



The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI



Volume 05 - Issue 09



September 2021



The SparkPlug Coming Events

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

2021 Rides and Rally Schedule

- Apr 24-25 Spring Banquet @ Michael Jay's Restaurant, Connell WA.
Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com *See Flyer*
- May 19-21 Brewster Campout @ Rock Garden RV, Brewster WA, \$10 bike/per night
David Fitzgerald, route66@outlook.com, RSVP, Pay Upon Arrival
- Jun 4-6 Washington Alpine Campout - [Alpine RV Park](#) (No RV's/Trailers)
60751 Hwy 20, Marblemount, WA ([Map](#)) Duane Wood, 360-766-6603
- Jun 24-26 Washington State Rally - [Hidden Village RV](#), Lynden WA
David Fitzgerald, route66@outlook.com
- Jul 20-22 UMCI International, [KOA](#), 4243 US-12, Kamiah, ID ([Map](#)) - Register ASAP
Larry Phelps, spanky51@cableone.net *Please Register Early*
- Jul 29 - Aug 1 North Cascades Campout, [Klipchuck Campground](#), Hwy 20, Mazama WA
Dennis Parsley, dparsley63@gmail.com
- Aug 19-21 Coos Bay Campout, Coos County Fair Grounds, Myrtle Point
Chris Williams, 541-404-5286
- Sep 3-6 Oregon State Rally @ Tygh Valley Wasco County Fairgrounds
Ben Altman, ben.altman47@gmail.com, *See Flyer*
- Sep 10-13 Fields Spring State Park, Anatone WA, ([Map](#))
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 [Reserve ASAP](#) for best availability
- Sep 15-17 Season Finale - Rock Gardens Park, 408 Hwy 173, Brewster WA
\$10 tent/night, POA, Jan or Dale flhrdr17@gmail.com [See Online Flyer](#)

2021 UMCI Dinner Rides

- May 23 - Buoy 9, 996 Pacific Drive, Hammond, OR 503-861-2962
Jun 20 - Bundy's Café Drive-in, 150 SE Truehaak St, Clatskanie, OR 503-728-3815
Jul 11 - The Black Iron Drive, 831 Bridge St. Vernonia, OR 503-429-0214
Aug 15 - Berry Patch, 49289 US 30, Westport, OR 503-455-2250
Sep 19 - Cornerstone Café, 102 E A Street, Rainier, OR 503-556-8772
Oct 10 - Camp 18, 42362 US 26, Seaside, OR 503-755-1818

*** All dinners on Sunday, at 1pm ***

Cover Photo

Wild Teasel - [Dipsacus fullonum](#)

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

INTERNATIONAL REP'S COMMENTS

Hi everyone! I hope all is well and you're out riding in this somewhat challenging weather. I don't know where you're located, but the smoke and heat have done me in. I haven't been riding, but I'm staying positive that this new device they attached to my heart will help calm down the dizziness, so I'll be able to ride again.

Well, the International is over and it was a big success as far as I am concerned. It was a lot of fun watching all the bikes go out on the rides. The Idaho group did a fantastic job, especially the ladies that worked on the banquet and ice cream social.

I am sorry to say that I missed the Coos Bay campout which is being held now Aug 19-21st I am hoping everyone is having a great time. I hope it's not as smoky there as it is here in the basin. It doesn't matter where we congregate, we always have fun. I'm looking forward to getting back in the action again.

At the International, we said we would contact Anne and Linda first before setting the next location. Well, Gary Shearer and I did that and Anne gave her blessing to Gary to have the next International in Oregon. Gary told me that the location was not determined yet and neither was the date. He said he may change it in June, when it's a little cooler possibly.

There's certainly nothing holding to the third full week in July, and at the recent International we determined maybe change is coming. Thanks to the Oregon group for taking this on and I know it will be a great Rally. Of course, I think Gary may have just a little bit of experience in doing rallies.

Next event that we should be planning on is the Oregon State Rally, in Tygh Valley, at the Wasco County fairgrounds, on Sept, 3rd - 6th. Kevi and I have never been there, but hope to make it, might be in a car, but oh well.

