



THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the
BMW Riders of Oregon



June, 2019

Volume 43, Issue #6

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



Posing beneath Mt. Adams on perfect day along Glenwood Highway— **NW Ambassadors Ride Report – May 2019**

photo by Steven Polansky

**Over the River and
Through the Woods...to
Glenwood Station
We Go!**

from David Peterson, page 11.

**Minutes from the
Meeting of the
Members**

from Linnea Alvord, page 9.



BMWRO

Coming Events



Club Sanctioned Events

Event: **41st Annual Chief Joseph Rally, 2019**
Date/Time: June 27–30, 2019
Place: Grant County Fairgrounds, John Day, Oregon
Description: Join us at the Grant County Fairgrounds—nestled in the scenic Strawberry Mountains—of 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!

Register: Early registration ends June 15, 2019
www.bmwro.org
Contact: Alice LeBarron, bmwro.pres@gmail.com

Event: **BMWRO July 4th Picnic**
Date/Time: July 4, 2019, 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm
Place: FS 19 (Aufderheide): Box Canyon Horse Camp, approx. halfway between Hwy 126 & Hwy 58
Description: Family and friends gone off to their own 4th Celebration? Don't worry, BMWRO still loves you. Ride out to USFS Highway 19, aka Aufderheide Scenic Drive for a gathering. We will meet at the Box Canyon Horse Camp at 12 noon. A small barbeque will be fired up for your grilling pleasure. Box Canyon Horse Camp is located at 3700 feet. It is approximately the half way point either from Hwy 58 or Hwy 126. It is a free horse camp. It features 13 campsites and vault toilets. There is no drinking water and you must pack out your garbage. We will pick a vacant campsite upon arrival and set up for lunch, rain or shine. Very simple, you bring your own food, utensils, water and garbage bag! This is all located in the McKenzie Ranger District. If you have questions, look it up online or a map. Official speed limit on the Aufderheide is 45mph! No sign up nor reservations required, just show with your food

Registration: not required.
Contact: TBD

Event: **Women Riders Campout**
Date/Time: July 18–21, 2019
Thursday from 2:00 pm until Sunday, 10:00 am
Place: Jackson Campground on the Applegate River near Jackson, OR
Description: This year, the Women Riders Campout takes us to SW Oregon. We've reserved the Group Campsite at this small campground along the Applegate River.
Directions: From Jacksonville, travel south 6.5 miles on Highway 238 to Ruch, OR, and turn left on to Upper Applegate Road (County Road 859). Continue approximately 7 miles to the campground. Route and campground road is paved.

Amenities: Potable water, picnic tables, firepit, flush toilets. Fishing. Hiking trails. A General Store with kayak and paddle boat rentals available—about 5 miles away at Applegate Lake. Plenty of good riding to explore! And get this: there's a real-life Bigfoot trap near the trail! (I don't think they've ever caught one, though!) How about a ride to the Oregon Caves?

Food: As has become the tradition for the Women Riders Campout, bring some groceries to share and we'll put it all together to come up with some yummy, creative meals. Gas & groceries about 14 miles away in Jacksonville.

Registration: Required before July 16, 2019
Cost:
BMWRO Members No Fee
Associate member. \$5.⁰⁰
Non-member or Guest. 10.⁰⁰
Contact: Liz Jones, **541–306–0437**

Event: **Sixes River Coastal Campout**
Date/Time: July 26–28, 2019
Place: Edson Creek Group Campground
Description: Bring your tent and sleeping bag to this beautiful grassy campground among tall trees. We'll cook the Saturday night dinner; all other meals are on your own. 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 swimmin' hole. Groceries and restaurants are about a 15 mile ride away in Port Orford. Keith hosted a campout at this site in 2015 and 2018. Come join us again for a wonderful relaxing weekend! Guaranteed no left-overs!

