



# THE BEEMER BEAT

Newsletter of the  
BMW Riders of Oregon



January, 2014

Volume 38, Issue 1

Founded 1976 - Charter #83, BMW Motorcycle Owners of America

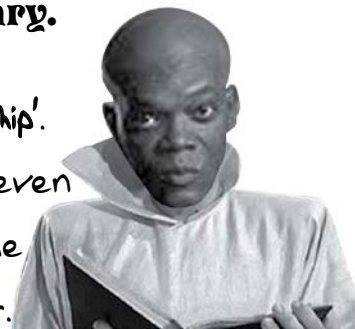


photo by Benjamin Dorsch

Benjamin Dorsch is a relatively new member to join the BMWRO and to riding motorcycles in general. He wrote to share that he is young rider who picked up a 1980 BMW R100RT with an EML sidecar. "It's only my second bike and it's been a challenging and rewarding experience."

## Membership Dues are due in January.

It is easier to renew now than to renew later when faced with 'dismembership'. The membership form is enclosed and even if you have signed the form before, the club needs a new signature every year.





# BMWRO President's Message

by Lane Weinberg

## Happy New Year!

On behalf of the BMWRO leadership,  
I wish you all a very happy 2014.

### Next Big Adventure?

My email inbox is starting to fill up with advertising from motorcycle touring companies anxious to offer "The Next Big Adventure". I have to set aside some time over the holidays to get out the calendar for the coming year and pencil in some items from my Wish List and Bucket List. Share your plans for the upcoming year by posting on the BMWRO List at [bmwro@micapeak.com](mailto:bmwro@micapeak.com). We would love to hear from you.



Last year my focus was on local rides on the west coast and particularly in Oregon. That was a no brainier with the National Rally right on our doorstep at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem. Then, there was the Chief Joseph Rally in John Day—best BMW Rally in the Northwest. For the most part I was able to do quite a lot of Oregon touring just by joining BMWRO club rides and campouts. The First Saturday rides got me out into the country. They were a great bang for the buck and an opportunity to get to know club members from all over the state and share the joy of riding BMW motorcycles on some of the most scenic and motorcycle friendly roads on the planet. The best ride of the summer, for me, was the Cow Creek Campout hosted by the Eastern Oregon BMWRO Ambassadors John Beeson and Steve Miller.



Cow Creek Campout



### Airhead Tech Day Held in Salem

Tom Krise (second from the right in photo) hosted a BMW Airhead Tech Session over the Thanksgiving weekend at his house in Salem, Oregon. Special guest, Ken Uhl (first from left) attended the festivities. Ken is the newly elected Airmarshall for NorCal Airheads. Tom and Stephanie put out a sumptuous luncheon spread, which included a killer BBQ Pork Loin.

The weather was good, some wrenching was done, spirits were consumed and Airhead bikes were made ready to ride another day.

### A Call for Golden Rider Award Nominations

This is a call to the members of the BMW Riders of Oregon for nominations for the Golden Rider Award. The Golden Rider Award is presented to a club member for:

- Something over this last year's riding season happened for which the member was having a "less than graceful" moment on their bike—where everyone had a chuckle when it was over.
- Something where no one was hurt and the bike was not seriously damaged.

Don't be shy. There must be someone, maybe your riding partner, associate or significant other who deserves some recognition. Send your nomination to [BMWRO.pres@gmail.com](mailto:BMWRO.pres@gmail.com) along with photos, if you have them, and a description of the event. If you have questions, email or call me. My contact info is listed in the newsletter. Good luck.

### BMWRO Event Hosts Needed

We have a great year planned for 2014. Take a look at the calendar on our web page: [BMWRO.ORG](http://BMWRO.ORG) for more information. You will notice that some of the events do not have a club member host yet. This is a great opportunity for you meet club members by hosting a club event. Contact Jay Bennett, [BMWRO.vp@gmail.com](mailto:BMWRO.vp@gmail.com) to sign up for an event.

