

BRMC GUEST NEWS – December 2013

Local Ride Activities

British Columbia: Vancouver Island – Members and other riders meet Sundays at 10:30 at Moka House Coffee, Cook St. Village, 345 Cook Street, Victoria, BC

Seattle: December 1 – Planned Day ride – Email will go to Seattle area riders
December 11 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Cuff

Portland: December 3 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Portland Eagle, meeting and event planning
December 7 – Annual Toy Run - information will be emailed

November Meeting

Our November meeting was an important business meeting as we needed a quorum of voting members to finalize some previous business. Motions from a few past meetings were approved and the participants for the waiver and membership committees were announced. Officer and new member nominations were accepted. The justification and process for upcoming registrations was discussed and members are encouraged to make suggestions as the process is refined. Members are encouraged to read the full set of minutes which are posted to the members-only website.

From the handlebars of the President

Andrew and Brad were wonderful hosts that opened their home and even accommodated overnight travelers to at our November meeting in Mission, BC. Our sincerest gratitude goes to you both for such a wonderful evening. Next month we will be having our December meeting in Bow Hill, WA, at the home of Richard and Chris. They have always made our holiday meetings fun and we expecting it to be great again. As in the past we have the white elephant gift exchange that has always been entertaining. The gift guideline should be a cost of about \$10, but the value could be limitless ;-)

This gathering is a member's only function and registration is not on the public site. If members have guests that wish to come, you will need to register them.

The bylaws state that officer nominations may be presented at the December meeting, so we will be taking roll call for attendance as well.

At our November meeting, I expressed my intention to run as club president for 2014, but after hearing Brian Beacham's acceptance for club president nomination, I was relieved. Therefore, I am rescinding my name for the 2014 club president. I've known Brian since the 2007 Victoria Day weekend and have been able to get to know him as such an incredible, dynamic, and an integral honest man. He has served our club as Treasurer and I know he will be an exceptional leader. I fully support and recommend Brian's candidacy <hugs>.

So don your festive spirit and I hope to see you in a couple weeks.....'Cause without you, it's just not the same ;{D

Birthday Men

This month we have the following men with December birthdays. Take a moment to wish them a Happy Birthday. Richard A (Dec); Peter L (Dec 2nd); Andy H (Dec 9th); Ty M (Dec 16th); Collin F (Dec 25th)

Holiday Party Information

Registration is on the Border Riders Members only website for the Holiday party. It will be held in Burlington, WA on Saturday evening December 14th. The dinner price is \$20. Because guests do not have access to this website they will need to contact a member to be sponsored for the meeting. **Registration closes at 9 PM on December 9.**

Move Up To NEXUS

Thanks to Jeff B for this article.

I'm here to tell you about the best fifty bucks you can possibly spend. It's for the five-year NEXUS card that gives you expedited treatment when crossing between Canada and the US.

Negotiating the international boundary is a way of life for Border Riders. For a typical annual mix of runs and meetings, US members may have six to eight border crossings in a year. That goes up to sixteen or eighteen for Canadian members. That's a lot of time in line, pushing your bike up to the border. NEXUS saves you from that.

To get a NEXUS card you must be either a US or Canadian citizen and reside in either the US or Canada. Before you get started read about the NEXUS program from the perspective of your own country: Canadian:

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/nexus/> or

US: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/trusted_traveler/nexus_prog/nexus.xml

You start by setting up an account in the Global Online Enrollment System (GOES). GOES is where you make your NEXUS application, pay your \$50 application fee, and monitor the status of your application. In four to six weeks, you'll receive an e-mail inviting you to schedule an in-person interview. There are a number of locations for this, but go to a fun one like at Boeing Field or Vancouver Airport. At the interview, the agent will look you over, give you the third degree and, if you pass, take your picture and issue your NEXUS card. It's not really as daunting as it sounds. Just be pleasant, business like and roll with it. Attitude will get you nowhere.

