



The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI



Volume 05 - Issue 11



November 2021



The SparkPlug Coming Events

Oregon State UMCI - November 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

White River Falls and Celestial Falls ([Map](#))
(background & foreground, respectively)

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - November 2021

INTERNATIONAL REP'S COMMENTS

I certainly hope that all of you are settled in and getting ready for a winter rush. It's coming a lot quicker than I had hoped or that I was ready for. But tonight, it's supposed to get down to around 28 degrees here in the basin. Like I said, I'm sure as heck not ready for that and not ready to see snow on the ground. It seems like time has gone by way too quickly.

I hope that all of you had a great season. Mine of course was limited because of health reasons, but when we did get out it was so special just being able to sit and visit with old and new friends. Kevi and I get great satisfaction in belonging to UMCI and the great people that we have met, along with the fantastic riding we've enjoyed.

I know that the Reps are busy planning the 2022 riding and campouts. I heard from Gary Shearer, the Oregon State Rep, the International is in the planning stages, but Gary mentioned a couple of the spots they picked out were not ideal because of some of the Covid restrictions, but I'm sure that'll be resolved.

Kevi and I are busy trying to find a place to have our Spring Banquet. Since the ownership change of Michael Jay's in Connell, watching the new operation of the restaurant to me is less than impressive, so we're going to look at different options, but try to keep an open mind that things in Connell will improve. So, that is a work in progress.

Now, THE CHALLENGE TO ALL UMCI MEMBERS!!!! DESIGN YOUR IDEAL RIDE. What I envision is that each State and Province come up with a ride or campout, or even a rally that your area could host. The directions to the event could be designed to highlight your area and the rides therein, that you think are representative of the features of your State or Province.

Here's an example of what I'm thinking, then add your imagination. Say, the Washington UMCI group thinks that the highlight of Washington and the best rides are located around the prominent mountains of the state. So that group designs a base area like Mt. Rainier or Mt. Helens, and then day rides to featured areas. The ride might consider a lunch before returning to basecamp.

I think something like this could get us all excited about seeing new places and the featured attractions of other areas. These events could last 3 days to a full week. Just something that could be a lot of fun. Please think about it and design your ride so everyone can enjoy your State or Province.

Your group could forward your ideas to me, so we could get it into the yearly planning which I hope is finished by early February. I would love to see all of our members get involved. Remember my example is just that, please have fun with this and No, I have not gone Crazy. LOL

Thanks Kevin and Kevi

Gary's View

I ATTEND MY FIRST SIDECAR RALLY

Gary Shearer, UMCi Oregon State Rep

Since 1986 I have attended a lot of motorcycle rallies. I have also driven three different sidecar rigs. But I am a new member of the USCA, the United Sidecar Assn, and the forum reports a fall get-together in western Colorado. I see where that rally is sponsored by the BMW club, so when I tried to register online, I was rejected because I am not a member of their BMW club.

When I sent an email to their representative, I never received a response. I am going anyway and have made my lodging arrangements and travel arrangements. Wanda will be in New York City with family.

I intend to leave by pickup pulling the rig on a trailer. I leave Salem, Oregon on September 15. I have never traveled to a motorcycle event in this manner, so will see.

At 5:10AM it was 62 deg. as I left the house. At 0705 I was in Gates and the highway was closed because of fire cleanup. At 0720 they reopened the road and we followed a pilot car. At 0730 the road is again closed at Whitewater Creek bridge, the Linn Co. line.

We finally got through the last stoppage and at 0915 I was in Bend, 135 miles from home. At Basque, Oregon it was 85 degrees and heavy smoke, can see about ½ mile. At McDermitt, Nevada it was 87 degrees and smoke, but visibility was about a mile. Just north of Winnemucca, Nevada, at the Hwy 140 jct. it was 89 degrees and smoky but can see about 3 miles.

At 730 PM I arrived in Wells, NV at the Super 8, a 645-mile day. Thursday, September 16 arrived and I was ready to roll at 530 AM. The motel office was closed and there was no coffee. So, I refueled at the Pilot station, got some coffee and a biscuit, and at 6 AM I am headed east.

I head to Green River but took a detour through the town of Helper, Utah. I had never done that before and it is a very old but interesting town. Well worth my time. I did the same for the town of Price but Helper was my favorite.

I arrived at Green River at 3 PM and 90 degrees and needing gasoline. I gassed up at Pilot/Flying J but my card was refused. I went inside and was told they are not a full-service Pilot, just diesel. They took my card, credited my account and I was OK to go. One of the trailer tires was going flat so generator and air compressor went to work and I was ready to roll again.

At 6 PM I arrived at the Days Inn in Delta, Colorado for the night. I have paid reservations for the next three nights, and that is good because they were sold out, each night. This motel is undergoing extensive repairs and service was not what I had expected, or what it should have been.

As I readied to unload the bike the battery was dead, not just low, dead. My battery charger was still in Salem and the Napa Auto Parts next door was closed until 7 AM. So, I walked about ¼ mile to the Stockyard restaurant for dinner. This is TRUMP COUNTRY! My kind of place!

I had three beers called Avalanche and some chili fries appetizer, then walked back to my room.

Friday, 7 AM, and I am at the Napa store and bought a battery charger. I started the generator and charger. At 1030 AM the bike still would not start and since I needed generator gasoline, I put everything away. I then drove the 20 miles to Hotchkiss where the rally was being held.