Ride safe, ride often





# BMWRO

## Coming Events



### Club Sanctioned Events

- Event:** **January Beach Bash & Costume Contest**  
**Date/Time:** January 10, 11 & 12, 2014  
**Place:** Driftwood Shores, Florence, Oregon  
**Description:** Social time in the Hospitality Room at 4:30 p.m.; banquet and Beach Bash costume party at starts at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 11 in the conference room. Dinner is \$15 for club members, \$30 for associate members or guests. After dinner we will have our first official club meeting of the New Year and introduction of new club officers for 2014. After the meeting, we will announce the newest recipient of the Golden Rider award and decide who has the best costume. The costume theme to be announced in a future publication; prizes will be awarded to the guy and gal with the best costume. Continue the party in the Hospitality Room afterwards.
- Costume:** The theme will be **Hats**—the more outrageous the better. Include a matching costume with a hat for extra points. There *is* a monetary prize.
- Contact:** Forest McGreggor **(541) 761-2320** or email [forest@jeffnet.org](mailto:forest@jeffnet.org)
- Event:** **Seattle Motorcycle Show**  
**Date/Time:** February 14–15, 2014  
**Place:** Seattle, WA  
**Description:** This show is an annual winter time happening for many and we thought perhaps the we might like to go as a group. A charter luxury bus will leave from the Albany area around 6:30 am and make a pickup stop at 8:30 from Portland's Jansen Beach and return around 7 pm to Janzen Beach and 8:30 to Albany the same day. The show arrival would be approximately 11:30 a.m. and departing around 4:30 p.m. This will allow around 5 hrs to view the show and eat lunch. The bus ride and tickets for the show would be included in the cost. You cannot even drive to Seattle and back for this and you get moto-socialize on your way instead of worrying about traffic! <http://www.motorcycleshows.com>
- \$40 for Ticket and Pickup at Janzen Beach and a BMWRO Member
  - \$55 for Ticket and Pickup at Janzen Beach and not a BMWRO Member
  - \$65 for Ticket and Pickup at the Albany Kmart and BMWRO Member
  - \$80 for Ticket and Pickup at the Albany Kmart and not a BMWRO Member
- Contact:** Jay Bennett: **541-760-0675** or email at [BMWRO.VP@gmail.com](mailto:BMWRO.VP@gmail.com).

- Event:** **Winter Tour Night – The Heart of the West**  
**Date/Time:** Feb. 22, 2014 - 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM  
**Place:** Premier Motogear, 414 Queen Ave SW, Albany, OR. [www.mredsmoto.com](http://www.mredsmoto.com)  
**Description:** Take a Dual Sport tour of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado & Utah with 4 guys looking for the end of the road. This is a free event, but space is limited. Refreshments will be served. Space is limited - **Please RSVP to Deb Weber**  
**Contact:** Deb Weber – **541-926-2107** or email to [premiermotogear@comcast.net](mailto:premiermotogear@comcast.net) to reserve your seat.

- Event:** **Chief Joseph Rally**  
**Date/Time:** June 12 - 15, 2014  
**Place:** John Day, OR Grount County Fairgrounds  
**Description:** detail to follow  
**Contact:** Clarence Story

- Event:** **Steens Mountain Campout**  
**Date/Time:** September 5-7, 2014  
**Place:** The Narrows Campground and RV Park, OR  
**Description:** detail to follow  
**Contact:** Jay & Janet Bennett