Then, David and Susan Fitzgerald are hosting a campout at Fields Springs Park in Anatone WA. Reserve your spot as soon as possible. Then on Sept 15th thru the 17th the season finale @ Rock Gardens Park, Brewster Washington. So, please try to attend these events. There's still a lot of good times to be had. Be Safe, Ride Safe and most of all have a lot of fun.

Thank you all for all of your well wishes, it was certainly appreciated.

Kevin and Kevi

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

International Rally 2021 Minutes State and Provincial Rep's Meeting!

Kevi Besel, Scribe

Meeting was brought to order by International Rep Kevin Besel at 3:10 PM, July 22nd, Kamiah, Idaho.

Attending were Larry Phelps, Idaho State Rep; Kevin Besel, Washington State Rep; Gary Shearer, Oregon State Rep; Southern Oregon Rep, Zach Hoffman; Grants Pass Oregon Rep, Rick Foley; George Penner, Okanagan Washington Rep; Charlie Crane and Richard Hentz, Spokane Washington Reps. Several other members were in attendance and welcomed for their constructive input.

Kevin started meeting with introduction of State Reps. Provincial Reps were unable to attend because the Canadian border is still closed due to Covid. All areas reported that they survived Covid but it will be a struggle to get back to where we were before Covid.

One idea suggested was that each State or Province host a get together, possibly a picnic, at a location reasonably accessible to respective areas. This proposal would be in addition to normal rallies. The focus would be to invite new riders to our club.

Larry Phelps reported that Idaho is doing fine, even with the leadership change and said he had fantastic help from Lonnie and others helping him through the transition. Larry said he is handing out cards and inviting new riders to their breakfast meeting or get togethers.

Rick Foley, from Oregon, said the majority of his group are not campers and was having trouble getting information on club events, and thought that some of the events didn't make the Oregon Sparkplug, their monthly newsletter. Rick said for this rally, he brought a couple of members to observe rally activities.

Rick said the average age of his group is 69 or 70. They usually have rides on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Rick suggested distributing flyers in your area or at the place where you have your meetings to share our story.

Zach Hoffman said his group is hanging in there. They're talking to new riders and inviting them to breakfast meetings and rides, and having limited success.

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

Suggestions for improvements were possibly changing breakfast or lunch meeting locations periodically, which may attract different riders. It was brought up that we used to have UMCI flags for our bikes, and at one time we had reflective UMCI decals, which were very popular.

Kevin said he would look into trying to get some of both made. It was pretty much determined that the target group for new members is around 40 to 50 years of age. That group seems to still want to belong to a group. Kevin noted that the younger people don't seem interested in groups.

It was suggested that we consider inviting vendors to display their wares at selected rallies, food vendors included. Kevin thought there was something in the By-Laws that prevented that. Rick Foley and George Penner volunteered to review the By-Laws and see if there is room to soften some of them up.

Kevin acknowledged the achievements of the rally and recognized the hard work of the ladies resulting in a smooth running event. Kevin thanked all of the woman of the Idaho group, for a job well done.

Kevin asked that all members go back to wearing their patches, vests and coats, having observed the Wednesday ride of seventeen participants, only two patches were visible. He emphasized that UMCI needs to be identifiable to attract interest in the club. He reminded everyone that the UMCI emblem is very attractive and can be the basis for questions, providing a member an opportunity to promote our club.

The next International will be in Oregon, location to be determined. Zach thought before Oregon was set, we should speak with Anne from Canada, since they lost their opportunity last year due to Covid and the border closure. Canada may want to do it in 2022. Kevin said he would e-mail Anne and Linda and clear that up.

Kevin requested everyone to ask around for the whereabouts of the flags of the International countries that we display at each International Rally. Anne thought Kevin took them from Montana in 2020, but Kevin says he doesn't have them. Kevin remembered someone saying he was going to Canada for the next International so he would carry them, but doesn't remember who that was. So please ask around, someone has them for sure.

Kevin thanked all of the Reps for keeping things together through Covid and a big thank you to all of our members that hung in there through Covid. Kevin stated that he is coming away from the International with a great feeling that UMCI will survive almost anything. We certainly missed our Canadian members, but hope that we can get back together in 2022.

Kevin adjourned the meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted Kevi Besel.

