

BRMC NEWS – August 2015

Local Ride Activities

British Columbia: Vancouver/Lower mainland - Contact Brian B. for possible day rides bbeacham@telsu.net

Seattle: August 12 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Cuff

Portland: August 4 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Portland Eagle, meeting and event planning
August 9 – Local day ride

Dry Falls Weekend Recap

The weather forecast was HOT and dry, no campfires, but a stiff breeze that lasted most of Friday night. Members and guests arrived at Dry Falls for the July camping weekend and set up tents and set the stakes firmly.

Mark tried to cover his bike and the wind kept working the cover off. He posed as Priscilla Queen of Dry Falls.



Once people arrived we all decided to go into Coulee City for dinner. The Last Stand provided good food and great service to those who had arrived on time.

Once we returned to camp Mark explained the day rides and other options for Saturday.

Our propane “campfire” was permitted and became the focal point for the evening social time. The sky was very clear and we all watched the stars and talked about our adventures.



On Saturday riders broke into a variety of small groups for day rides, swimming, or hanging around camp.

The reports that came back spoke of exciting roads and outstanding scenery.





We had decided to attend the laser light show on the face of Grand Coulee Dam Saturday night – so a reservation was made at a restaurant in Grand Coulee and the group set out about 6 PM with some people opting to ride in the support vehicle.

After dinner we held the short business meeting and took the group photo below.



The light show turned out to somewhat of a bust as a technical problem with the dam prevented them from running water over all of the spillway. Projecting on the black-painted dam was a bit less than impressive.



Saturday was less breezy and the air was very clear for another night of star watching and social time around the “campfire”.

Sunday morning as people packed Don commented that you don't have to carry that much gear to one of our camps. Everything he needed was in his backpack with the tent hanging off. He even had an extra pair of jeans he did not need. We think he also took home some additional rocks.

Small groups headed off to breakfast and their various ways home. Our feedback survey showed that the weekend was a great success and everyone had a great time.



From the Handlebars of the President

Thanks to the members and guests who went by way of Entiat and camped Thursday night before the Dry Falls weekend. The new city park has nice showers that we will use next May when attending Victoria Day. I can't say much positive about the tent camping area and their placement of irrigation that sprays water on the tents all night.



The purpose of going early was to move the contents of our storage locker to a larger space. The small space (left) we had previously just took too much time to stack orderly.

Our new space (right) will allow us to more quickly load and unload the truck.

We are still saving a considerable amount over the cost of the storage locker in Seattle and the access is much more direct. Overall this will make Victoria Day logistics easier.

In my years with the Border Riders I have always attended the camps on my motorcycle. With my bike in the shop and pending knee surgery I was forced into taking the truck and acting as the support vehicle for the July camp. I have a renewed respect for the members who take on the responsibility of support vehicle. We need a four-wheeler to be available for emergencies and to carry water or other camp items. With the current fire bans that has included our propane "campfire" which has been working well.

The truck also allowed me to take our broken canopy back to Portland and I have received the replacement parts to fix the broken and bent legs.



The downside with the truck is the fun you miss on the ride to and from camp and the Saturday day rides. Tom Curley did a bit of "off road" exploring with me when we took the truck back along a very unpaved road to the lake at the bottom of the coulee that you can see from the visitor's center. It was fun to see the coulee from the bottom.

We discussed the opportunity to skinny dip in the lake and Tom went to wade in the water to see how warm it was. The fact that the muddy edge was very steep caused to him explore the lake a bit more quickly than expected. He emerged full of mud and was not about to sit on the leather seats.....so the skinny dipping occurred in the truck back to camp where he could rinse out his clothes.

The Dry Falls weekend was not well attended, but those who went experienced a very positive group dynamic at the two dinners and sitting around the "campfire". The chance to spend quality time with like-minded bikers is a cornerstone of the Border Riders experience. The smaller group enhanced that experience at this camp.

We hope you will join us at the upcoming events and share in the camaraderie that is BRMC.