### Recurring Events

- Event:** **Central Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**  
**Date/Time:** First Saturday of each month  
**Place:** Various breakfast and ride locations in Central Oregon area.  
**Contact:** John Beeson **541-383-2608**  
Steve Miller **541-977-6787**
- Event:** **Southern Oregon 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**  
**Date/Time:** First Saturday of each month  
**Place:** Various lunch/breakfast and ride locations for southern Oregon members.  
**Contact:** Dan Hall, [dnehall@frontier.com](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)
- Event:** **Tigard 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Coffee**  
**Date/Time:** First Saturday, each month, starting at 10am.  
**Location:** Tigard BMW store, 12010 SW Garden Place  
**Contact:** Susan Ortiz-Renteria **503-779-7842**, [dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.com)
- Event:** **Eugene 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Coffee**  
**Date/Time:** First Saturday of each month 9 to 11am.  
**Location:** Eugene BMW store, 2891 W. 11th Ave  
**Contact:** J.R. Dallas **(541) 543-9903**, [dallas-jr-1@hotmail.com](mailto:dallas-jr-1@hotmail.com)



**Event:** **Doc Wong Riding Clinic**  
**Date/Time:** Second Saturday of each Month, 9:00 am  
**Location:** Mr. Ed's Moto: 414 Queen Avenue, Albany  
**Contact:** Don Weber **541-791-5142**  
[don@mredsmoto.com](mailto:don@mredsmoto.com)

## Regional Events

**Event:** **18th Annual Snowcamp**  
**Date/Time:** January 17-20, 2014  
**Place:** Sahara Creek Horse Camp, WA  
**Description:** a chance to be cold and miserable with like-minded fools: more details on page 6.  
**Contact:** Rolf Gabbe: **253-770-3749** or email [rolfgabbe@yahoo.com](mailto:rolfgabbe@yahoo.com)

**Event:** **The One Motorcycle Show 2014**  
**Date/Time:** Feb 7 - 9 (See website more on hrs)  
**Place:** 800 SE 10th Ave. Portland, OR 97214  
**Description:** details at website:  
**Contact:** <http://the1moto.com/events/2013/11/2/the-one-motorcycle-show-2014>

**Event:** **10th Annual Bob Marley Birthday Celebration**  
**Date/Time:** February 9, 2014 at 11:45 a.m. (Sunday)  
**Place:** Fort Hoskins Park, Hoskins OR (the newly designated Benton County Park). Coordinates: Lat: 44.675397; Long: -123.4542703  
**Description:** This is a no host event. Riders will bring their own food, plates, utensils, coffee cup and music to participate. On site: a picnic table, charcoal and grill to prepare your celebratory dinner. If you want to share food, bring something everyone will enjoy! Each rider should bring a piece of firewood!

**Directions:** Head west from Corvallis OR on Highway 20. Go through Philomath and stay on Hwy 20 a few miles. Turn off at Wren OR onto OR Hwy 223. HWY 223 goes N towards Kings Valley and eventually Dallas OR. Follow Hwy 223 approx 6 miles N. Turn left to Hoskins. There is a rural Fire Station opposite the turn. Ft Hoskins Park sign is about 1/4 mile just after the LH turn off Hwy 223. Proceed West and follow signs to Park.

Use first gear at Park entrance. It is paved, but steep with a sharp RH turn almost immediately. Once past that, you will be rewarded at the top of the hill

**Contact:** Roger Paquette, [mrgsa02@hotmail.com](mailto:mrgsa02@hotmail.com)



### **Driftwood Shores Hospitality Suite**

## **January Beach Bash** **January 10, 11 & 12, 2014** **Driftwood Shores, Florence, Oregon**

The Beach Bash is the Club's first of the new year gathering for a general meeting. Costume contest theme will be HATS

The banquet dinner will be prime rib. Dinner for club members is \$15 per person. Associate or non-members \$30 per person. Membership fees will be due if you have not already mailed them in to the club Treasurer. **RSVP to Forest for the Banquet:** [forest@jeffnet.org](mailto:forest@jeffnet.org) or call (541) 761-2320.

There will be a meet and greet at 4:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room, dinner at 6:00 p.m. followed by a short club meeting at 7:30 p.m. and the Costume Contest. Regroup in the Hospitality Room after the event if you have the energy to party on.

