



# Border Riders Newsletter

October 1, 2016

## 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.

## Potholes State Park, Washington - Recap:



### BRMC Group Photo - Potholes State Park, Washington, September 17th, 2016

The ride to Potholes State Park in Central Washington isn't a difficult one, but one group from Seattle decided they needed something more interesting than using I-90 to get there. Instead, they got off of I-90 whenever they could to take portions of the old US Highway 10 and other back roads that gave them a much less congested and more interesting ride across the Cascades to the park.

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Once we all got to the park, we found a campground that was very private, surrounded by shady poplar trees and near a creek crashing over the rocky landscape into the Potholes reservoir. Adjacent to the camp site the park provided nice cabins for those of us who were not inclined to use tents. The contrast between the green park, and the surrounding sage covered landscape was striking.

Mike's Place provided good dining nearby where the club met for dinner on both Friday and Saturday evening. The weather on Friday was good enough for the group to eat

outside on the patio.

On this trip there were not able to we did have our had flames gather for Friday and

On Saturday ride on a long Odessa and country roads that irrigated farming where the smells of mint, even cow poop kept them they got into dry land farming where around the twisty country roads.

Another group took a route north to Grand Coulee Dam. This ride took them through many different landscapes much different from the farmlands described above. The route took them past the amazing basalt cliffs of the Coulees, and reservoirs created by the irrigation systems of the Columbia Basin.



By Saturday afternoon, the weather was beginning to change. Riding back to camp became interesting with increasing blasts of wind. The wind kept increasing in power during the evening and continued howling through the night. One camper, who shall remain nameless, neglected to stake down his tent and when he returned back to camp that evening he found it flattened on the ground.

The general feeling from the group was that this was an excellent campsite for the club and that we should visit it again in the future.



was again a burning ban so we have a "real" campfire, but gas burner with us so we around which we could social activities on both Saturday evenings.

one group took a day loop south and east to Othello. This ride was on took the group through nearest the camp ground ripening fruit, newly mown hay and entertained. The further the group went the wheat fields stretched for miles

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## From the Handlebars of the President

Dear Brothers,

We are at the end of another incredible riding season, an entire season of full moon runs and bunches of new stories to tell. Our first run was to Enterprise. A few of us started out in Yakima on Thursday then on to Clarkston heading toward Enterprise from the North and that ride was all the ride I needed, which is just as well because I spent most of Saturday helping Jeff B get situated with his broken leg and welcoming him to the downer club. I was glad to be of service and I'm thankful we had such great hosts at the campground to help us out. I will definitely go back again.

July's run was to Lake Sylvia. It's a beautiful place and I had no idea it was right in my own backyard and the riding was pretty awesome as well. Unfortunately due to a temperamental knee I was unable to camp and had to miss out on all the fireside festivities. I heard it was a good time. I would definitely go there again.

The August run was to Manning Park in British Columbia and again another great campsite, plenty of room, good facilities, easy lake access and skinny-dipping. Our only dining option was at the park itself but the food was good and the breakfast servings were fast because of the well-stocked buffet. And although riding options were more limited, the amenities more than made up for it for me. It was also the first board meeting with Kerry as vice president. I want to publicly welcome him to the team. He had a lot of great input and that has been very helpful to me as I move along my fairly steep learning curve.

And while I'm at it I want to thank Jeff C for all the time he spends every month to make sure the bills are paid, the income is accounted for, and ensuring that the registration process goes as it should. This club can't function without people like him. And I want to thank Mark B for all the time and energy he puts into his job as Road Captain. Both of these men play crucial roles in our organization as they are responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the club. They are dedicated to doing their jobs well, and since I became president I've gained a much deeper appreciation for what they do.

I also want to thank John and Kerry for helping me become better at my job. I think we have a very strong board (except for that president guy) and we are well positioned to moving forward and preparing for the 50th anniversary of the BRMC. I also want to point out that this is the first newsletter coming from the Dave Jackson press. I want to thank him for stepping into this role, and although it's not as crucial for day-to-day running of the club, is one of the ways that the club records its history as well as keeping members informed. Thanks Dave. And, also thanks to Terry B for taking over the running of the website. This too is an important task that needs constant attention and dedication, and I appreciate that. I want the membership to know that these are not thankless jobs so please be sure to thank them.

