



# Border Riders Newsletter

## July 2017

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## Welcome!

The Border Riders Motorcycle Club (BRMC) is an organized group of guys who like to ride and camp. Our membership spans the Pacific Northwest, with the greatest participation in Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver B.C. We have one of the largest memberships of gay clubs in North America, and welcome like-minded guests to join us on our monthly club events and local activities during the riding months. Check the main page of the website at [www.borderriders.com](http://www.borderriders.com) for additional information.

## June Recap

June was our club's second group ride and campout for this season. This year, we saw a return to the beautiful Pearrygin Lake in north central Washington, near the very cute town of Winthrop. The ride is a long-ass haul for those of us down in Oregon, taking around 7 to 8 hours, but totally worth it as the route up highway 97 is very enjoyable. This was perfect weather, which was appreciated by all (yeah, okay... there might have been a little rain on Thursday night and Friday morning riders, get over it). For the 23 guys who made it (with regrets from a couple of guys with last minute change of plans), it was all about good times with great people.



June 2017 BRMC Group Photo @ Pearrygin Lake, Washington

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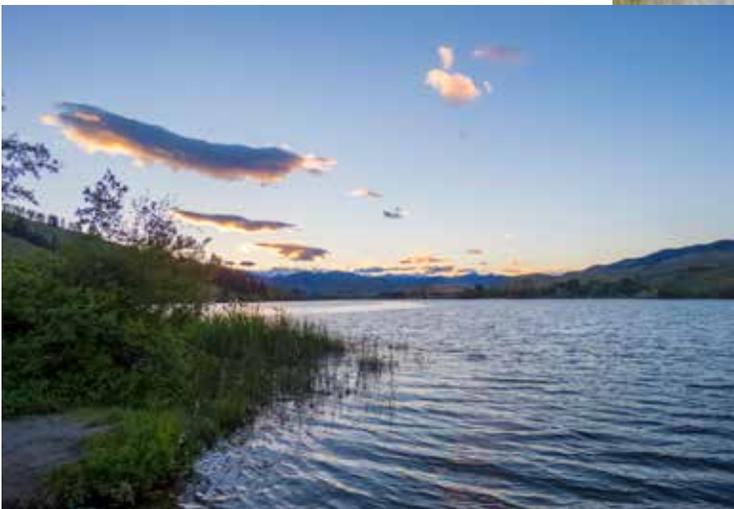
Most of us arrived by Friday. After setting up the tents and just hanging, it was chow-down time at the local pizza parlor. These guys did an amazing job with a continuous flow of excellent pizzas to keep us happy.



Saturday morning saw breakfast at the 3 Bears cafe in Winthrop. Excellent custom coffee with danish that couldn't be beat. Breakfast entrees were simple, but of the highest quality. Kudos to the staff who managed it all.



Sunset by the lake is awesome. Very peaceful, and away from the screaming crowd of RV'ers across the lake. Sitting around the campfire after a fine day of sightseeing or riding one of the many roads in the area is a perfect way to spend time with our brothers and guests.



Pearrygin Lake at dusk

Around the campfire



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## Local Ride Photos and More!



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## The President's Corner

Well, the 2017 run season is off and running. We are already heading into July. We started off the season with a successful Victoria Day where it seemed everyone had a good time.

The second run to Lake Pearrygin State Park was even better for me as I was able to actually relax. I had to work that Friday but managed to sneak out about 2:30 and pulled into camp just as everyone was headed out to dinner. So I turned around and brought up the rear. We had a great pizza feed and after dinner I headed back to camp to set up my tent. Friday morning most of us met for breakfast. After breakfast I headed back to camp and relaxed for the remainder of the morning. Several of us headed into town for a late lunch and to wander the streets. Then it was back to camp for the membership meeting and back to town for dinner. The weather was great and we had a nice campfire both nights.

Monday morning, Aaron M., Murph and myself headed back home over the North Cascade Highway. Part of the way up Washington Pass we ran into rain and we had a light rain most of the way home. It was chilly going over the pass. We stopped in Marblemount for breakfast and to thaw out, however, we quickly discovered that the restaurant was colder than it was outside. After we each consumed a large meal we headed on home with each of us going our separate ways once we reached I-5. The hot tub sure felt good once I got home!

The Seattle area day ride on June 4th had a good turnout. Thank you Dale and Tom for organizing it. The group met at the Edmonds Ferry terminal and took the ferry to Kingston. After having lunch the group spent the afternoon exploring the Kitsap Peninsula.

The Seattle area day ride for July is on July 2nd and will be meet at the Anacortes Ferry to catch the 9:35 sailing to Lopez Island. After exploring Lopez the group will then catch the ferry to Friday Harbor and spend the afternoon exploring San Juan Island. Buck took on the task of organizing this day ride.

I am really looking forward to the July run to Lake Shuswap at Scotch Creek, BC. It is a long ride up there. Hopefully there will be some warm weather unlike the ride a couple years ago when we rode up to Paul Lake. The ride up the Coquihalla Highway took forever due to road construction and it poured rain for much of the way. I have never been so wet while riding.

Keep the shiny side up!

Jeff Connor

## Road Captain Rumbings

Summer Is Here!! About damn time, too. Thank you everyone for the great time at Pearrygin Lake. The biggest downer was the best road to ride was closed due to a massive washout, oh well.

July's campout will be at Shuswap Lake in Scotch Creek British Columbia. I'm looking forward to this ride as members have wanted to go there for a while but it was hard to secure the site. The last time we were there was in 2013. It looks beautiful up there. Long ride for me, so I will be taking my time on this one and take a few days up and back.