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

GOALS

- 1.) Try attracting new members by the tried-and-true method of promoting the club, handing out cards and inviting prospects to your ride meetings.
- 2.) Focus on riders that are between 40 and 50 years of age. Younger is great but we have found they really don't want to belong to groups.
- 3.) Review By-laws and amend them, if needed, to allow more promotional flexibility.
- 4.) Get back to wearing our patches and telling people who we are when we are recognized; questions will be asked.
- 5.) Confirm the location for the 2022 International (Oregon or Canada).
- 6.) Ask questions to learn who may have possession of International Flags since the Montana Rally!
- 7.) Support current membership and do our best to meet their wants and needs.
- 8.) Ride lots and have lots of fun!!!



Gary's View

Gosh, time has a way of catching up to you; it is time to get this in for the September SparkPlug.

We went to Prineville to check on the possibility of a rally site for next year, but for a number of reasons do not think this is the right place. The primary issue, at least for us, was the amount of traffic; it was very heavy.

We went on to John Day to check out things there. What I had not checked was that the Grant County Fair started the next day. Wow! There was a lot of traffic, but this was at the Fairgrounds and not throughout the county.

We had planned to stay in a motel, but the fair created a problem for us; no vacancies! Ha! We went on to Prairie City and found a room at the Historic Prairie Hotel, but not just any room. They had one vacancy and it was the Historic Suite. It was a beautiful three rooms and certainly not inexpensive but not extreme either. We spent the night and had breakfast the next day at a small diner just down the street. Great food and staff after a restful night.

Now it was time to return to the fairgrounds and do what the manager had suggested. We wandered the grounds to check out the facilities. We think this would be an excellent place to hold the rally next year. Lots of riding on state highways, county roads, backcountry byways, and relatively light traffic. There are plenty of motels (yeah, I know. Reservations) plus a great RV Park next door and lots of space for tents. We will be getting together with a planning group and see what others think.

Anyway, if this heat continues, be careful. It can be very dangerous.

Gary

Grants Pass/Medford

Greetings from the Grants Pass/Medford Area

This has really been an up and down year. With all of the closures and then opening back up this year, I thought things were finally back to a sort of normal. But with this new wave of Covid-19 and the restaurants and small businesses in our area being

short staffed, we have been seeing a rotation of closures and reopening's all around here, including Herb's where we meet and eat twice a week and hold our monthly meetings. So, I canceled our July meeting but we carried on with our bi-weekly breakfast and tried a couple different venues as another one closed and another reopened. I was glad to see that we still got good turnouts with 6, 10, 12 and 14 one morning. Now we are back at Herb's again.

I attend the annual MotoAmerica Superbike Races in Monterey. It usually conflicts with our International Rally, but not this year. So this year Bill Melzer and I went to the races, came home for clean clothes and rode to the Rally in Kamiah with Rich Garisto. The three of us had a great time and a good ride together. The Idaho UMCi did a great job with the choice of location, all of the different evening activities, good food and a daily ride. Gary Fawble did a great job with a daily ride. Bill, Rich and I went on the group rides for two days.....Amazing to see and ride with over 25 others at one time. It was a great thing.

This summer has been mostly good for us here in the Grants Pass/ Medford Area. The food, fun and friends aspect of this club is working well here and most of us are out riding together too. I can't make the Coos Bay Camp Out this year. I will be in Peoria Illinois attending the "Peoria TT" Dirt Track National Championship Motorcycle Race. The race has around 90 years or more of history and I have always wanted to go see it. I hope to be able to attend the Oregon State Rally.

Rick Foley

South Region

Hi Friends: Just a quick update. Grants Pass is alive and well, all things considered.

Roseburg meeting was lead by Gary and Lyn, Jeff and Gregg were there. BettyJo and I went north for my Family Reunion. There was a mix up about the date so BJ myself and my Cousin Sandy were all who showed up.

Talked with Gary Shearer about the International Rally which will be held in Oregon next year. He is working on it as we speak.

I like the Place where he is working on having it.
More information coming soon.
PS we will need your help Folks.

GOD BLESS AND GOD SPEED

Zack Hoffman

September 2021 Metro News (Milwaukie, Oregon City & Portland) – Ben Altman

More Normal Summer Weather

So, the **Super Hot** days of June are gone, well almost. Seems like we had few more 100+ day in August. But generally, we seem to be back to more normal summer weather in the mid-80s to upper-90s. We had a couple more 100° sneak in, but no measurable rain. Long hot summer!!!

