticed us with a wonderful menu of lunch and all-day breakfast treats. Service was outstanding and remarkably efficient. Next time you're stopping for gas, head across the street and enjoy a meal.

After lunch, and before departing, we gathered at one of the beautiful murals that adorn Estacada. The Artback Artists



Wet roads and slick corners approaching Fern Eagle Park.

Photo by Diane Peterson

Cooperative was formed in 1992 by nine local artists who came together for a local exhibition. Their first show was so well-received that they decided to bring art and the community together. Since 1994, they have painted 24 murals around town; we posed in front of their third mural. Entitled "[The Cycle of Wood](#)", it was designed by Joe Cotter and is displayed on the east wall on Main Street, just north of the restaurant. Since 2000, Estacada has hosted a summer arts and music festival, on the fourth weekend

in July, the centerpiece of which is Artback's annual mural-in-a-weekend project.

We barely escaped with our helmets closed before the rain resumed. But again, it lasted only a few minutes. We meandered through Eagle Fern Park on our way to Sandy, then on to Jonsrud Viewpoint, where we took a last photo and bid each other a safe ride home. All agreed it was another fine outing. We can't wait to see what the weather gods have in store for us in April.

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: 199

**Total First Saturday
miles – 2017: 377**

**[Cazadero Inn](#),
352 SE Hwy 211, Estacada, OR
(503) 630-2900**

see photo on last page



The gang at Jonsrud Viewpoint in Sandy.

Photo by Diane Peterson

Photo by Diane Peterson

“Uh, Dave, I think you missed another turn back there,”
Mike gently reminds David, as Kim and Janice look on.



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