**Place your room reservations with Driftwood Shores, 800-422-5091. Mention BMWRO to get the special room rate.**

#### **Room Rates:**

- Standard queen rooms at a rate of \$79.00 +tax,
- Double queen rooms at a rate of \$121.00 +tax,
- Three-bedroom suites at \$226.00

Rooms are reserved for us Friday - Sunday night if you want to plan a weekend getaway.

For dog lovers: there is an RV park six blocks away that permits dogs.

#### **Heceta Beach RV Park**

4636 Heceta Beach Rd, Florence, OR 97439  
(541) 997-7664 or [hecetabeachrv.com](http://hecetabeachrv.com)



**If a Banquet is *not* complete without dessert, bring one.**  
**No dessert will be provided otherwise.**

## NEW MEMBERS

**Diego Orozco**, Hillsboro, OR  
Riding an "unknown" motorbike

**Robert Maynard**, Oregon City, OR  
Riding a 2007 R1200RT

**Lonny Johnson**, Eugene, OR  
Riding an "unknown" motorbike

**Chuck & Ellen Kimball**, Eagle Point, OR  
Riding a GS1200

The re-Newal Membership Form is enclosed  
Please sign and return with your membership dues.  
If you have not gotten an official BMWRO name  
tag, this is a good time to order one.  
Please sign a form,  
even if you have done so in the past.

**FIND THE BMWRO NEW MEMBER  
APPLICATION FORM ONLINE:**  
[HTTP://BMWRO.ORG/JOIN-US.HTML](http://BMWRO.ORG/JOIN-US.HTML)

## Bylaws, Policies & Guidelines

If you are interested in any of the above, just visit our website  
and download. [www.bmwro.org](http://www.bmwro.org)

## BMWRO Club Officials

### President:

Lane Weinberg, (503-522-1067)  
[bmwro.pres@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.pres@gmail.com)

### Vice President:

Jay Bennett, (541-760-0675)  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

Ed Foltyn,  
[bmwro.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.secretary@gmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Gordon Taylor (802-356-4954)  
[bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.treasurer@gmail.com)

### Beemer Beat Editor:

Forest McGregor, (541) 761-2320  
[bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.newsletter@gmail.com)

### Webmaster & Webmistress:

Gary Wasserman, (503) 977-9737  
Bonnie Wagoner, (503) 209-7031  
[bmwro.web@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.web@gmail.com)

### Club Liaison

Doug Tewksbury,  
[bmwro.news@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.news@gmail.com)

### Activities

Jay Bennett, (541) 760-0675  
[bmwro.vp@gmail.com](mailto:bmwro.vp@gmail.com)

## Ambassador Program Welcomes New Members

Ambassadors for the Four Regions are:

**Southern Region** (Oakland, OR into  
California. The coast through Klamath Falls).

Dan Hall – 541-862-7411,  
[dnehall@frontier.com](mailto:dnehall@frontier.com)

**Central & Northeast Region**  
(East of The Dalles, including I-84 to Ontario, south  
of Columbia River to US 20, Baker City & including  
US 20 to LaPine. Includes Camp Sherman/Bend/  
Redmond/Sisters & Prineville area).

John Beeson – 541-383-2608,  
[beeson@cbbmail.com](mailto:beeson@cbbmail.com)

Steve Miller – 541-977-6787,  
[shuntermiller@gmail.com](mailto:shuntermiller@gmail.com)

### Central Western Region

(South of Salem, including Eugene & Oakland from  
the coast to the Cascades).

JR Dallas – 541-543-9903,  
[dallas-jr-1@hotmail.com](mailto:dallas-jr-1@hotmail.com)

### Northwest Region

(from Longview, WA south through Salem, OR, the  
coast to the Cascades, including The Dalles).

