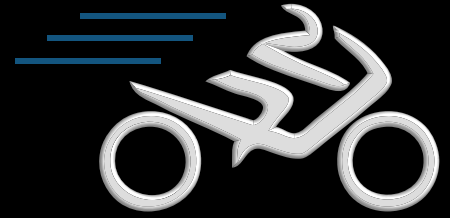




# THE BEEMER BEAT



## Newsletter of the BMW Riders of Oregon

January 2020

Volume 44, Issue #1

*Founded 1976 -- BMWMOA Charter #83, BMWRA Charter #264*



Photo by Bruce Henriksen

*Fisher School Bridge, Lincoln County, Or*

**BMWRO 4th Quarter  
Membership Meeting Pgs. 2 - 4**

**A Big Thanks to Dave & Diane  
Peterson Pg. 5**

**David Peterson's  
Ride Report  
Pgs. 12 - 16**

# BMWRO Fourth Quarter Membership Meeting

At least 15 BMWs adorned the front patio of Kirk's Ferry Landing on Saturday November 23 for the fourth quarter and annual membership meeting. Many rode through the morning for the 1pm meeting at the historic and fascinating Kirk's Ferry Landing restaurant in Brownsville, Oregon. With antiques, old-world walnut trees, horses out back and a museum inside, Kirk's Ferry is a treasure trove for any valley rider to stop into. Thank you to hosts Kim Dorsing and Janice Mathern for coordinating the location and menu!

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Chris Henry who introduced the other executive committee in attendance (Treasurer Nate Levin and Secretary Linnea Alvord). Gavin Silaski, the Membership Coordinator and Craig Porter, Newsletter Editor also were introduced. The **Secretary's report** confirmed the unanimously elected new officers for the 2020-2022 term: Liz Jones as Vice President and Dave Cook as



Photo by Bruce Henriksen

Treasurer. Dave Cook was in attendance so we all were able to put a face to his name. Webmaster Stacy Brock has resigned, leaving room for the Executive Committee to find a new support person for the BMWRO.org site.

We then moved rapidly to Nate's **Treasurer's report** which in sum included that our bank balance is up over last year. We started January with \$24,955 and as of October 31, 2019 we have \$31,776 in current bank balance. This left the question of what to do with the \$16,776 cash available.

The first question raised was whether there is a plan to do charitable donations. Last year \$20,000 was gifted out to John Day community, which notably was a large sum and represented several years of backlog. The current Executive Committee hasn't determined how much or which association would be a recipient in 2019. This leaves the responsibility to the new Executive Committee to determine how much to whom. Nate noted that due to the timing of the John Day Rally the weekend before the National Rally, there is some trepidation about the giving. A big thanks to Nate for his service!

The **Membership report** was then summarized by Gavin. Our membership is roughly holding at roughly 325 members. This fluctuates due to renewals, but, it's an observation that membership hasn't changed significantly during the year. A committee regarding membership types has been formed recently. They plan to put forth a recommendation to the Executive Committee by end of year with ways to simplify the member types (which in turn simplifies event registration). The recommendation will be analyzed per current BMWRO By-laws to determine whether any changes may be needed.



Photo by Bruce Henriksen



# BMWRO Fourth Quarter Membership Meeting

The most discussed portion of the meeting was Chris Henry's **Activities report**.

- **First Quarter Meeting and Lunch January 18, 2020 - Registration is already up at BMWRO.org !** Mark your Calendars for some of the fantastic events next year and keep your eyes on the BMWRO website Event Calendar as these firm up and registration is announced:
- **May 29-31, 2020: 2nd Quarter Meeting and Campout on the Eagleview Group Campground near Elkton**
- **June 5-7, 2020: Women Rider's Campout at Silver Creek Falls**
- **June 18-21, 2020: Chief Joseph Rally in John Day, OR**
- **June 25-28: [MOA Rally](#), Great Falls, MT**
  - Note: Dave Peterson is going to publicize a ride from John Day to the MOA Rally
- **July or August: Port Orford AND Canal Creek Campouts will be planned**
  - Volunteers needed
- **August: TBD the 2nd annual David Peterson Road Trip**

While heads were still full of determining how to squeeze all of this in, Craig Porter gave the **Newsletter Report** and requested pictures, articles and stories. His email is [bwmro.editor@protonmail.com](mailto:bwmro.editor@protonmail.com). He also encouraged people who've bought a new bike or gone on a great new ride to send in the news - he'll figure out how to share!