Register: on club website Now Open.
Registration: Required before July 19, 2019

Cost: BMWRO Members \$5. 00
Associate member. 10. 00
Non-member or Guest. 20. 00

Contact: Jay Bennett **(541) 760-0675**
jabennett.2012@gmail.com

Event: **Long weekend overnight trip to the Wallowas**

Date/Time: August 2-4, 2019

Place: Enterprise, OR

Description: Navigation expert David Peterson will lead a spirited 400-mile per day group from the Portland area over to the Wallowas for a fun-filled road-oriented weekend getaway. Never fear, this ride will be open to 20 riders who register and show up in Enterprise to partake of a group ride on Saturday up to Hells Canyon, Lewiston and Rattlesnake Canyon, among other highlights. The Wallowa County Fair is on-going during this time as well. Twenty (20) motels rooms are reserved in anticipation of the trip—twenty (20) rider cap...

Registration: Closed.

Contact: David Peterson **503-327-5592**
dwpeterson01@yahoo.com

Event: **Canal Creek Campout**

Date/Time: August 16-18, 2019

Place: near Waldport

Description: We've reserved a group campsite near Waldport with Canal Creek running alongside the campsite. We've got room for tents and several small RV spots (trailers and motorhomes are not recommended). There is both good road and dual sport riding in this area. There are restrooms but no water. We will have some drinking and cooking water available. Dinner on Saturday will be provided but other food will be on your own. Nearby there are several good restaurants. A full service store is 10 miles away.

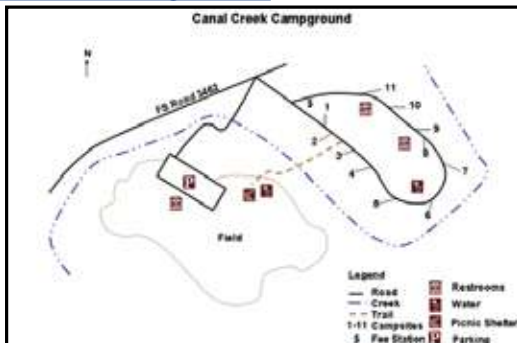
Register: Registration on [club website](#) Now Open

Cost: BMWRO Members \$5. 00
Associate member. 10. 00
Non-member or Guest. 20. 00

Directions: From the Valley take Hwy 34 from Corvallis and Philomath towards Waldport for 43 miles. When you reach the bridge crossing the Alsea River turn left on E. Boundary Rd follow Boundary for 5 miles to the campground. Alternatively from the Coast follow Hwy 34 east for 6.7 miles to Boundary and again go 5 miles up.

Contact: Keith Matteson **(541) 272-2373**
motomatteson@gmail.com

We will be in the Field, shown on this map



Event: **Steens Mountain Campout and Quarterly Meeting of the Membership**

Date/Time: September 6-8, 2019

Place: The Narrows RV Park, OR

Description: After a busy summer, we'll take this opportunity to get out to the eastern part of the state and see the Alvord Desert and Steens Mountain loop as BMWRO returns to this popular site at The Narrows RV Park.

Your registration fee includes 2 nights grassy tent-camping, free showers, free WiFi, and a scrumptious catered dinner Saturday evening. All other meals are on your own. If you prefer to bring an RV rather than sleeping on the ground, the RV park will offer 10% discount to BMWRO members for RV sites with hook-ups. Make your RV reservations directly with the Narrows RV Park at 541-495-2006.

Plenty of Good Food!

Saturday dinner (included in your registration) will be your choice of a meat or a vegetarian/gluten-free lasagne, green salad, green beans, french bread, and dessert.

There is a restaurant & bar on-site offering their Fish & Chips special Friday evening. All you can eat Fish & Chips & Salad Bar for \$16.95. Other restaurants are available in Burns, French Glen, & Fields.

A special breakfast buffet is being planned for Saturday & Sunday mornings for a separate fee, paid at time of registration. Breakfast buffet, served from 7:00-9:00 am each morning includes biscuits & gravy, hard-boiled eggs, fresh fruit, bagels & cream cheese, muffins, oatmeal & milk, orange juice, cranberry juice, coffee, & tea for \$9.25 per person.

Spectacular Riding, Campfire Camaraderie, and a Meeting!

Steve Miller is planning to lead another one of his awesome GS rides! Have you ridden the Steens Mountain Loop road (a GS route)? How about riding out to the Alvord desert for some wheelies and donuts? The ride down to Fields for their famous hamburgers & milkshakes is a lovely paved route. Maybe you'd like a hot springs soak at Crystal Crane Hot Springs or Alvord Hot Springs. So many choices! We'll have our 3rd quarter club meeting Saturday afternoon at 4:30 pm before dinner is served at 6 pm.

