

## BRMC GUEST NEWS – October 2014

### 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:** October 5 – Day ride, local riders will get an email  
October 15 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Cuff

**Portland:** October 7 – Meet and Greet, 7 PM Portland Eagle, meeting and event planning  
October 12 – Day ride - information will be emailed to local riders in advance

### September Lewis and Clark Camp

Outstanding September weather greeted about 25 members and guests at Lewis and Clark State Park for our final camping weekend of the season. Riders appeared Friday afternoon, with a few coming in late Friday evening. The campsite had a nice covered space with lots of tables. That gave us a place to meet and socialize as again we had no campfire.

On Saturday the group split into small groups and went on various day rides.



Member Mark B and guest Dennis H headed to Windy Ridge on the east side of Mount Saint Helens.



Guests Ken D and Troy A set out for Johnson Ridge on the west side of the same mountain, but neglected to take any photos.

Two groups headed to Mt Rainier National Park:



Guests Dave P and Blue B went west to east through the park.





Members Dave E and Pat T did the park east to west.

No, The two groups never did see each other.

Stan C led the largest group of members and guests that included Andy, Dale, Jose, David, James, and Steve. They took a loop to the coast where they stopped for a photo.



Everyone made it back to camp in the afternoon where other members joined us for the club meeting.

Following the group photo the campers headed off to a (somewhat less than adequate) dinner. Our experience with these group dinners over this summer has ranged from spectacular good to spectacular bad.



Back at camp the social time continued, blessed by a warm dry evening.

A few of the campers commented this was the best run of the season and they had wonderful day rides.



## Lewis and Clark State Park - September 20, 2014

### Upcoming Schedule

October 18	Club meeting – Vancouver, WA
November 15	Club meeting – Mission, BC
December 13	Holiday Party – Mount Vernon, WA
January 17	Annual General Meeting – Seattle
February 21	Anniversary Banquet – Seattle
March 21	Club meeting – TBD
April 18	Club meeting – TBD
May 15-18	Victoria Day Weekend Camp - Pine Flats, WA
June 19-21	Bear Hollow Camp – Fossil, OR
July 17-19	Steamboat Rock – Coulee City, WA (proposed)
August 14-16	Paul Lake – Kamloops, BC
Sept 18-20	Deception Pass – Oak Harbor, WA

### Birthday Men

Here are the members with October Birthdays. Take a moment to wish them a great day.  
Dusty E (October 10); Randy W (October 24); Dave E (October 30)

### Registration for the October Club Meeting

Our October meeting is hosted by Scott H at his house in Vancouver, WA on Saturday night October 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Registration price for dinner is \$18 for Members or guests. Based on past experience the food should be great.

**Guests do not have access to this registration. We encourage you to attend by contacting a member and asking them to sponsor and register you.**

Following registration you will receive an email with directions and additional information. We hope to see lots of members and guests attending for the evening. **Registration closes at 9 PM on Wednesday October 15**

## From the handlebars of the President

Gentlemen,

Thanks to everyone that attended the September camp-out in Lewis and Clarke State Park in Washington. I was only able to attend the campsite for a couple of hours and then the dinner then back to Vancouver first thing Sunday morning. From what I have gathered, it was a pretty good time.

The minutes from the previous meetings were not approved. We have set them aside for the October meeting, where hope that you will all be able to attend.

As I stated in the last newsletter and at the September meeting we are circulating a survey through SurveyMonkey about cars at the campouts. We really need your feedback on this issue, if you have already responded then thank you, and I will be sending out reminders to those that have not.

I will be preparing the results and then will share this feedback with you all.

At the meeting I mentioned again that we have our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the next couple of years, and we want this to be a big event inviting other clubs from the US and Canada and definitely all our past members. If you are interested in participating in the preparation of this event please let me know.

Don't forget that nominations for the new members for 2015 are coming up and members who are considering sponsoring a guest for membership should be explaining the club expectations and responsibilities of membership. Sponsors should have sent a photo and short biography to the webmaster. As a reminder to everyone, proposed new members are voted into the club at the AGM in January, by the eligible voting members and are presented with their colours at the Anniversary Dinner in February if they are successful.

I mentioned this at the September meeting and I would like to encourage you all to consider being a member of the BRMC Board. Just because the current members are doing a great job does not mean that you would not be able to contribute in some way to the club. It is an amazing experience and you get to meet everyone within the club, members and guests, and I would definitely encourage anyone interested to nominate for any of the Board positions.

As a suggestion to the members, if you have a question or problem that you are trying to resolve please contact any of the board members directly.

I look forward to seeing you at the October meeting.

Remember this is YOUR Club, run by the members for the members.

Cheers

Brian Beacham

BRMC President 2014

## Tips on Avoiding Distracted Drivers

There is still some great riding weather left this year, but as the cooler (and perhaps wetter) weather appears you may need to pay extra attention to those drivers on their cell phones.

We motorcyclists have our ways to communicate with each other, but we only make up a small percentage of roadway users so not everyone knows what our hand signals mean. Even if they did know what our hand signals meant, they might not be aware that there are many times that we cannot remove our hands from the handlebars because one hand is operating the clutch while and the other hand the brake.

Communicating with drivers from your motorcycle is kind of like playing a really dangerous game of charades...with a hand or two tied behind your back. You can't use words, you have a very limited amount of time, and you're left pretty much with gestures and maybe your facial expressions if you wear an open face helmet. The drivers get to guess what message you're trying to convey or where you're trying to go, only instead of playing for points you're just trying not to get run over. Giving them the finger when they do something stupid makes you feel good, but it does not really help keep you safe.

You should use all of the tools at your disposal to communicate your moves. For instance, when you use your left turn signal, also indicate the turn with your hand. Of course, you need that hand to operate the clutch, but the additional movement may aid in catching the attention of the person who may not have noticed my turn signal flashing. For a right turn, use your left arm out with a bend at the elbow and hand pointed up. Use only two fingers up or make a fist to ensure no one thinks you are waving.

If you need to stop, consider flashing your brake lights with your right hand to get the attention of that driver behind you. We do know of Border Rider members who have been rear-ended by inattentive drivers. Always plan for an escape route in the event another vehicle does not see you.

One of the most important things to remember when communicating with other cars is to make eye contact with the driver of the other vehicle. Even after making eye contact do not assume that the other driver understands your intentions. Because motorcycle riding is defensive driving at its finest always assume that the driver does not understand. Watch the person's actions. Even though they nodded and indicated that you should go, proceed slowly, watching that person's actions and preparing to give up the right of way if necessary.

When following a car or truck keep to the left side of the lane so you are highly visible in their side mirror. Avoid getting into their blind spots.

While we do not expect car drivers to violate our right of way and we should not accept distracted driving as the norm, in order to prevent a crash from occurring we should do all that we can to keep that from occurring. Making yourself visible, staying out of driver's blind spots, exercising patience, preparing to give up your right of way if needed are all ways that we can keep our motorcycles upright and ourselves out of harm's way.

Let's all enjoy the fall weather safely.

## Member Activities and Rides



### Seattle

Member Dale C and guests James and Kasey joined the Patriot Ride on September 14.



September 28 was the Oyster Run to Anacortes, WA. Several members including Dale C and Terry B made the ride, as well as guests from both Seattle and BC.

### Portland

The Portland area September day ride began at the Industrial café with a dozen members and guests. A few just joined for breakfast and the rest headed out US-30 and OR-202 to meet Bill and Jack in Olney for lunch. They then crossed the bridge into WA and returned via WA-4 and the bridge back to US-30.



## 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.