Photo by Bruce Henriksen

someone to work with him as he coordinates vendors & door prize acquisition. David Peterson proposed a theme of "Gateway to the MOA Rally". Craig Porter is going to reach out to the Iron Butt group so perhaps an Iron Butt ride can be organized.

Chris Henry picked back up with the President's **Rally Report**. Planning is already underway and Alice LeBarron has again chosen to tackle the Rally Chair responsibilities, thank you Alice. She is notably seeking a Rally Co-Chair who would be interested in learning the ropes in order to chair the 2021 rally. Anyone interested, [please reach out to Alice](#) to learn more. There are already many action items that need working on to make things go smoothly next June: 1) Rally artwork is needed for programs, pins, t-shirts, 2) a theme, 3) an advertising coordinator is needed to get rally information out to various BMW club publications and websites. David Morganstern is looking for

A quick summary of **Old Business/aka** work in progress tasks the Executive Committee is trying to conclude:

- Membership types and simplification
- Budget, 2019 donations, investments
- Advertising policies and committee
- Webmaster vacancy and event registration improvements
- Position responsibilities updates

# BMWRO Fourth Quarter Membership Meeting

Lunch started to be served, with huge juicy burgers, giant beautiful salads and large wood-fired oven pizzas, but we persevered into the **New Business**. Member Steven Polanksy raised the idea of an annual "Member of the Year" award which he had seen in a cycling club he belonged to in New York. Much discussion ensued about this, and the spirited dialogue confirmed general support for the idea of being able to publicize individuals who exemplify the spirit of the Club.

A second proposal was made by Steve Miller to start a Member Spotlight column in the Beemer Beat as another way to honor members. That could be done monthly or quarterly, it could be done via email

nomination or it could use meeting or event hosts as a source of members to highlight. Some side discussion followed regarding lifetime memberships, and how they were designated, how many there are, how much they impact revenue, etc.

Before adjourning, fabulous door prizes were gifted to randomly selected attendees. Many thanks to Rolf-Immo Gabbe for a generous contribution of Rok Straps. Winners included Bruce Henriksen, Michele Benedict, and Mary Jo Mosby and Bill Habel.

By 3pm the meeting adjourned so

the numerous riders could suit up and exit the Trading Post to a beautiful crisp sunny afternoon. See you in January at the first quarter meeting!



Photo by Bruce Henriksen



Photo by Bruce Henriksen



Photo by  
Bruce Henriksen



Photo by Craig Porter



Photo by Bruce Henriksen



Photo by Bruce Henriksen



# Letter to the Editor by Kim Dorsing

Once a month, the BMWRO membership is treated to a gift that is as fun to open as it is to experience. The couple behind the FSR presents this gift because they love the roads, the comradery, and the joy their BMW gives them in the corners. They've put in countless hours over most of the last ten years planning and usually "pre-riding" the precious non repeating monthly routes. From personal experience the pre-rides are also great fun (less pressure/more trial and error).

Their challenge seems to be to design a route that connects less traveled roads, considers the weather, and has an interesting lunch stop. What also matters is that we all cross the "finish line" together. Nobody gets hurt, nobody gets mad, and we always look forward to the next route map. Some of their joy is an admission from someone in the group that they saw a certain road for the very first time.

Perhaps one of the most memorable Saturday rides, was one that had only ONE participant and no leader. Ric Holderbaum defied the weather cancellation and rode the ride anyway. His pictures were proof that he would not be denied. We all laughed and chided each other for not showing up. These rides are



remarkably consistent. Show up, leave on time, burn some gas, have some fun, eat well, and work on your riding skills.

We are certainly lucky to have a leader that considers the variables, delivers the goods, and leaves us all hugging each other at the last station. These are the kind of volunteers that make this club special.

If you have yet to participate on a first Saturday ride generally leaving from the BMW Tigard dealership, then next month is not too late. We tend to plan our monthly schedules around the ride. We are some of many who look forward to the fun.