Registration: Required before August 25, 2019.

Register online at www.bmwro.org

Cost: BMWRO Members \$10. 00
Associate member. 15. 00
Non-member or guest. 20. 00

Contact: Alice LeBarron, **541-647-7194**
bmwro.pres@gmail.com

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 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: TBD

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
Neal Malagamba **503-969-3220**
n.malagamba@icloud.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: **LeMay Motorcycle Days 2019**

Date/Time: June 13-23, 2019

Place: LeMay Collections at Marymount
325 152nd Street East
Tacoma, WA

Description: See page 5 for details.

Contact: <https://www.lemaymarymount.org/marymount-motorcycle-week>

Event: **Stanley Stomp**

Date/Time: August 8-11, 2019

Place: Grandjean, ID at the Sawtooth Lodge

Description: Idaho BMW Riders present the Stanley Stomp. Heated pool, showers, meadow camping, rental cabins, hot springs.

Registration: Registration required.

Cost: \$80.00; pre-registration only.

Register: <https://www.idahobmwriders.com/stanleystomp.html>

Event: **16th Thunder Mountain Rendezvous**

Date/Time: September 20-22, 2019

Place: Delta County Fairgrounds in downtown Hotchkiss, Colorado

Description: BMW Riders of Western Colorado (MOA #270) present the 16th Thunder Mountain Rendezvous on a colorful weekend of the Western Slope of Colorado. Our low elevation venue includes a large meeting hall, restrooms with showers, plenty of grassy camping and the convenience of walking to downtown restaurants, stores and motels.

Contact: www.bmwridersofwco.com

Ready to begin your Rally weekend with a traditional & festive opening?

Then be sure to gather with like-minded folks on Thursday evening, 27 June, at 7:00 pm at RV Space 18. Any wine, and/or snacks that you wish to share will only enrich everyone's experience. Reds, whites, or even a pinky rose would be welcome; we're neither knowledgeable or finicky. Hope to see you there and share.

By the way, if you can supply your own glass it would eliminate the unsightly image of drinking right out of the bottle.

Jim & Laura Stewart



2019 Chief Joseph Rally Update

June, 2019

June 6th is the last day to order rally T-shirts if you want to pick them up at the rally. The T-shirt webstore will reopen again for orders June 26 - July 6th. Orders placed during that second session will be shipped to your home for an additional shipping charge.

To order your 2019 Chief Joseph Rally T-shirts, [CLICK HERE.](#)

June 15th is the last day to register for the rally to receive the reduced rate for early registration and to be included for Friday & Saturday dinners. June 15th is also the last day to sign up for the Cowboy Lunch Ride and Team Oregon classes. You don't want to miss this deadline!

Gate registration does not include dinners and it is also too late to register for the Cowboy Lunch Ride and Team Oregon classes.

To register, [CLICK HERE.](#)

Camping

Your registration for the rally includes camping on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. For those of you who arrive Wednesday with plans to camp, you are responsible to pay your own tent camping fee (\$15) at the RV kiosk.

When you arrive at the fairgrounds:

Pick up your registration packet at the Registration booth. Booth Hours are: 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm Thursday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Saturday.

After getting your registration packet, stop by the Information booth to:

- Sign up for: guided rides, rider awards, and volunteer shifts to help with registration or information booth.
- Pick up your pre-ordered rally shirts
- Deposit your door prize ticket

Vendors & Doorprizes

David Morganstern and Louie Robida have done a wonderful job of connecting with vendors. They've collected many great door prizes from vendors who will be attending the rally as well as from vendors who are not able to attend. Bring your good luck charm or do whatever good luck ritual you find helpful! Be sure to thank our vendors!

Dawn of Earth Angel Massage will be available as in past years in the Pavilion Fri & Sat 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Sign up at her booth. Ahhh!!

We've put a lot of care into making this The Best Little Rally in the West! We're looking forward to seeing you in John Day!

