

## BRMC GUEST NEWS – March 2016

### Local Ride Activities

In addition to the overall club activities each of the local geographies may have events during the month. Check the main page of the website at [www.borderriders.com](http://www.borderriders.com) for listings and additional details. February lists some motorcycle shows as well as member activities.

### Anniversary Banquet

BRMC was founded in 1969 at a time when it was difficult to be gay. The charter members created a group of like-minded individuals who wanted to ride motorcycles, camp, and create a family community. Some of them had been rejected by their families, and certainly by society. They had to find private campsites, they never published last names. But they created a brotherhood that has stood the test of time. Other similar groups across the country were also formed. Some remain, and some have ended as the world changed. And my how times have changed.

You can now get married in any state in the US and Canada. In most places you can be out and accepted. Being gay is not to be ashamed. Border Riders has also changed in order to stay relevant in today's changing society. We need to address the needs of today's gay motorcyclist. But we also need to maintain important traditions that give the club structure. Our annual Anniversary Banquet is part of that tradition. We look back on the past year and beyond to recognize the accomplishments of our members. We look forward by welcoming new members and a new board. And we celebrate the brotherhood by sharing a meal together.

We welcomed four new members:



Troy Allen  
Sponsor: Tom Curley



Dave Hofeld  
Jeff Booth



Dennis Hummel  
Dale Conley



Dave Jackson  
Mark Brayford

Board Members for 2016



Dan Sweer, Vice Pres



John Dunn, Secretary



Jeff Connor, Treasurer



Mark Brayford, Road Captain

We awarded service bars to Terry Bartlett, Dale Conley, Del Crane, and Fred Pfaff for five years of membership. Randy Weisheit received his ten year membership bar. Bars for twenty years of membership were awarded to Jeff Booth and Iain MacIntyre.



The award for 2016 High Mileage went to Terry Bartlett. Rider of the year was presented to Jeff Booth.



And a special award for traveling to the wrong campground in July went to Tom Curley.



We want to give a very special thanks to Jeff Booth for the banquet arrangements. It takes careful planning to make these events happen. Most of you know that measured sense of order and how easy it is to work with Jeff as he makes the BRMC events look like they just happen as if by magic. The dinner provided a wonderful opportunity to share the brotherhood that is BRMC.



Some of the members also went to Jubitz for breakfast on Sunday morning.





**BRMC Anniversary Banquet  
Portland, OR  
February 20, 2016**

**From the Handlebars of the President**

Last month my partner and I went on vacation to Palm Springs to get some sun and remove the moss from our toes. We had lunch with a past Seattle BRMC member and his partner who explained how glad they were to have moved south and about the community they have found there. Robby and I talked briefly about that at home; how the economics were again in our favor; and what it might be like to go south. On a whim we put our house on Zillow with a “make me sell” price which was high, but fair. To our amazement within hours we had a full price offer that we had to consider. What had we done?

We drove to Palm Springs, stayed with our BRMC friends and contacted a realtor. We drove past dozens of houses as we crossed them off our list, looked at some dreadful properties, and found a house we liked. We made our decision - accepted the offer in Portland and electronically signed the papers on the new house as we drove back home. We are moving to Cathedral City, CA in late March.

My participation with Border Riders was a hard part of that decision to leave the Northwest. Over the years I have made some great friends, done some great rides, and enjoyed the brotherhood that is BRMC. I plan to continue as a member and help in whatever ways possible. I will come attend some events, but it is 1100 miles back to Portland. It is not reasonable for me to continue as President – so I will be working with the club and the board to find a way to transition. I plan to continue to manage the website. With Internet, phone, and email I will keep in touch until I see you at Victoria Day in May. I won't be going by way of Spokane, but I am sure to find a way to make the trip up and avoid I-5.

Dave Eckert, President 2016 (for now)

## Road Captain Rumblings

It's getting warmer and a little dryer, so I hope everyone is trying to get out on the road some. I've been on a few short rides myself to make sure the bikes are running well. Now is a great time to do your safety inspections in case you have some work to be done that will take a while. Get your bikes into the shop before your mechanic is too busy!

Just before the start of a riding season, I look hard at my tires, especially since the bikes have been sitting some during the winter. Here are a couple links to buying tires that I like. As always, our brothers are usually the best resource for anything bike-related so I encourage you to ask one another. I learned early with this awesome group of guys that no questions are stupid.