## Dave Petersen scouting the next Saturday ride

Dave and Diane Peterson have done the BMWRO club proud and continue to give the membership a high quality product. They do this once a month out of joy and are not shy about sharing what they know about the roads of the northwest. Very happy they don't force us to ride the trails and gravel with their GS, and keep us on pavement. Although, we know that might be their favorite.

These two deserve a round of applause and encouragement to keep doing what they do. This is the season for reflection and appreciation. Thank you very much Dave and Diane for your effort. We hope this is enough to get you back next month.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Dorsing

● *Thank you for this great letter, Kim! David is certainly a treasure for us all as riders and also for me as the newsletter editor. I enjoy getting the monthly ride reports and seeing all the interesting roads Oregon has. It's my way of living vicariously due to lots of work appointments. I know we all join you in thanking David for his tireless efforts and unswerving commitment to "THE RIDE"! – Editor*



## Upcoming BMWRO Events

(All events require pre-registration. Click on the title of the event to go to the event page.)

### [1st Quarter Meeting & Lunch](#)

When: Saturday, January 18, 2020, 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM

Where: Cascade Grill

110 Opal Court

Albany, OR

Contact(s): Alice LeBarron -- 541-647-7194, [bmwro.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

### [Eagleview Campout and 2nd Quarter Meeting](#)

When: Friday, May 29, 2020, 1:00 PM until Sunday, May 31, 2020, 11:00 AM

Where: Eagleview Campground Group Site

110 Bullock Road

Oakland, OR 97462

Contact(s): Jay Bennett -- 541-760-0675, [jabennett.2012@gmail.com](mailto:jabennett.2012@gmail.com)

### [Women Riders' Campout](#)

When: Friday, June 05, 2020, 4:00 PM until Sunday, June 7, 2020, 1:00 PM

Where: Silver Falls State Park Group Site B

20024 Silver Falls Highway

Sublimity, OR

Contact(s): Carol L Dallas -- 503-860-8787, [carol.dallas57@gmail.com](mailto:carol.dallas57@gmail.com)

### [Chief Joseph Rally](#)

When: Thursday, June 18, 2020, 12:00 PM until Sunday, June 21, 2020, 12:00 PM

Where: Grant County Fairground

411 NW Bridge St

John Day, OR 97845

Contact(s): Alice LeBarron -- 541-647-7194; [bmwro.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

*Bring it On... Celebrate!*







## Recurring Events & Heard-On-The-Road

### 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](mailto: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:** Clarence Story **541-689-2822**  
[ccstory@go-ducks.com](mailto:ccstory@go-ducks.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](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)  
Mark Collier **541-499-1395**  
[mcollier5895@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com)  
Neal Malagamba **503-969-3220**  
[n.malagamba@icloud.com](mailto:n.malagamba@icloud.com)



**Event:**

**Date/Time:**

**Location:**

**Bob Marley's Birthday**

February 09, 2020

Fort Hoskins Park,  
Hoskins, OR

Bob Marley was born on 02/06/1945.

Need a Sunday Ride Destination?

Sunday February 09, 2020 @ 11:45 AM. Gather and celebrate Bob Marley's Birthday @ Fort Hoskins Park, Hoskins, OR.

This is year SIXTEEN! WOW!

This is a NO HOST EVENT. That means NO HOST, no rules, no formal invitation or registration. You assume ALL personal RISK!

Riders bring their own food, drinks, utensils, plates, cups, garbage bag and music to participate.

On Site: Covered Pavilion, picnic tables, charcoal grill to prepare your celebratory dinner. If you want to share, bring something everyone will enjoy!

Directions: Head west from Corvallis on HWY 20. Go through Philomath and stay right onto Hwy 20 for few miles. Turn North onto Hwy 223 @ Wren, OR. Hwy 223 goes to Kings Valley and Dallas OR. Go NORTH SIX [6] miles. Turn Left to Hoskins. There is Fire Station opposite the turn. Fort Hoskins Sign is about a 1/4 mile after the turn. Go about a mile to Park Entrance on the Right. Use first gear at Park Entrance! It's paved but steep with a sharp RH turn almost immediately. Once past that, you'll come to a hill top car park. You'll see the revelers and Pavilion.