Activity Report

Saturday July 24: We had our Vancouver breakfast this morning. The day started out with nice cool 62°. We had 6 attending this morning with 3 bikes.

Sunday July 25: CZ & I drove down to Independence for a long overdue visit with Jim Thornton and Anne Blair. It was really good to see them, after over a year.

Friday July 30: I had the day off, so I went over to my Wasco property to coordinate with the power company for new service, and to check on the progress on my garage. So, not unexpectedly, more delays. The concrete floor has been delayed until August 17th, but worse, the garage door, is back ordered, at least 4 weeks. I am holding on to hope that is actually arrives on the 31st. Even worse though, not only back ordered, but what was a \$700 door is now **\$2,000, YIKES!** Guess it's not the best timing to be building a house. Maybe I have a bake sale at Tygh Valley to help pay for it.

Saturday July 31: Nothing scheduled, 5th Saturday.

Sunday August 1: CZ went over for the Hood River Breakfast.

I had thought about going, but I stayed up to watch the end of the Olympics Men's Golf Tournament, which with playoffs didn't get over until 1:45AM. Needless to say, me didn't plan to get up early enough to get to Hood River.

As it turned out The Ranch was actually closed. So, the usual suspects went over to the Lyle Café, across the river in Lyle Washington.

Consequently, a decision was made to move the breakfast to Lyle. So, continuing in September beyond, the Mid- Columbia Breakfast will be at the **Lyle Café**. The address is 605 State Street, Lyle Washington 98635, at 8:00 AM.

Saturday August 7: First Saturday, so it was the Wichita Grill this morning. Low turnout, only 5 of us. CZ went to the North Coast to connect with Jim & Joy Roehr, so it was just Suzie Jenkins, Mike & Sheryl Bisceglia, Larry Dunton and myself.

Saturday August 14: Second Saturday, so back to the Wichita Grill this morning. We only had 5 attending this morning. But that did include Mike & Sheryl Bisceglia, even though Sheryl had a "stint" in the hospital between the two breakfasts. Seems that Sheryl had a heart attach and actually did have a stint installed to repair a blockage. So, it was good to see her show up!

Sunday August 15: CZ tells me he rode to the North Coast diner ride at the Berry Patch. Jim & Joy Roehr, CZ's sister, and Dennis Broaddus were there.

Coos Bay: Some folks are heading to Coos Bay, but I will miss it again this year.

Saturday August 21: The schedule is for the Hermiton breakfast with Ed Baker. Report next month.

Tygh Valley Up Next - September 3-6.

I checked and unfortunately there will not be a Fire District breakfast in Wamic, again this year, due to covid issues. But Molly B's will be open for breakfast. See attached Flyer.

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021



35th Annual Tygh Valley Campout September 3-6, 2021

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Friday, Sept 3 | Setup campsites
Registration (All self register, with Camp Forms)
Self Guided Day Rides
5:00 PM - Biker Chili, Bring a can to throw in the Pot. |
| Saturday, Sept 4 | Registration, if not already done
Self Guided Tours
5:00 PM - Biker Stew - Bring a can of stew or other ingredients for the Pot.
7:00 PM - 50/50 |
| Sunday, Sept 5 | Self Guided Day Rides
5:00 Pot Luck Dinner, Bring whatever???
7:00 PM - 50/50 |
| Monday, Sept 6 | Breakfast – On your own
Departures... |

Have a Safe Ride Home!!!

I do not have confirmation if there will be a Fire District Breakfast in Wamic, but will confirm Friday when I get there. Hopefully it's a go!

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

35th Annual Tygh Valley Campout CAMP FEES

Pay Envelopes will be provided for your convenience, but they are also available at the Kiosk near the entry.

Tent Site, \$15.00/night x _____ # nights \$ _____

With or without power - **No per person charge**

RV site, without hook-up \$20/night x _____ \$ _____

RV site, full hook-up \$30/night x _____ \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

No need to Register in advance

Just pay when you arrive. Cash is preferred.