David W. Peterson – 503-327-5592,  
[dwp@help-me-plan.com](mailto:dwp@help-me-plan.com)  
[Smug Mug Images](#)

Susan Ortiz-Renteria – 503-779-7842,  
[dirtsquirt816@gmail.com](mailto:dirtsquirt816@gmail.com)

Please call or email your regional Ambassador for club outings and rally information.  
We can assist you with learning more about BMWRO

## 18th Annual Snowcamp

by Roger Paquette

January 17-20, 2014 at the Sahara Creek Horse Camp, a Washington State DNR property. It is located about 5 miles from Elbe, WA on SR 706, on the way to Ashford and Mt. Rainier. There is a SMALL sign located at the entrance, which is on the left, about 100 feet beyond Milepost 5 (the milepost is on the right side of the road) on SR 706.

The event itself is free; however, a **Discover Pass** is now required for motor vehicle access to Washington state parks and DNR facilities. The annual pass is \$30; a one-day pass is \$10. The annual pass is now good for 2 vehicles.

Our experience indicates that sometimes during the weekend the passes will be checked. Since the penalty for not having one is \$99 we highly recommend getting one if you plan to attend.

Discover passes may be purchased online at [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov), by phone **866-320-9933**, or in person at fishing and hunting license vendors and manned state parks offices (transaction and dealer fees will also apply).

Snowcamp is “a chance to be cold and miserable with like-minded fools”—a winter motorcycle campout, but we don’t care if you come by motorcycle, car, or RV. A Friday night chili feed is provided, as are pancakes for breakfast. You’re on your own for other meals, but in reality the event is a giant potluck and an epicurean delight. To date no one has either starved or frozen to death, so make plans to join us for the 18th annual iteration of this great event. If you can, bring some firewood. We like BIG fires.

For more information contact Rolf Gabbe ([rolfgabbe@yahoo.com](mailto:rolfgabbe@yahoo.com), or **253-770-3749**).

PS: Ministry of Silly Hats says No silly hat required!

*To keep up-to-date with upcoming events: renew your BMWRO membership in January.*

*Renewing members may pay their dues at the Beach Bash event in January. It's good to get together with old friends and meet new ones. When BMW riders renew, it keeps the club strong and viable.*

## Letters to the Editor

*I asked the club historian, Ellen Barton, about the significance and/or the history of the January Beach Bash at Florence and why there is a costume contest? This was her response:*

Oh my, is this what the Historian does?!?? Well my best recollection is that one year the chair of the event thought it would be fun to do a little something different, so they selected a costume theme and encouraged everyone to join in. Before that, I think it was the silly shirt contest.

The first costume event went over with a positive note, so thereafter it continued, each year being a different theme. I believe it was Dennis and Jeanne Nolder and Dan and Ellie Hall who were the originating chairs; but I would have to read back newsletters to be sure. Kit and Delia Vercella were in the mix at some point, too.

The costumes are always optional, and some folks do not dress up but enjoy those who do. Some years it was hard to tell who the member was under a very clever costume. So come in costume or not, but you are sure to have a good time with lots of visiting, beach strolling, and prowling around Florence and the surrounding coastal communities. Of course, whoever steps up to chair and host the event can change the program as they wish. Hope this helps. ~Ellen

*From an email dated 7/3/2013, Dan Muir wrote:*

I really enjoyed the rally in John Day. I grew up there and this was my first chance to ride a bike back. A journey back in time, if you will.

I thought some of the club members might be interested in the photos and some of the stories I included in a just-completed ADV ride report, so I've attached a link to it: [Avid Rider](#)

You folks did a really nice job on the event. I just moved back to Washington State from northern Virginia, where I was a member of the “BMW Bikers of Metropolitan Washington” and participated in a few of their Square Route Rallies. Yours went off with more aplomb and was better integrated into the local community. Good time!