GPS coordinates to the entrance of the park: 44.678682, -123.466741

This is a Benton County Park. Ft Hoskins was sited there from 1856 to 1866.

Hope to see you there!

Disclaimer: NO HOST, NO RULES. By Attending, you participate voluntarily and assume all personal risk.

**Event:** **16th Annual Winter Tour Show**

**Date/Time:** February 29, 2020- Leap Day!

**Location:** Premier Motogear, 414 Queen Avenue SW; Albany OR

**Contact:** RSVP to Deb Weber - Call 541-926-2107 or email to [premiermotogear@comcast.net](mailto:premiermotogear@comcast.net)

Chase away those winter blues as we see Scotland and Ireland through the riding adventures of Bob and Lindy Metzger with Chris Henry

Time: Doors open at 6 PM

Get ready for a new riding season with inspiration from Bob, Lindy and Chris as they share their riding adventures in Scotland and Ireland!

The presentation is free and refreshments will be provided. Save room for cookies and popcorn!



**Event:** **BMW Motorcycle Owners of America National Rally 2020**

**Date/Time:** June 25 - 28 2020

**Location:** Montana Expo Park, Great Falls, MT.

<http://www.goexpopark.com/>

**Rally Website:** <http://rally.bmwmoa.org/>

**Registration opens January 1st, 2020!**

**MOA website:** <https://www.bmwmoa.org/>



## BMWMOA Mini Rally in Cedar City, Utah. Sep 27 and 28, by Clarence Story

This year was a biking change that had been coming for the last couple of years. After riding a 2002 BMW LT (light truck) for 13 years and just over 100,000 miles, sold it. I bought Lane Weinberg's 2007 R1200RT. Better mileage, 10 more hp, and better handling in the corners. Biggest concern with the LT was the weight. Trying to move an LT at slow speeds versus the RT, is a world of difference. Through Suburban Machinery: added bar backs, extended shifter and lowered the foot pegs. Modified the windshield extensively to where the air flow comes over and pushes from the back, nice and comfortable.

Summer was running into fall and I had only been on two rides for the year. Early summer, Bruce Moses and I went to the Washington State BMW rally. After the rally, Bruce headed home and I rode on to Vancouver Island for a couple of days before coming home to Eugene.

September rode to the BMWRO, Narrows campout. Love eastern Oregon riding.

So, end of summer and late September and the MOA mini rally in Cedar City, Utah was calling.

Couple of days before leaving on the Utah trip, went up to Albany and Premier Motor Gear (Don & Deb). Front counter person (Mike) installed a new Michelin rear tire. Was lunch time and a great burger joint just down the street from Premier Motor Gear, on SW Queen Ave, (Burger Queen). Not a chain restaurant, great burgers. Last week of September, the 10 day weather forecast was perfect, great fall riding. Had just got home from the Narrows campout and Tue headed south on I-5. As far as freeway riding, from Eugene to Redding is as good as it gets. Weather was great.

Just south of Yreka, CA, in this backyard, if you and the kids get into counting slug bugs (V-W's) on the left is at least 50 slug bugs and several VW vans. As I entered Redding, the weather went hot and by Anderson was 104°. Have a water vest for cooling and pulled into a road side rest area. Soaked the vest and over the t-shirt with summer riding jacket on top. Dropped the core temp about 20 degrees. Rode onto Gridley, Ca and spent the night with a cousin. Had dinner at Casa Lupe, always a great place to enjoy more of a original flavor.

Wednesday up early to get through Sacramento before heavy traffic.

My original plan was to ride to Hollister, CA, to the Corbin seat factory. I have had several Day Long (Russell Seats) and think they are the best, but, they were booked out a couple of months. Then I called Corbin. Talked to the sales people and the pitch was "no problem," when you get down to a couple of weeks before your trip, just call and set up an appointment. Corbin you ride in on Wed and Sat. Wednesday would have worked fine. I called the week before and one of the seat technicians was on vacation and Wednesday was booked. Could I come in on Saturday and NO, I can't come in on Saturday.