Now I'll just kick that soapbox out of the way and get back to the run recap. The final run of the season was September at Potholes State Park. And speaking of potholes, it was great seeing you all again. It was also Jeff B's triumphant return to the vertical, and although he strapped doors and a roof rack to his motorcycle, it was good to see him back (even if it had training wheels). Welcome home buddy.

And speaking of buddies I can't help but notice the level of closeness that has shown up at the runs this year. Men hanging around by the fire in physical contact, laughing and telling stories

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surely warms my heart and I'm glad I got to share those moments with all of you. After all, the club is at its essence, those of us that show up and ride and share and laugh and live. Thanks to all of you that showed up this summer, you make the club what it is and I am humbled and honored to have played my small part to help make this happen for everyone.

For all the members that have not participated in the club activities in a while we miss you and would appreciate your participation in the planning and execution of our 50th anniversary season. This is a significant milestone for the club particularly one like ours that has survived 50 years of evolution. The club will never be what it once was, and that will always be the case, but it will always be what we make it and I want to thank all of you that showed up this year for making the club what it is.

Most humbly, Dan Sweer Pres. BRMC

## Road Captain Rumblings

What a great summer of camping we have had! Well, it was wet and windy a few times, but as long as I get to hang out with my brothers, I'm happy. September run was a blast, who would have thought that with a name like Potholes State Park that it would be an awesome site for camping! Great space, close gas, restaurant, convenience store and an ice cream shop! Thank you Randy Weisheit for being my Buddy.

This summer was one of first times also, three of the runs were to places we have not been to and they were all great: Lake Sylvia, Manning Park and Potholes. Everyone who attended agreed that we should go back sometime.

We also had several first time guests this year, which is always fun. I would like to thank everyone for making the guests, especially the first timers, welcome. They will be back next year to join us.

I'm working on 2017 runs (still). It's a lot of work and I'm still waiting for the reservations windows to open for some of the spaces. So far, we will be at Pearyygin Lake State Park WA in June and Shuswap Lake Provincial Park BC in July. For the August Run, I'm going to make sure that we are close to the total eclipse of the sun as it will happen on the Monday after our regular camping weekend at about 10am (August 21<sup>st</sup>). We will either be right under the eclipse or close enough that a short ride will put us in the path. I'm even thinking about have the group stay at my house as I'm very close to the centerline of the eclipse; 2 minutes of totality! Stay tuned for more details.

Speaking of reservations for group campgrounds; I mention from time to time, that it's getting harder to find sites for the runs. There is a shortage of group campsites and a lot of groups waiting to grab them up. Both Oregon and Washington have initiated steep penalties for groups that grab more nights than they want in order to get the weekend they need, only to later cancel the nights they don't want. This means that it will be harder for the Club to get sites since we can't afford to lose hundreds of dollars each month on penalties. If anyone has creative alternatives to group sites, please let me know.

I look forwards to seeing my brothers over the Fall/Winter meetings.

Your humble Road Captain,  
Mark Brayford

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## October Club Meeting and Registration

Registration is now open on the BRMC website at <http://borderriders.com>. Camping season is over, and now club meetings will be held at member's residences.

The October 15th meeting will be held at John Dunn's house in Seattle. Directions and other information will be emailed to you once you have completed the registration process. Arrival after 3 PM, club meeting is at 5 PM, and dinner is at 6 PM.

This month's fee is \$16 for members and guests, and will be adjusted for the Canadian exchange rate. Online payment can be made via PayPal. Registration closes 9 PM October 11<sup>th</sup>, and no refunds after closing.

## 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.

## Calendar

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>October 15</b> | <b>Club Meeting – J. Dunn, Seattle</b>            |
| November 19       | Club Meeting – M. Chavor, Seattle                 |
| December 10       | Holiday Party – Chris and Richard, Burlington, WA |
| January 21, 2017  | Annual General Meeting, Seattle Cuff              |
| February 18, 2017 | Awards Banquet, Seattle                           |

## September Birthdays

We have two members with October Birthdays:

**Randy Weisheit and Dave Eckert!**

Take a moment to wish them a great day.