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## Road Captain Rumbings - continued

While we just started the 2017 season, I'm working on the 2018 campsites and the votes are in. Since reservations are made 9 to 12 months in advance, I have to start on these right away. Thank you to everyone who voted; letting me know where you would like to go next year. Here are the winners:

- June - Milo McIver or Champoeg State Park close to Portland, Oregon
- July - Evans Group Camp Kettle Falls, Washington
- August - Goldstream or Paul Lake British Columbia, Canada
- September - Bear Hollow Park Fossil, Oregon

We are going to be in Portland Pride Parade in June next year on the Sunday after the campout, so we need to be close by. Two thirds of those who voted responded favorably to being in the parade. Since Fossil is by far the most liked site, I wanted to include it also.

Both Goldstream and Paul Lake came out on top for the BC runs. I will try to get Goldstream first and Paul Lake will be the backup if I can't secure Vancouver Island. Kettle Falls was the clear winner for Washington runs so that will be the first Washington camp I try for.

If any of the members are going to have day rides, let me know so I can alert everyone else. Thanks Buck for putting one together for the first weekend in July, it looks like a great ride.

Be safe and have fun.

Mark Brayford, 2017 Road Captain

## Pride Month

There has been much in the media recently about gay pride, the pride flag and racism. News that Philadelphia added black and brown to the flag to represent people of color. The following is an article written by former club historian Tom Schave that was printed in the July 2001 BRMC Club Newsletter. I thought with Pride Month having just concluded in Seattle and Portland areas and Pride celebration coming up in Vancouver that this article was worth printing again.

### History of Our Pride Flags

As you may or may not be aware, or even care, I have been writing a short historical article for the Newsletter. Not every month directly deals with the specific Club history, but may also include historical topics that relate to us as a gay men's motorcycle club. The "Bear Article" a couple months back comes to mind. This month I thought it might be interesting to do a short piece on the history of our flags. That is, the Pride Flag, the Leather Pride Flag, and the Bear Flag. I thought it might be kind of fitting it being close to the time of Gay Pride.



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Use of the Rainbow Flag by the gay community began in 1978 when it first appeared in the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. Borrowing symbolism from the hippie movement and black civil rights groups, San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker designed the rainbow flag in response to a need for a symbol that could be used year after year. Baker and thirty volunteers hand-stitched and hand-dyed two huge prototype flags for the parade. The flags had eight stripes, each color representing a component of the community: hot pink for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony, and violet for spirit.

The next year Baker approached the San Francisco Paramount Flag Company to mass produce rainbow flags for the 1979 parade. Due to production constraints – such as the fact that hot pink was not a commercially-available color – pink and turquoise were removed from the design and royal blue replace indigo. This six-color version spread from San Francisco to other cities, and soon became the widely-known symbol of gay pride and diversity it is today. It is even officially recognized by the International Congress of Flag Makers. In 1994, a huge 30-foot-wide by one-mile-long rainbow flag was carried by 10,000 people in New York’s Stonewall 25 Parade.

The Leather Pride Flag is a symbol for the leather community, which encompasses those who are into leather, Levi’s, Sado-Masochism, bondage and domination, uniforms, cowboys, rubber, motorcycles, and other fetishes. The flag was created by artist Tony DeBlase and first displayed on May 28, 1989, at the Mr. Leather contest in Chicago. Although the flag is often common in the gay community, it is not a “gay-only” symbol. And although Tony has since passed the Leather Pride Flag continues to be a symbol of pride by a large and diverse part of our community.



The International Bear Brotherhood Flag was created by Craig Byrnes in 1995, and its design represents the fur colors and nationalities of bears throughout the world. A symbol used by many bears and cubs alike. There are other symbols and flags that represent bears which are used by local clubs, bars, and other bear groups.



As this concludes this month’s Historian’s report, I hope you found the history of the flags interesting and maybe a little insightful. I found researching the flags rather fascinating.

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## Birthdays

We have 11 members with birthdays this month!

Please take a moment to wish them a great day.

Hugh	de Souza	05-Jul
David	Farrel	10-Jul
Scott	Grimes	04-Jul
Kerry	Kozuki	23-Jul
Chris	Livingston	05-Jul

Marc L	Lorrain	09-Jul
John	McLellan	06-Jul
André	Pruitt	21-Jul
Ryan	Santos	24-Jul
Dan	Sweer	26-Jul
Jeremy	Wyatt	24-Jul

## Calendar

- July 14-16 Shuswap Lake Provincial Park, Scotch Creek, BC
- August 18-21 Stayton, OR - under the eclipse!
- September 15-17 Larrabee State Park, Bellingham, WA

## Meet & Greets

Every month, BRMC members will be available for new and returning guys to connect and learn more about the club and opportunities to participate. If you are interested, check out the following locations and time. Also, in addition to the club's monthly runs, local rides are organized, weather permitting. To learn more, email the ride captain for specific details at [captain@borderriders.com](mailto:captain@borderriders.com).

Portland:

- Meet & Greet - July 4th @ 7pm, The Portland Eagle
- Local Ride - The Saturday after the Meet & Greet. To be announced at the Meet & Greet.

Seattle:

- Meet & Greet - July 12th @ 7pm, The Cuff
- Local Ride - July 2nd - meet at the Anacortes Ferry to catch the 9:35 sailing to Lopez Island.

## Send Us Your Photos

The website has a place for our registered members and guests to easily upload photos you might take on day rides or trips. You can also easily upload photos directly from your smartphone. If you have a large number of photos or videos let us know and we can provide an easier process. You can also send photos to [news@borderriders.com](mailto:news@borderriders.com).

## Contributions

Trip plans, day rides, other member news? When you get out riding send some photos and tell us about what you did. We would love to add it to the newsletter.