Kept pushing hard down to Fresno and hung a left to KINGS CANYON N.P. As some of you know, there are National Parks Passport Stamps to be garnered. Great weather and not alot of traffic. I was not impressed with Kings Canyon: this canyon looked like what we have in Oregon. Got my stamp at the visitor's center and kept riding. The boundary line is just an imaginary line and you are into SEQUOIA N.P. You need to go to Sequoia N.P. to see big trees, in fact the world's biggest. Had my picture taken at General Sherman, world's largest tree by volume. It stands at 275' and just over 36' diameter. Some coast Sequoia's are taller. Picked up a couple of stamps and the road south was a motorcycle's delight with very tight curves. Was getting hot again as I worked my way south to Bakersfield to spend the night.



Thursday morning out at day break and rode east up the Tehachapi Pass. Well, guess what is coming at you from the east. The sun! Tough riding with one hand trying to block the sun. At the top of the pass, took a left on 395 and headed north. Ahead of me and behind me were H-D's. What was going on was the 20th Annual VEGAS Bike Fest. Besides the 150+ vendors: \$5000 poker run, custom H-D giveaway, Ink Mayhem Tattoo Convention, bikini contest, free beer, flat track racing, facial hair contest & much, much more. I decided to keep going to Utah and to a more sedate rally where you have to buy your beer and no bikinis.

Gassed up the Beemer at Olancha, CA and turned east into Death Valley N.P. Pulled over at a turn out to view a canyon and several Harley's pulled in. Everyone of the bikes were rentals as these riders were from Germany. YES, they came over to ask questions about my RT. As you ride through the desert, do you ever wonder how some of the side road names occur? Whiskey Flats - how do you think this part of the desert achieved That name?



Stopped for lunch at Furnace Creek where a hamburger, fries and drink was over \$20. The decor and ambiance was worth the price. Temp was 98° with cloudy skies. Day before was 108°. I had all of Death Valley's N.P. passport stamps and was on a mission to Devil's Hole, Death Valley N.P. just across the border in Nevada.

This park is located in Ash Meadows N.W.R. Had to ride 7 miles of gravel, but, after a stamp! Watched the 1/2 hour film and learned about the rare and endangered Amargosa Pupfish. These little guys that have been around forever, are on the verge of extinction because of decreasing habitat.


My next stop had eluded me for years. Tule Springs Fossil Beds N.M. just out of Las Vegas. Pulled into the visitors center as they were locking up for the day. Got my stamp and talked with both rangers for a bit. This N.M. covers 22,650 acres and was established in 2014 to protect Ice Age paleontological discoveries. Riding to national parks provides me new roads and a different adventure.

That evening stayed at the Santa Fe Station Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. The huge billboard indicated rooms starting at \$39.00. Right down my alley in pricing. Well, you want to talk about false advertising. I asked about the \$39.00 rooms and she smiled and indicated that with local zoning laws, local and state taxes, etc. the room ended closer to \$90. I don't gamble, but, had plenty of food as several restaurants were located downstairs.

Was in no hurry to get going on this Friday morning. After breakfast rode west of town to Red Rock Canyon, a national conservation area that lies in the Nevada Mojave Desert. It is known for its geological features such as towering red sandstone peaks and the Keystone Thrust Fault, as well as Native American petroglyphs. Must have been Ferrari day as six brightly colored Ferrari's were chasing each other and listening to the exhaust note as they wound the engines up.

I left Red Rock Canyon after attending the required movies and viewing the artifacts. Tanked up the RT and headed for Utah, my main destination. I do some birding at times and while cruising the freeway just inside the Utah state line, a golden eagle was flying beside me. That was pretty neat.





Once I found my hotel in Cedar City, I checked in and walked across the street to the MOA mini rally. Then found out why I couldn't get a room at the rally as this is fall and college football is in the air. San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly Mustangs and bus loads of athletes, cheerleaders and adoring fans were in town to play Utah University. For some of us who registered late, we were lucky to find a room.

I had preregistered for the mini rally, checked in, and in the bag of stuff was a nice little Swiss Army Knife. Went to the bar and chatted with new friends. Afterwards had dinner outside on the veranda, but as the sun went down, turned cold. About 75 riders attended.