Dan Muir 703-585-2159



# “First Bike”

Tod A. Roy, Ph.D.  
MOA# 55123



My first bike was an adolescent's fantasy—a maroon, 1960 Triumph 5TA Speed Twin. It came around a curve in my residential neighborhood of Shaker Heights, OH, ridden by a fellow whom—the previous summer—I had convinced to

let me ride his Lambretta 125 motor scooter. He had agreed and in my excitement, I promptly popped the clutch, opened the throttle and launched myself through an adjacent hedge, hands frozen on the controls. From that point on I kept quiet about my prowess—or lack thereof. Later, with my brother, we acquired both a Triumph Tiger—which never ran—and a poor running Norton single—which was never licensed. We both learned to ride—coordinating hands and feet, throttle and clutch—by taking out our older brother's Lambretta 175 scooter (brought back from Italy, after a tour in the Navy). We did this late at night after our mother was asleep. We'd roll it down the driveway and start it down the street from our house and ride off into the night.



In the spring of 1964, I got a job in a steel mill, and soon my brother and I both purchased new bikes. His was a Honda 305 Super Hawk—the other bike, for the money spent (\$695), was my first brand new street legal motorcycle, a Honda 305 Dream. It was black with chrome tank panels, a faux pearls fork, buckhorn bars, and white sidewall tires. This decision was made with the consideration that I wanted to “tour a lot”—as I told the salesman—and tour I did. Rain or shine, I rode that bike everywhere. After riding my brother's Hawk, I changed out the buckhorn bars for flat bars. I took out the baffles in the mufflers, and tried to affect a café style as much as imagination would allow with such a fancy looking bike.

That fall of '64, I rode the bike to college in Athens, OH. Weekends, I'd ride home on the scenic back roads of southeastern Ohio, then north, to the Cleveland suburbs. By the spring of 1965, when I traded the

Honda in for a 1962 BMW R60, I had accumulated 11,000 miles on the odometer. In that 11,000 miles, I experienced all the mishaps or spills that one can expect in one's riding career—“you've either been down or you're going down”—and none since. Twice, I went down on wet leaves with different girl friends riding on the back. On one occasion, we both wore rubberized rain gear and we slid along on wet grass coming to rest against a tree trunk, where we just laid holding each other until the adrenaline shakes subsided. The other was a slow front tire slide out at low speed; we literally just stepped off the bike as it went down.

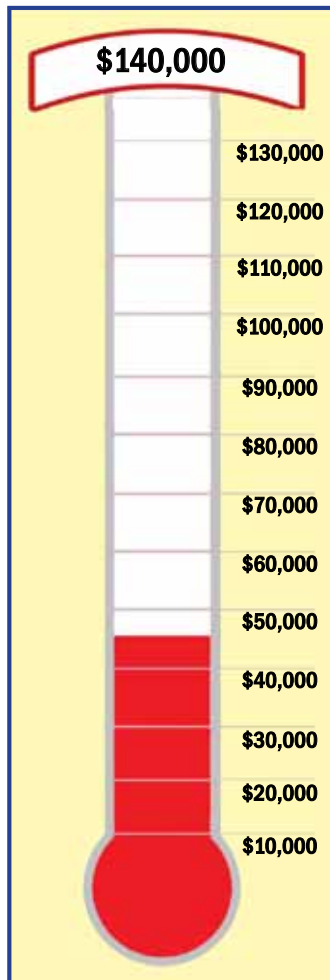
The most horrendous fall was from fresh cow manure on an uphill turn. Hitting it slid the bike into the oncoming lane, which was occupied an farmer in a late 40's early 50's Chevy sedan. The bike and I parted company: the bike went left, the Chevy center, and me to the right, bouncing three times and landing upright in a full run into a field. I picked up the bike—it had a bent handle bar—and after close self inspection found that I had worn a hole in the right shoulder of the sweater I was wearing, and I had an abrasion on my right ankle where my sock was worn through from hitting and rolling on the ground those few times. Mind you, we didn't wear helmets in those days. The farmer stopped and after a few words of reassurance to him that I was okay, I started the bike and rode on to Cleveland to see my friends and family for the weekend. It took a few years to finally be clear of the chilling image of a '49 Chevy coming towards me with a farmer wearing a straw hat gripping the steering wheel with a shocked and anguished look on his face.