Your Rally Co-chairs,

*Bill Hedges
David Morganstern
Alice LeBarron*

Weiser Technik

Weiser Technik generously co-sponsored the cost of the musicians at the Chief Joseph Rally on Friday night. BMWRO is grateful for their support.

**Make Your Turn Signals
Pull Double Duty!**



NEW MEMBERS

Motorcycle

Paul Jacques & Staci Vecchio, Redding, CA unknown
Carol Dallas, Forest Grove, OR 2013 BMW F750
Jacob Davidson, Portland, OR 2003 BMW R1150GS
Kevin Walsh, Donald, OR 2014 BMW GSA 1200R
Sydne Anderson, Redmond, OR 2006 BMW K1200LT
Thomas Crozier, West Linn, OR 2007 BMW R1200R
Neil Ruthven, Lebanon, OR 1999 BMW R1100R
Brant & Lila Miller, Medford, OR 2014 BMW R1200GS

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 Executive Committee

President:

Alice LeBarron, **541-647-7194**
bmwro.pres@gmail.com

Vice President/ Activities:

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

Secretary:

Linnea Alvord, **503-816-9058**
bmwro.secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Nate Levin, **503-931-9789**
bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com

BEEMER BEAT Editor:

Forest McGreggor, **541-761-2320**
bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Stacy Brock, **541-292-0567** (Text preferred)
bmwro.web@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator

Gavin Silaski, **503-333-2386**
bmwro.membership@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).

Ambassador Volunteer Requested—
if interested please contact any member of the Executive Committee.

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

Neal Malagamba—503-969-3220

n.malagamba@icloud.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

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



41ST CHIEF JOSEPH RALLY

Join us at the **Grant County Fairgrounds**, nestled in the scenic Strawberry Mountains, **John Day, Oregon**, for three days 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.

Accommodations Include:

- Grass camping Thursday–Friday–Saturday
- Hot showers
- Guided rides—paved route and GS
- Maps for self-guided paved & GS rides
- Door prizes and Rider Awards
- Vendors
- Seminars
- Motorcycle Movies
- Beer Garden
- Bike Wash Station
- Live Music Friday Evening— Award-winning Roots & Blues Musicians, Kinzel & Hyde with their guest Jim Roy
- Adjacent RV park
(separate fee; for reservations call 541-575-1900)
- Motels, restaurants, & groceries within walking distance
- Leashed pets are welcome

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

Early Registration:
(March 1st to June 15th)

\$55.⁰⁰ for BMWRO members
\$70.⁰⁰ for non-BMWRO members
Includes 3-nights camping, Fri & Sat dinner,
rally pin for the first 500, and door prize ticket.

Gate Registration:

\$45.⁰⁰ for BMWRO members
\$60.⁰⁰ for non-BMWRO members
Does not include meal tickets

A limited number of Fri & Sat dinner tickets will be available at the gate for \$15.⁰⁰ each.

Breakfast will be available for purchase in the pavilion Fri & Sat mornings.
Rally T-shirts available by pre-order.

Deadline: June 15th
For early Registration.

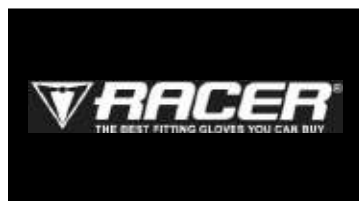
More info at: www.bmwro.org
click the Chief Joseph Rally link.

June 27 – 30, 2019

Grant County Fairgrounds~John Day, OR

WWW.BMWRO.org

These Logos represent the vendors who have sent door prizes to the 2019 Chief Joseph Rally. Please become a patron.



Second Quarterly Meeting of the Membership

May 19, 2019

Our president Alice LeBarron called the Second Quarter BWM Riders of Oregon meeting to order Sunday May 19, 2019 under cloudy, cool skies beneath the cool pines behind iconic Shirley's Tippy Canoe in Troutdale, Oregon, alongside the Sandy River.

1. Introductions:

- 5 first timers attending a Club Quarterly meeting
- 23 members in attendance
- Minutes of the first quarter approved

2. Treasurer's Report

Club finances are managed by **Nate Levin**, Treasurer. Nate provided details on balances, revenue and expenses. In sum (though no pun is intended by this) the Club currently has a healthy bank balance: we started Q1 with \$24,955, and Q2 \$33,380 ending balance as of April 30, 2019.