Saturday was a slow day with no riding. Enjoyed the pool/hot tub and caught up on some reading. That evening walked across the street to the mini rally function and dinner. Just about everyone walked away with a nice door prize. Always fun to meet new people and socialize.

Sunday after breakfast, headed across Nevada as a freak winter storm just appeared out of Canada. The 10 day weather forecast did not show this storm as it dumped record amount of snow in Montana. The temp was 50 degrees and high winds. I was riding way over the speed limit when this little Japanese car went by me. The car was flat out in speed, but with horrible noises coming from under the hood. My goal was Fallon, NV, but was early afternoon and I felt good and continued on to Reno, then north to Susanville. My motel was next to the El Tepeyac Grille and very original Mexican food.

Monday morning, looked out the motel window and was snowing. The altitude in Susanville is 4200 feet and the road out of town takes you over 5000 feet. Called the wife and decided to stay put as the weather forecast for Tuesday was clear and cold. Watched Gun Smoke and had pizza throughout the day.

Tuesday morning was clear and 30 degrees. Roads were clear and the biggest problem was, I didn't have my good winter gear. Had my heated vest, but, my riding coat was a summer model that drafts the air in for cooling. I added the cooling vest as it was dry and another layer. Then wrapped each arm in a t-shirt and stuffed a t-shirt down the front of the coat. Even with heated grips/vest and light weight summer gloves, I got cold. Highway 44 west to 89 and out to Mount Shasta is a beautiful road. Once out of the mountains and riding north on I-5, the temperature improved.

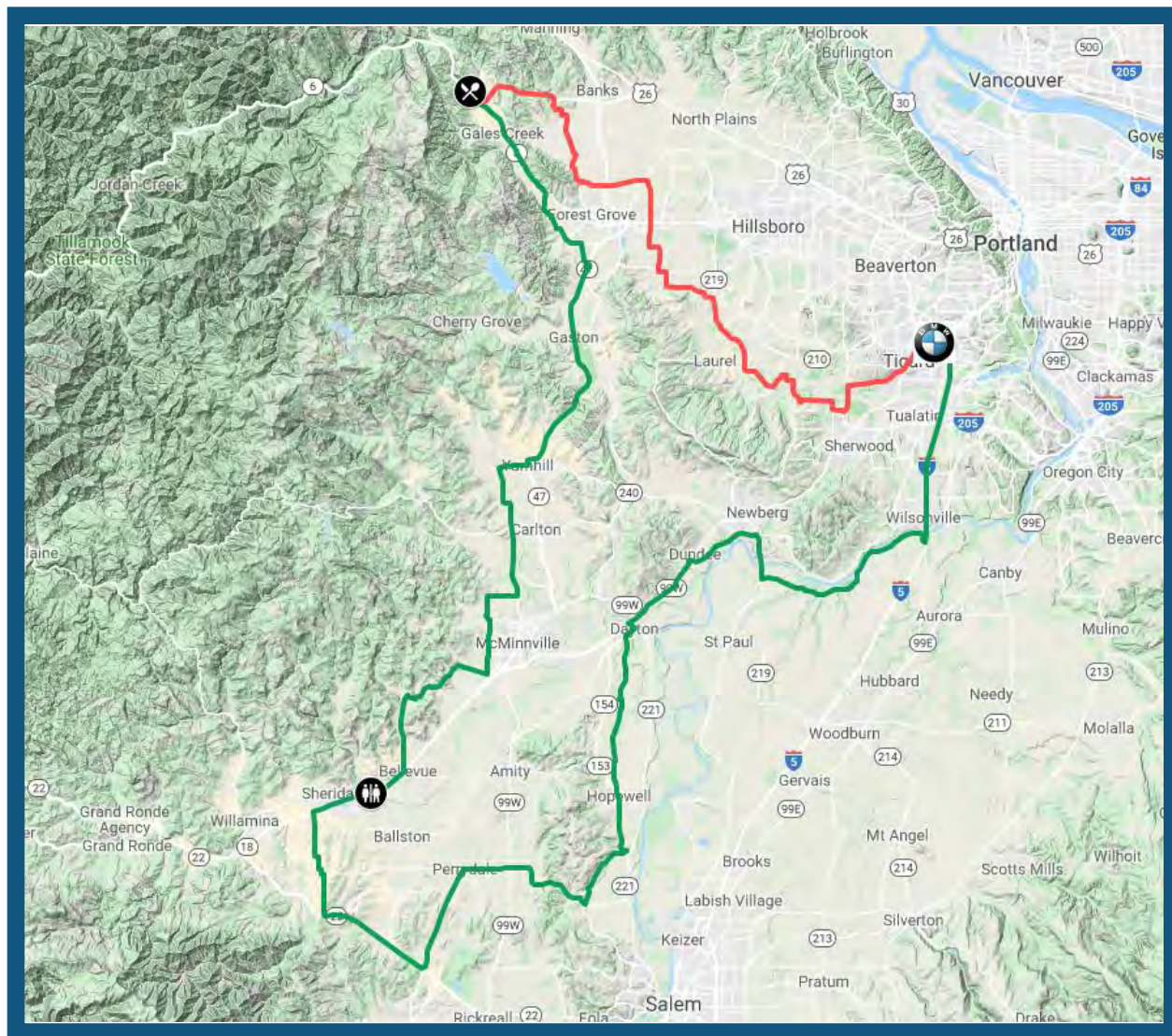
Later that day, had lunch at Ken's Sidewalk cafe in Canyonville. A local burger shop with great food, as you sit outside with rock & roll music piped in.