# Northwest Vintage Car and Motorcycle Museum

Fundraising has begun for the "Final Phase" of the Museum Display Building. \$140,000 matching funds are needed to secure a Foundation Grant.

The new section will have dealership display, multi purpose meeting room, a library, gift shop and bathrooms.



#### Information/Contact:

Doug Nelson: 503-399-0647

Tom Ruttan: 503-638-1746

Mike Bostwick: 503-245-5444

#### Web site:

[www.nwcarandcycle.com](http://www.nwcarandcycle.com)

#### Send your checks to:

NWVCMM Building Fund

PO Box 15

Salem, OR 97308-0015



## Help is needed to meet our Fundraising Goal

There are several ways to help, the first and most ambitious is a scrap metal drive. Old car parts & scrap metal around the house, farm or business can add up to dollars when donated to the Museum.

Collection sites will be available to bring your scrap metal donation to locations around the Portland Metro & Willamette Valley. Call contacts for sites or to arrange for pickup of your scrap metal donations.

#### Others ways to help us meet the fundraising goal:

- Cash Donations
- Donate a Vehicle
- Become a Museum Member
- Purchase a Paver Stone

The NWVC&M Museum is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.  
All donations are tax deductible.



# Scrap Metal Fundraiser



# Oregon to West Virginia Road Trip!

by Norm Horn

Daughters wanted me to come visit for a few weeks. Said fine but not this summer, will fly out in September. So she asked if I had made the air reservations! Well not yet—still researching. So after researching and seeing cost of flight, rental car, baggage fee, etc. etc. etc.....

I'm gonna ride!!!

So I'm off from Bend, OR heading to daughters in West Virginia. Hoping to make it to Boise first day. The last two summers I have taken three-month trips across the country exploring and visiting, so I know what am getting into.

Just about 300 miles across the east side of the state. Not the most scenic of rides but that's due to living in the trees of Bend. It has its own beauty and aromas that one can get used to.

Made it to Boise a bit after 1:00 p.m. Went down to the [Basque Block](#) and had a Lamb Grinder at [Bar Gernika](#)—really, really good!!! They were on [Diners, Dives and Drive Ins](#) a few years ago. Several Basque restaurants there and a Basque Museum. Stopped in there and picked up a cook book.

Learned two things this morning.  
One: In Idaho you can get bugs on the windshield in a rain storm.  
Two: Never EVER trust the AUTO SHUT OFF ON GAS PUMPS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Credit card thought!* It would be a good idea to call your CC company to let them know you are traveling. You could do this from a nice comfortable place in your home; or, you could stand in the hot sun someplace in northern Utah requesting that they please unlock your card so you can get



some gas to get out of northern Utah.....

From previous trips I've learned to always stop at the first rest stop in a state. They almost always have a tourist center with FREE maps and someone to tell you about anyplace worth stopping. The Wyoming lady did suggest a alternate route Hwy 130/230 through Medicine Bow National Forest to get off the interstate for a bit.

While traversing I-80 toward Rawlins—going over a small rise, the sign said “Continental Divide”. That was the only clue. Earlier this summer on a ride to Billings, Montana I rode part of the Lewis & Clark Motorway. Now that part of the Continental Divide is real easy to see!

Not much in Rawlins for me, just kind of a place to grab a bite and a room. Ate at a place called Bucks. Okay place, plus enjoyed watching the Broncs beat up on that east coast team!

I only have a short list of planned stops left. Cabela's in Sidney, Nebraska; [Antique Archaeology](#) in Davenport, Iowa; and the big air plane museum in Dayton, Ohio. I spent two days at the [Pima Air & Space Museum](#) and boneyard in Tucson couple years ago. So I expect a full day in Dayton.