The Executive Committee approved the creation of a club Reserve Account to ensure the security of an Operating budget: \$15k will be set aside prior to the Chief Joseph Rally in a bank account

3. Membership Report

Gavin Silaski introduced himself and the new role of Membership Coordinator that was created last quarter. This role alleviates more than one major responsibility being on one of the Executive Committee members.

Gavin's primary goal is to Grow the Membership! He is starting by looking at the data (the devil is in the details) and plans to have a plan to share after the Chief Joseph Rally by the 3rd quarter.

Current Membership counts stand at 305 Active Members, 48 in Central/Northeast, 85 in the Central/West, 98 in the Northwest, and 40 in the deep South.

4. Events Report

Chris Henry, Vice President, oversees Events for the club. His report highlighted that the number of events is increasing this year and it's fantastic to have so many creative ideas put forward by volunteers.

Volunteers are the foundation of the BMWRO. We appreciate you! One new policy the Executive Committee approved is that all hosts of events are exempt from the event fee as a gesture of gratitude, and for the work that is involved. We recognize that it's not about the monetary sum, but want to express thanks to those that step forward.

Upcoming events to consider include:

- Chief Joseph Rally
- 4th of July Aufderheide Picnic
- Women's Rider Campout
- Sixes River Coastal Campout
- Enterprise Overnight (register for the waitlist)
- Canal Creek Campout
- Steen's Mountain Campout—this is the location for the 3rd Quarterly meeting
- 4th Quarter Meeting will be hosted by **Janice Mathern** and **Kim Dorsing**. Thank you both!

All events are shown on the Club calendar and most require registration. Please see www.bmwro.org.

5. Chief Joseph Rally Update

President Alice explained that registrations are a little low, with just 187 registrations to date, but usually increase toward the end of the registration period June 15. Please, encourage your friends to register before then! There will be limited meals available for at-the-gate registrations.

Some unique events like the Cowboy Lunch, and the Team Oregon Cornering Skills class, may have space still! Quite a few at the Quarterly meeting remarked that

it's fantastic to learn to ride at speed on the road, versus in a parking lot (i.e. learn "in real time").

We had a new volunteer for the Wine Social event step forward—thank you very much to **Jim Stewart**!

The Seminar Hall is currently full of presentations, movies and videos. We need a backup volunteer otherwise coordinator **Gavin Silaski** might never get a rest. Please contact Gavin Silaski, gwsilaski@gmail.com, to volunteer.

National Rally 2020 is in Great Falls, MT—June 25-28th—so the CJR will be 18-21st—Father's Day weekend in 2020, only. This has been approved by the fairgrounds.

...all hosts of events are exempt from the event fee as a gesture of gratitude...

6. Chief Joseph Rally Vendor Update

Thanks to **Dave Morganstern** and **Louie Robida**, the Chief Joseph Rally is well on its way to meeting their vendor goal of twelve (12). There are currently seven (7) vendors committed already, and given that our Rally coincides with another major gathering in the PNW, we are excited to have both returning and new vendors so far.

Lots of door prizes are going to be given out to those attending the Chief Joseph Rally, so thank you to our Vendor sub-committee and the Vendors who've already committed.

7. Ambassador Report

The NW Region led by **David Peterson** has carried their 1st Saturday rides on all winter. A primer on riding turn etiquette was provided by **Chris Henry**. In the Central region, **Alice LeBarron** coordinates 2nd Saturday rides; please contact her if interested, at bmwro.pres@gmail.com.

8. Old Business (Alice)

As a follow-up item, you may request BMWRO business cards from President **Alice LeBarron** to give out to riding friends.

9. New Business (Alice)

The club is always looking for volunteers!

There will be elections for the Executive Committee in August for two positions, Vice President and Treasurer.

The next quarterly meeting is the Steens Mountain Campout, September 7, 2019 at 4:30 pm.