If you pay by check please make it payable to

Hunt Park Fairgrounds

Wasco County, Oregon

If you have Questions: 541-993-9015 or ben.altman47@gmail.com

September Birthdays

3 - Harold Miller

3 - Odes Graves

3 - Duane Wood

4 - Dave Hill

7 - Jim Roehr

9 - Rich Attebury

12 - Mary Hill

14 - Julia Weber

17 - William Rees

19 - Don Evernden



BIRTHDAY
BALLOON COUNTDOWN

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Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

For Sale

2011 Suzuki V-Strom 650 • 64,000 miles
Happy Trails Medium Saddlebags • Trunk • Extras
Asking \$3500



Contact: Steve Close • 541-620-1944
steve.yuma@gmail.com

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Oregon State UMCI - September 2021

For Sale

1995 Honda Goldwing GL 1500 Interstate • 54,000 miles
New Windshield • Tune Up • Brakes • Ready to go • \$4800

• • • • •

1995 Kwik Kamp with Queen Bed • \$2500



Contact Lucy Johnson at: 509-269-4648
Eastern Washington

Chapter Breakfast Meetings - Come Early!

<p>1st Saturday Metro South (Oregon City) 8:00 AM <u>Wichita Bar & Grill</u>, 19140 Molalla Ave, Oregon City No Host - Temporarily on Hold (Covid) Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 ben.altman47@gmail.com</p>	<p>3rd Tuesday Portland Widow's Chapter 12:30 AM <u>Applebee's</u> 10172 SE 82nd St., Happy Valley 503-775-7770 Lyn McCabe 503-351-7009 lcbrenna3068@gmail.com</p>
<p>1st Saturday Grants Pass/Medford 8:30 AM <u>Shenanigans Lounge at Herb's Restaurant</u> 515 Rogue River Highway, Grants Pass, OR Rick Foley cell: 541-916-2506 rick1foley@gmail.com</p>	<p>3rd Thursday North Coast 11:30 AM Great Wall of China</p>
<p>1st Saturday North Coast Breakfast 9:00 AM <u>Buoy 9 Restaurant</u>, 996 Pacific Dr. Hammond, Or Jim Roehr, 503-458-5852</p>	<p>3rd Saturday Tangent 8:00 AM <u>Dixie Creek Saloon</u> (In heart of town) 32994 Hwy 99E, Tangent, OR 97389 Floyd McMillin, 541-990-5304 ellentonimcmillin@gmail.com</p>
<p>1st Sunday Mid Columbia 8:00 AM <u>Lyle Cafe</u>, 605 State St, Lyle Washington John & Hazel Dougherty, 541-399-6172 Goldendale, WA</p>	<p>4th Saturday Vancouver 7:00 AM <u>Paul's Restaurant</u> (No Host) 1800 Broadway Street, Vancouver, WA</p>
<p>1st & 2nd Saturdays, Metro South (Milwaukie) 8:00 AM <u>The Wichita Grill</u>, 19140 Mollala Ave., Oregon City Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 ben.altman47@gmail.com</p>	<p>3rd Saturday Hermiston 8:30 AM <u>Pheasant Café & Lounge</u>, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston Ed & Grace Baker, 541-989-8347 PO Box 141, Heppner, OR 97836</p>
<p>2nd Saturday Seattle/Puget Sound Area 8:00 AM <u>Denny's Restaurant</u>, 132 128th St SW, Everett, WA David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034</p>	<p>4th Sunday Coos Bay 9:00 AM <u>Kozy Kitchen</u>, Myrtle Point Chris & Eva Williams, 541-404-5286 721 7th St. Myrtle Point, OR 97458 cwilliams88ci@yahoo.com</p>
<p>2nd Saturday, Roseburg Brkfst, 8 AM, Meeting 9:00 AM <u>Abby's Pizza</u>, 1011 W. Central Sutherlin Zack Hoffman, 541-430-3568, zhoffman3478@msn.com</p>	<p>Burns - Call Jim 9:00 AM Jim & Zelly Campbell, 541-573-7607 PO Box 1010, Hines, OR 9773</p>

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New Membership Registration Form

Rider:

Print Name

Signature

Navigator:

Print Name

_____ + _____

Signature

By signing for membership, I agree to abide by the By-Laws of UMCI.

Address: _____ + _____

_____ State ___ Zip _____

Important for Newsletter & General Communications

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Accepted By: _____ -- __, State Rep. Date _____

Mail to: Gary Shearer, State Rep.
1995 Michigan City Lane NW
Salem, OR 97304-9561



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