Bit warm through Nebraska today. Indicated 106°F ..... It's surprising how just a wet a neckerchief around the neck will keep you cool.



Stopped at the Nebraska welcome center. I was the only one there and facetiously asked if anything besides corn growing to see there! The kind lady said “sure is” and whipped out some brochures and maps. Recommended I get off the interstate and take Hwy 30 (Lincoln Highway) across the state. Very good advice.

Made the visit to [Cabela's](#) and paid the what seems to me the \$100 exit fee.

Stopped in North Platte to spend the night with plans to visit the largest railroad yard in the country in the morning. If in the area with kids, great place for them or you to learn how trains are run today. There is a seven story observation deck to see the “hump yard”. Passed a lot of classic cars on the road getting there. Saw that



they are having a little get together here in town. So wandered over and visited a bit. Car shows are very dangerous places—here I am on a motorcycle, five states from home and getting the phone number and address of a guy selling a car I've wanted since high school!

One of the great things of getting off the interstate is to stop at the local attractions, smell the land and not the diesel fuel. And of course, the reason for a road trip is the people you meet. Met a couple from Oregon—wet side—in a motor home on a quest to follow the Oregon trail. There was the photographer at the country's largest rail yard—really good photos, by the way. ([www.flickr.com/photos/thingsb/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/thingsb/)). The teasing waitress at the Lincoln Highway Café saying "you've had too much coffee... your eyes have turned brown". This trip has been full of these little things that make it worthwhile. There are always little things that happen that you wish hadn't. But they are easy to overcome.

All the way across Iowa today. Tons of Sunday motorcycle cruiser riders out. Don't know what it is with their mind sets, but didn't see one wearing a helmet!!! And the number without eye protection! When does macho become just plain stupid!

Rode past a Bass Pro Shop—WOW, what a big store. So pulled off and went for a visit. Good thing I can't carry much on a bike! It was pointed out to me that I could have it shipped!

Met a guy—really old, too—at a rest stop driving a race car! Heard a train pull in behind me—a lowered Camaro (guy wearing a helmet) complete with roll cage, doors welded shut, and the biggest Hoosier tires I've ever seen. Says he does it cause it's just pure fun! Can't beat that!

Planned stop was Antique Archaeology in Iowa. Hoping to meet Dani and buy a tee shirt. Made it! But closed today, on location filming!

So on the road through Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. The amount of planted corn in this country is staggering! Must have rode through a thousand miles of it. Did note, though, that the gas in those states doesn't have ethanol in the regular gas.

In Crawfordsville, Indiana I was treated to a random act of kindness. As I pulled out of a gas station, I saw my gloves fly off in my mirror. As I pulled over a van pulled up behind me. Gal in scrubs gets out, runs back and picks up my gloves and returns them to me. Stating she was nurse who just got off work, saw what happened and decided that would be her act of kindness for the day! I decided that I liked being the recipient of an act of kindness and would do my best to do the same. Haven't made one a day yet, but working on it.

Reached Dayton Ohio and the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the [National Museum of the US Air Force](http://www.bmwro.org) and its hidden treasure! It's one of the places in the United





States not to be missed if anywhere close to Dayton Ohio. Casual viewers can spend a full day—any kind of aircraft buff, at least two days. The sheer number of aircraft is almost overwhelming. Being able to walk the halls and seeing the technology expand is awesome. But! It is also full of a hidden treasure.

A lot of WWII vets hang out there. They are disappearing quickly. They're easy to find as most are in wheelchairs or those little electric carts. Just sit down nearby and ask a simple question about a plane and you will get to hear some real history.

I have reached my destination on the outward leg. My budget was \$100 a day. Motel, food, gas and whatever. Took eight days and \$848. The meeting of the nice deputy sheriff in Nebraska with more than a hundred reasons not to meet him was not included.

End of month will be the return. Plan is to head to Nashville, another Antique Archeology store, and then over to Rolla, Missouri to ride Route 66.



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