10. Quarterly Meeting Vendor Raffle

Generous ROK strap door prizes were awarded to the lucky raffle winners courtesy of Rolf Immo Gabbe. Frank Boyle, Augustine George, and Deborah Hughes-Habel all left delighted by new strapping capabilities.

Most people couldn't even finish their generous portions, and no additional new business was added, so the meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm and many went on spirited rides home, dreaming of the sunny skies that await us in John Day.

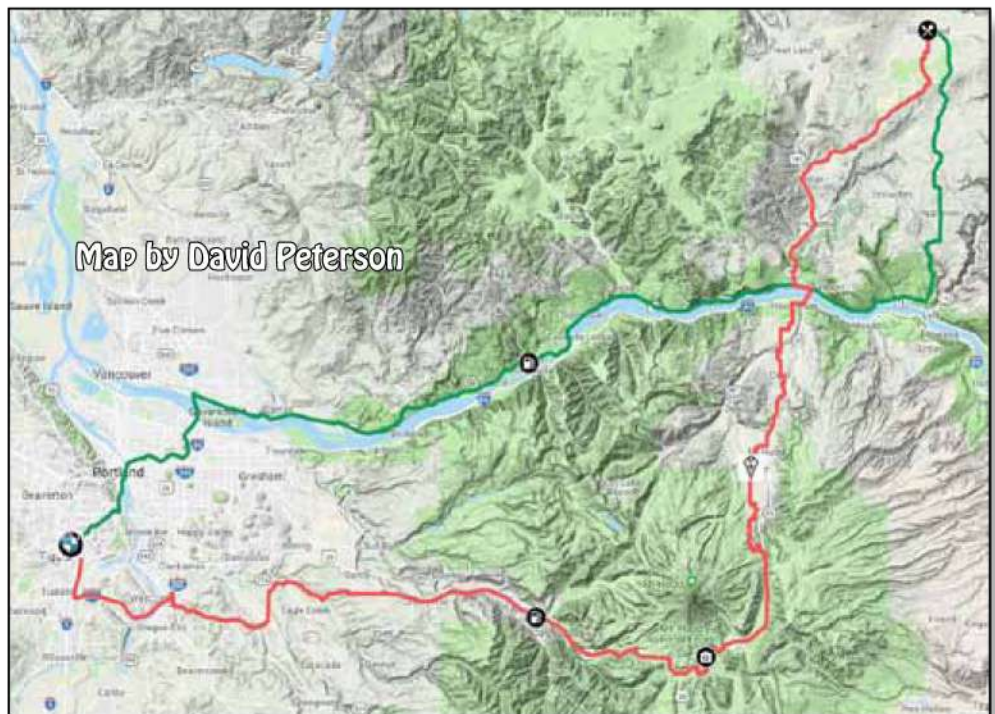
Minutes respectfully submitted by Linnea Alvord, Club Secretary.

Over the River and Through the Woods...to Glenwood Station We Go! NW Ambassadors Ride Report – May 2019

David Peterson #90113

What a day for a ride! The sun had bathed us for most of the week...and May's first Saturday turned out to be the nicest day of all. After enjoying a complimentary apple fritter (thanks BMW of Western Oregon) and watching the riders stream in, it was time to get down to business. When the sugar high settled and appointed hour arrived, seventeen riders answered the call to roll.

Today's ride was a first in nearly four years — no passengers! Other rarities included a Spyder (courtesy of **Karen Rust**) and a trailer (**Cam**



Rust testing out his new travel rig). As we readied to depart, **Linnea Alvord, Chris Henry, Chuck Mileur, David Morganstern, Andrew Peake, Keith Picone, John Stoianoff,** and first-timers **Lonnie Wolff, Craig Porter, and Owen Grady,** stood astride their bikes, awaiting the adventure to come.

As we city dwellers know all too well, to get where the action is, you've got to get through town. That's sometimes a struggle, especially when the group is sizeable. Karen, on her Spyder, agreed to tail gun for us. I asked her to edge into traffic, to open a window for our entourage to stay together. No problem, she nodded—until an emergency vehicle, lights and sirens blaring, roared into our path. Karen maneuvered like a pro, then quickly reasserted herself, enabling the rest of us to escape.