Here's how it works. If everyone in your vehicle has a current NEXUS card, you bypass all the other vehicles waiting in line and take the NEXUS lane up to the border crossing. You'll find NEXUS lanes at Peach Arch, Pacific Highway (the "truck crossing"), and Sumas. Once you get the green light, pull forward and hold all the cards up to the proximity card reader. Then drive up to the inspection booth where the border agent will briefly ask some questions and then send you on your way. Simple as that.

What I've described here is the bare bones aspect of the program that will get you back and forth between BC and Washington State. There's a lot more to the program like the 16 other crossing points along the length of the international boundary and how you can get your iris scanned to expedite international travel at airports.

This is a great privilege and with it comes the obligation to know and observe the rules that govern the NEXUS program. These have to do with the use of the card and the kind of goods you can bring across, taking care to declare them if their value exceeds your allowance. Cool stuff. But remember it's a privilege that can be revoked. Don't mess with it. This is not difficult but failing to comply can cause you to lose your NEXUS privileges. Bummer. Back in line with the hoi polloi, pushing your bike up to the gate.

Because everyone in the group needs to have a NEXUS you may want to encourage those you regularly ride with to get the pass. Do it now - so you have it for your next trip over the border.

Officer Nominations for 2014

The following people have been nominated for Board positions for 2014. Any active member may run for any board position, but nominations must be finalized soon so that the ballots may be prepared and mailed to eligible voting members. Ballots may be returned by mail or in person at the Annual General meeting in January.

President: David Failing; Brian Beacham
Vice President: Collin Fellows
Secretary: Jeff Connor; Buck Wise
Treasurer: Dale Conley
Road Captain: Dave Eckert

Upcoming Schedule for 2014

January 18	Annual General Meeting, Cuff in Seattle
February 15	Annual Banquet, Vancouver BC
March 15	Club meeting in Vancouver, WA
April 19	Club meeting in Oakville, WA
May 16-19	Victoria Day Camping Run, Ardenvoir, WA
June 20-22	Pearrygin Lake near Winthrop, WA
July 18-20	Canal Creek near Waldport, OR
August 15-17	Willows near Lillooet, BC
Sept 19-21	TBD
October 18	Club meeting – TBD
November 15	Club meeting – TBD
December 13	Holiday Party - TBD

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.

Member Activities

Toys for Tots

Portland area riders will join thousands of other bikers for the annual Toys for Tots ride on Saturday December 7th. Details will be discussed at the December meet and greet and then emailed to local riders. If there are riders from other geographies that would like to participate let us know so we can email you the information as it is decided.

Riding to Alaska

Don from North Carolina is traveling cross country next summer (2014) and looking for someone who wants to continue on to Alaska with him. The route and dates are all TBD. If you have an interest contact captain@borderriders.com to be put in touch with him. Sounds like a fun opportunity.

How to become a Border Rider member

The Border Riders Motorcycle club is the largest and one of the oldest gay motorcycle clubs in North America. Founded in 1969 it currently has over 70 members primarily from Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia. The club provides social and educational opportunities for our members and guests interested in recreational motorcycle touring. Our diverse, international membership is composed of both seasoned riders and beginners, and we come from all walks of life and professions.

We also accept all types of bikes. Our members ride a variety of makes and models ranging from sport to touring motorcycles, and we welcome any motorcycle capable of sustained highway speeds. This is about riding and group camaraderie rather than motorcycle brand. The commonality that binds us is the love of motorcycling and the enjoyment that comes from touring some of the best roads for motorcycling in Canada and the USA—all in a spirit of friendship and safety.

In the off season, we do monthly meeting and look for social activities to keep people involved. These meeting are open to members and invited guests.

We are happy to have guests ride with us as often as they want. Many riders cannot commit to the time and expense of attending most of the monthly events – summer and winter. We encourage guests to participate in any way that makes sense for them.

If you are able to really participate in the club we encourage you to consider becoming a member. Riders who have ridden with the club for a year may be sponsored by a member. Ask any member about the responsibilities of being a member and if they would be willing to sponsor you. Your sponsor will work with you to submit a photo and short bio which will be posted on our private website. Members will be informed of your desire to be a member and you are encouraged to be sure that other members get to know you. At our general meeting in January club members vote privately on prospective members. Accepted members receive their colors at a ceremony at our annual Banquet in February.