Dave Eckert, 2015 President

2015 Schedule

August 14-16 Paul Lake – Kamloops, BC
Sept 18-20 Kanaskat-Palmer State Park - Enumclaw, WA
October 23-25 Silver Falls State Park – Salem, OR (note this is the fourth weekend)
November 21 Club meeting – TBD
December 12 Holiday party – TBD

Don't want to camp? There are motel options for each of our weekend runs. Contact the Road Captain for more information.

Birthday Men

We have these members with August Birthdays. Take a moment to wish them a great day.
Buck Wise and Jim Wolfe (Aug 14); Jack Osterberg (August 26)

Road Captain Rumbings

Thank you everyone for an awesome run at Dry Falls in Coulee City. It was hot and there was not much shade, but I had a great time with my brothers. Though there were not many of us, it made for some great socializing and that's my favorite part. The night sky was beautiful as we sat around our little campfire. Seeing the Iridium Satellite flare was spectacular.

I was really happy to see that the day rides on Saturday were more spontaneous. I don't think any of us did one of the planned rides. Many of us opted for more swim time, not surprising given the heat. I was able to ride with members that I have not before and that was really fun.

I'm really looking forward to Paul Lake in Kamloops. I love the Canada trips as I get to do more riding. More information will be coming soon, so look for my emails.

I'm going to try something a little different for this run and welcome any feedback from the club. When I send out run information about a week before, I'm going to include the Saturday day runs. This will give members a chance to look over them and pass along any information they might have about the routes.

I'm in the process of securing next year's sites. I already have Enterprise in June booked and will be reserving Shuswap this month. I will keep everyone informed on the 2016 run progress.

Keep safe and see you soon.

Mark Brayford, Road Captain 2015

Motorcycle Rider Signals

We are all familiar with the standard group riding hand signals. There are also a few "non-standard" such as tapping the top of the helmet which is often taken as "police ahead" or some variation of a signal to indicate hot man in the car or on the side of the road.

One signal I was not aware of is to use your helmet, by placing it on the ground near your motorcycle's front tire, as a distress ("I need help!") signal. It turns out that apparently less than half of motorcyclists have ever heard of it. Why bother? Who needs it? Why not just flag down passing motorists?

How many times have you passed a motorcycle stopped at the side of the road? Did you stop and see if they needed help? The problem is that when you see a biker on the side of the road you don't always know if they are taking a photo, taking a piss, or in need of help. If you were driving a car and a biker tried to wave you down would you stop for him? (I mean, if you weren't already a biker and didn't SEE something that confirmed that they were in trouble - like lots of blood.)

Say, for example, that you get light headed and need to stop your bike. If you can get your helmet onto the ground next to the front wheel you can then lie down and sooner or later you are going to get help. You are unlikely to be able to safely wave down passing cars. Or, say you simply run out of gasoline. Sooner or later you are going to get help with this signal.

So pass this along as another signal that helps you know if a biker needs help, or is just adjusting his gear.

Register for the Paul Lake Camping Weekend

BRMC August Camping Run

August 14-16

Paul Lake Provincial Campground, Kamloops, BC



This campsite is located 375 km or 4 hours from Vancouver, BC; 300 miles or 5 hours from Seattle; and 475 miles or 8 hours from Portland. Our OR riders might plan on making this a two day ride.



Border Riders camped at Paul Lake in June of 2011. The group campsite has a large grassy area and a covered shelter. It is located across the lake from the public area where showers are available.

Day rides will include both loop rides with great scenery and some fun destinations. A list of food options will be available and riders will organize meals on their own.

Camp fee is \$20 for members and \$30 for guests. If you do not have an account on the web site please contact a member or the road captain to be sponsored for this event.

This is a MOTORCYCLE ONLY camping weekend. If you need to come by car please contact the road captain at captain@borderriders.com

Send Us Your Photos

The website has a place for our registered members and guests to easily upload photos from the camping weekends as well as 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.

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.

New Members

Border Riders welcomes guests to ride with us without becoming an official member. We have some guests who have ridden with us a long time, but are not interested in being more active.

If you do have an interest in becoming an official member you may be sponsored for membership after riding with us for at least a year. Talk to any member about the benefits of becoming a member.