I rolled into Eugene and home after 2407 miles, a very hot and cold trip.

# Who'll Stop the Rain?

## NW Ambassadors Ride Report-December 2019

David Peterson #90113



Map by David Peterson

"Six," **Diane** said, when I asked her how many we'd be. "I doubt there will be more than six of us."

"I'll take the over," I shot back reflexively. I always think we'll have a big turnout, rain or shine. But another glimpse out the window wasn't very reassuring. It. Was. Pouring.

*Who*, I wondered, looks outside on a day like this and says, *I want to leave my house to ride my motorcycle?* I knew **Kim** and **Janice** would show up—they are always there for me, weather be damned. **Chris Henry** is always a possibility. But he has to ride a hundred miles just to get to the starting line. Nah, no Chris. So...*who?*

As it turned out, seven folks were chomping at the bit when we rolled up, a little late. **CJ Strauss** and **Justin Carr** on one bike, along with **Jeff Yarnall**, **Kyle Emerson**, and **Chuck Mileur**. And, of course, Kim and Janice. After some hugs and high-fives, we donned out gear and got the show on the road.



Today we would head west to Gales Creek, a thirty-mile straight-line dash out Sunset Highway. If getting there is all that mattered.

My route had us diving south into Polk County, then hooking north, before a break south of McMinnville. Then another hour to lunch. On the way over, I had been thinking about ways to cut the ride short. But after meeting up with our merry band, I knew we would eat the whole enchilada.



Photo by Diane Peterson

Who doesn't love motorcyclists who are willing to start a ride in the rain?

Our first objective was to get across the Willamette, a task we knew by heart. That was unnecessary, because we would soon cross back, as we made our way toward Newberg. But the reality is, at this time of year, we want to ride on roads as exposed as possible (we encountered snow on the pre-ride) and farm country is where the exposed roads are. We bypassed Newberg and Dundee and soon were wiping the moisture from our shields as we bombed down Webfoot Road near Dayton.

Low clouds and fog were all around. It was not going to let up. We descended through Hopewell, then abruptly banked to the west. It was hard throughout to count the bikes behind me and every time I craned my neck, I got a rush of cold and damp. But Spring Valley Road momentarily doubles back on Hopewell Road, which gave me a chance to stare down those behind me. There they were, five soggy motorcycles, check, check, check, check, check, check!

Onward we rode, through Perrydale, then south to OR-22. It was a bit of a shock to engage heavy traffic again, but it didn't last long, as we began our ascent north along Red Prairie Road. Red Prairie is the perfect cut-off to busy OR-18, scooting due north with a couple of tricky property line lefts and rights in the middle. Heavy traffic greeted us again, but we were soon to cross back into the hinterlands.