Through the Vista Tunnel and over the Marquam Bridge we soared. Onto I-205, across the Columbia, we headed east on WA-14, almost out of the grip of metropolis. After a quick stop to gather our eastside crowd, we would continue on to God's country. Just as planned, near Washougal, waited the rest of our gang — **Steven Polansky, Frank Boyle,** missing person **Andy Sulla** (we hadn't seen him in nineteen months) and his buddy, **Ryan Morrissey** — another first timer.



Enjoying the sunshine during a quick break in North Bonneville.

Photo by Chris Henry

Now that we had everyone, we waited — and waited — for our group to coalesce. Our tail, with three riders, had fallen off. Eventually, Cam, Karen, and John arrived, having missed I-84, ending up in Vancouver. No harm, no foul — the best riding was ahead of us.

After a brief gas stop in North Bonneville, we continued our eastward assault. WA-14 is one of the most scenic drives in the northwest, and with sun blazing, the Columbia shone in all her glory. It's another thirty-five miles or so along the river. On a day like today, I would have gladly ridden another 335.

But we were in pursuit of the road less travelled. Old Highway 8 was the first such find. Just west of Rowland Lake, a left turn takes you on a perfect ribbon of blacktop in the low hills above the Columbia. With the weather and the wildflowers, hikers and their cars were everywhere. But five miles later, we had the road to ourselves.

The next thirty miles were bliss — and a surprise to many.



Waiting for lunch at Glenwood Station.

Photo by Steven Polansky

Canyon Road is a twistfest that climbs out of the Columbia Gorge toward Appleton. The terrain doesn't seem too steep, but before you know it, you've climbed 2,000 feet in just over ten miles. The real surprise comes in the next twenty miles — all the maps suggest the

road turns to gravel. But it doesn't! The road remains paved all the way to Glenwood. And the gorge gives way to unobstructed views of Mt. Adams, which while usually shrouded in clouds, was naked this day in all its glory. One should always be vigilant, for if the road or the scenery isn't distracting enough, roving elk will vie for your attention, as they did on the pre-ride. Most of us had ridden the region many times before; only Linnea seemed to be aware that the entire route was paved.

Needless to say, when we reached our lunch stop in Glenwood, we had plenty to talk about. Glenwood Station is the only game in town and the food is pretty good. Even with fair warning, it took them awhile to serve us, but sitting in the welcome, spring sun, talking about the ride, or the weather, or the Blazers, no one seemed to mind. Our rabid fan Polansky even had time to pull out his drone and wow us with his manual dexterity (he does have quite the touch. And the pictures really are something).



Posing beneath Mt. Adams on perfect day along Glenwood Highway.

Photo by Diane Peterson

After another photo stop just outside of town, it was time to get back to it. BZ-Glenwood Highway is the usual route home. Not as steep or twisty as Canyon Road, it's still quite scenic, angling southwest, before intersecting WA-141 south of Trout Lake. WA-141 continues the journey back to the Columbia along the White Salmon River.

We knew we'd lose a number of folks when we got back to the river, but the ride wasn't over yet. The diehards rumbled over the Hood River Bridge for a tour through the town and the valley. Hood River is known for its pears, cherries, and apples and on the pre-ride a week earlier, the orchards were in full bloom and a sight to behold. A week of warm weather had taken away the much of the bloom, but there were still plenty of blossoms to be found in the cooler elevations above Parkdale. After a brief stop for ice cream, we continued to climb Mt. Hood, chasing along the Cooper Spur until it deposited us onto OR-35. One last stop at White River, on the southern shoulder of Mt. Hood, reminded us it was a day for the ages.

From there, we headed home, confident that the summer riding season, at long last, has arrived.



Regathering near Glenwood.

Photo by David Peterson

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, May Ride: 269

Total First Saturday miles – 2019: 1,029

Glenwood Station

105 E. Main Street, Glenwood, WA
98619 (509)364-3471



Starting at guard...number 0...
Damian Polansky!

photo by David Peterson



Elk exercising their right-of-way on the pre-ride.

Photo by Diane Peterson



Visit our website at:
WWW.BMWRO.ORG

BEEMER BEAT Editor
P.O. Box 67
Merlin, OR 97532