<http://www.revzilla.com/common-tread/motorcycle-tires-101-guide>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvfjkN4INus>

Safety is also key, so look at your lights to make sure they are bright and adjusted well. Don't forget your horn too. Last year I purchased an air horn for my Honda and love it and everyone will hear it. SUPER LOUD Stebel Nautilus Compact Twin Air Horn; Universal for Cars, Trucks, Boats, ATVS, Motorcycles and Scooters. I got it on Amazon and it sells for about \$34.00.

I came across this article about visibility and motorcycles. It might be an interesting read for you.

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/cars/motorcycles/a19641/why-you-dont-see-motorcycles-on-the-road/>

Take care and see you soon.

Mark Brayford, Road Captain 2016

## Register for the March Club meeting

### Seattle: March 19, 2016

As we begin our next riding season there is a lot of work to be done. The March and April meetings will devote time to club business, Victoria Day and other event planning, and lots of social time.

Our Border Riders March meeting is hosted by John Dunn in Seattle. The dinner fee is \$16 for members and guests. Upon registration you will receive an informational email with directions and other useful information.

You may arrive any time after 4 PM on Saturday the 19th. We will have social time until 5:00 PM when we start the club meeting. A group photo and dinner will follow with additional time to socialize. Dinner will consist of Roast chicken, wild rice, veggies, salad, and vegetarian lasagna.

Registration closes at 9 PM on TUESDAY March 15 so we can get a headcount for food. No refunds after close.

Guests who do not have an account on the BRMC website should contact a member to be sponsored if they wish to attend the club meeting.

## Planning for Victoria Day in May

by Jeff Booth

When people ask me about the Border Riders, I'm always so excited to tell them about Victoria Day and how a bunch of gay bikers pitch in to transform a remote forest service campground with nothing more than a hand water pump and a fire ring into a one of the most unique campouts around. I tell them about the wonderful riding in beautiful wide-open central Washington, about the delicious meals we prepare and the great times we have around the campfire renewing ties with old friends and meeting new ones. This is the BRMC at its best and I am always so proud to tell people about it.

This year I'm doubly excited about Victoria Day 2016. As you know, last year the Club did a lot of work to move all the club storage, rentals and shopping from Seattle to the Wenatchee/Entiat area. Not only did this save us money and simplify the logistics but it opened up significant new opportunities for FUN.

Our weekend officially starts on Friday, but for the past few years many participants have arrived Thursday. I am looking forward to planning a Thursday evening LOAD-OUT DINNER in Entiat. Now that the storage locker is in Entiat we can meet the truck at the locker late Thursday afternoon, load it (takes about half an hour depending on the number of hands), and then head to one of the fine dining establishments in Entiat for dinner.

And, how about Friday morning EAT BEFORE YOU SHOP BREAKFAST in Wenatchee? Before we begin food shopping at Costco and Safeway in Wenatchee lets go for breakfast at Jimmy's Diner just around the corner from Costco. Remember this: you should never go food shopping on an empty stomach!

Now that we have the rental company delivering and picking up the grill, tables, and chairs we can be a bit more leisurely about packing up on Sunday. So please plan to stay Sunday to participate in a SUNDAY GROUP RIDE TO GROUSE CREEK after our memorial tree remembrance that morning. And, to my thinking, Sunday night around the campfire is the finest night in the Border Rider's year. You should certainly plan on staying Sunday night.

Finally, Monday morning join in the satisfaction of buttoning up the weekend with a drop off of leftover food and supplies at the ENTIAT FOOD BANK and then unloading the truck at the locker in Entiat. Through our relationship with May Selig and the other folks at the food bank we've built a really nice bridge into the Entiat community. There are no words to describe how nice it is to put everything away in the locker in Entiat and just head for home – with no further duties of unloading in Seattle.

You can see we have a fun and busy weekend that runs from Thursday through Monday, May 19 - 23! Plan now to be a part of all of it! Sit down with your calendar and block out the time. Put in that vacation request. And, invite your non-riding friends. This is their best opportunity to enjoy BRMC hospitality in the great outdoors.

Stay tuned for more Victoria Day weekend information and planning at the March meeting in Seattle!

## Upcoming Schedule

March 19	Club Meeting – Seattle, WA
April 16	Club Meeting – Oakville, WA
May 20-23	Victoria Day Weekend Camp, WA
June 17-19	Enterprise, OR
July 15-17	Lake Sylvia, Montesano, WA
August 19-21	EC Manning Park, BC
September 16-18	Potholes State Park in Othello WA
October 15	Club Meeting
November 19	Club Meeting
December 10	Holiday Party

## **Birthday Men**

We have four members with March Birthdays. Take a moment to wish them a great day.  
Doug Hutchinson (March 1); Randy Tjaden (March 3); Dave Hofeld (March 9); and Pat Thompson (March 13)

## **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.

## **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.