Not, however, before a well-earned break. A shout-out here to **Mark Strand**, who, after running errands with my route in mind, gave us a hearty wave as we passed on OR-18.



Photo by Diane Peterson

A lovely December ride along Champoeg Road.

We rarely miss a chance to enjoy a Dairy Queen—for obvious reasons—in the summer. But on this day, at this time, there was still nowhere we'd rather be. Because this DQ was warm. I mean, [radiant space heater](#) warm. Couple that with some makeshift hot chocolate (coffee with a dollop of ice cream), and it's a wonder we are not still there. But all good things must come to an end—especially when it gets dark at four-thirty. We geared up for the hour-long push to lunch.

Muddy Valley Road is a favorite of Diane's, for the llama ranch at its north end. Sure enough, there they were, herds of them, oblivious to the motorcycles in their midst. This is a particularly pretty stretch of Yamhill County, even on a day like today. The roads were in very good shape, if you don't count the occasional spray of corner gravel. We kept to the west of sprawling McMinnville, following Westside Road past Carlton into Yamhill.

Heading north now, on OR-47, the horizon continues to fool me. I see lighter skies and I think, *rain respite!* Then we get there and I realize it's only rain amidst fog. After three hours, it's getting old. But lunch is only twenty minutes away.

Part of my angst is our pace—I told the restaurant to expect us forty-five minutes ago. But the lunch crowd has left and there's plenty of room. Sitting at our long table are **Carol Dallas** and **Steve Miller**. We had been keeping them waiting as well, but they, too, didn't seem to mind. Soon we were free from our wet gear and telling stories of our weather bravado.





Photo by Diane Peterson

A warm stop along the way.

Coleman's Shady Rest is well-known among Oregon motorcyclists. With breakfast all day (a big favorite with me), they offer quality comfort food at the beginning or the end of a long day of riding. Today I sampled their Chile Verde soup, about which, my only complaint was, *the bowl was too small*. Diane was less enthused about her grilled ham and cheese sandwich, but around the room, the plates were empty. Service was great and the restaurant was warm. No one was in a hurry to bundle back up.

But alas, bundle up we must. It was past three-thirty and darkness would greet us soon. I had a few last minute zigs and zags to share, which only Justin/CJ, Chuck and Kyle indulged. Weather notwithstanding, it was a pretty good end to an excellent year of riding. It also closed the door on riding in the twenty-teens. We'll launch our 2020s riding on the first Saturday in January (the 4th). And continue our saga every first Saturday thereafter. Since 2014, we've only cancelled once (January 2017...#\$\$@&% snow!).

So come join us! We'd love to have you help us keep the dream alive!

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](mailto:dwpeterson01@yahoo.com).

<b>Total miles, December Ride:</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Total First Saturday miles – 2019:</b>	<b>3,843</b>



Thanks to all my soggy ridemates. A great end to another great year of FSRs!

Photo by Anonymous





## NEW MEMBERS

Kyle Emerson, Wilsonville, OR. . . . . 2016 Suzuki DL650  
Gregg McWilliams, Los Gatos, CA . . . . . 2005 BMW R1200GS  
Steven Carr, Newport, OR. . . . . 2016 BMW R1200GSA



## BYLAWS, POLICIES & GUIDELINES

These are located in the Documents section of our website:  
[www.bmwro.org](http://www.bmwro.org) and can be viewed by members who are logged in.

## BMWRO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### President:

Alice LeBarron, 541-647-7194  
[bmwro.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

### Vice President/ Activities:

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### Treasurer:

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### Webmaster:

(Position is currently vacant)

## BMWRO COORDINATORS

### Membership Coordinator

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### Newsletter Editor

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\*Submission date for the newsletter is  
the 14th (firm) of each month.

## Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

### Ambassadors for the four Regions are:

### Central Western Region

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

Clarence Story — 541-689-2822  
[ccstory@go-ducks.com](mailto:ccstory@go-ducks.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)

Neal Malagamba — 503-969-3220  
[n.malagamba@icloud.com](mailto: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](mailto:alicelebarron@hotmail.com)

### Southern Region

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

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

Mark Collier — 541-499-1395  
[mcollier5895@gmail.com](mailto: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



*Have a Safe, Adventurous &  
Happy New Year!*



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