Hotchkiss is a small village and quite old. I found the fairgrounds and saw about 15 tents, one motorcycle and 4 or more RVs. There was nothing going as they were all out riding. I met two sidecar rigs leaving the area. They were old Urals.

I drove back to Delta and hooked up the trailer and got the generator running again. I then walked ¼ mile to a coffee and pastry shop called White Dahlias. This was a good stop. Neat.

At 235 PM I got the bike started and unloaded it from the trailer and rode around town. The bike seems OK. Something is killing the battery each time.

I stopped at the Elks Lodge. Nice people. They have a steak dinner tonight so I signed up. While there some guy bought a round of drinks for everyone and I got a free ticket. The Elks also have a fund raiser breakfast Sunday from 9-11.

At the Elks I talked with people who live in Hotchkiss and they said the bikes are usually on the road at sunrise. They know about the Thunder Mountain Rendezvous and said they are nice people. One of the guys asked about my bike and sidecar and we talked at length. He bought my drink tonight. He said the Days Inn is old. I said it needs a lot of repairs and he agreed.

I dropped the trailer at Big O Tires and they will repair or replace the tire that keeps going flat. I will see them later.

Saturday, September 18 saw me up early, quite dark. None of the coffee shops were open. McDonalds opened at 7 AM so I had breakfast and coffee there. I refueled the bike. It was a beautiful sunrise as I headed east to Hotchkiss. I had intended to have breakfast there at the rally but had not paid my \$60.00 registration.

I saw no sidecars and only a couple of bikes, so motored on east into the mountains on Hwy 92. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison is spectacular. I rode about 75 miles to a viewpoint. There was lots of traffic because US50 is closed at Montrose plus this is hunting season and the elk hunters are out in force.

I came upon a fresh road-kill deer and a short time later a mama deer and her baby dashed across about 50 feet in front of me. I was riding at 35 mph.

On my way back I stopped for gasoline in Hotchkiss and there was a Triumph with sidecar at the pumps. He was a Beemer rider and had borrowed this rig to try it out. He looked mine over and saw it was a DMC and asked about them. He said he was thinking of having DMC make and mount a sidecar to his BMW. I told him Jay would do it right as he had done three rigs for me.

When I got back to Delta, I stopped at Big O Tires and found out they had plugged a nail hole, no

charge, and said I was good to go. I got the pickup, hooked up the trailer and went back to my motel and loaded the bike on the trailer. I return home tomorrow.

It is 230 PM and I am all ready to go. Time to shower and go to the Elks for my steak dinner and free drink. It has been a good trip even with the bike issues, but I will never tow again. I will take the time to ride or not go. I am 1166 miles from home.

SUNDAY, September 18, and I am up early and pulled out at 345 AM. I am not waiting until 0900 for the Elks breakfast. It rained hard during the night and there is heavy cloud cover. No coffee now. In between the breaks in the clouds there is a beautiful full moon.

I stopped in Green River for coffee and a sweet roll. Nothing open except the fuel stop and I have traveled 146 miles in 3½ hours and is now daylight. At 1020 I stopped in Draper, Utah for fuel. There were 6 police vehicles and they were taking 1-2 into custody. I saw one being given a sobriety test. Gasoline, coffee and snack food and I am on my way.

As I turned west to cross the Salt Desert there were strong winds and trucks blowing all over the place. I then re-routed and continued on I-15 and I-84. Twelve hours after my start I was in Twin Falls, Idaho for fuel. It was starting to rain again and it looks ugly. Finally at 630 PM I reached Ontario, Oregon and the Quality Inn for the night.

On Monday the 19th at 7 AM I headed west at 46 degrees. I pulled into my driveway at 330 PM. I traveled a distance of 1162 miles home by what I thought was going to be further, but it was 1166 miles to get to Colorado. 4 miles difference! Gosh!

Good trip? Yes, in spite of it all. Would I do it again? Yes, but not in this manner. I would ride the bike all the way, or not go. Sidecar rally? Yes, if it is a USCA planned event. This Thunder Mountain Rendezvous was a BMW event where they invited sidecarists. Not the same thing!

Now it is time to continue planning for our UMCI rally next July.

South Region

Hello Friends:

Well daylight is waning more each day. The rain is coming more frequently, the temperature is cooling (only 59 for a high today). Fall is upon us.

So I thought it is time for a CHANGE ! Things are going way to smoothly, I need to tick somebody OFF.

I AM GOING TO CHANGE THE MEETING TIME !

I AM GOING TO CHANGE THE MEETING TIME !

I checked with Abby's in Sutherlin, Oregon, they serve breakfast until NOON, on Saturday.

We can order breakfast at 10:00 AM and we can have our meeting at 10:30 AM.

Breakfast at 10, meeting at 10:30.

We will most likely go back to the old time next spring.

I thought this might make it a little more convenient for friends visiting from out of the area.

I hope and pray everyone is OK, most of us have lost friends and loved ones lately.

Gary and Lyn lead our local meeting this month. There were 5 who showed up including our newest members, the Brewers. I was out of town with family things.

When you go riding this time of the year, watch out for leaves and slick spots.

GOD BLESS AND GOD SPEED

Zack

Grants Pass/Medford Area

The weather in Southern Oregon is turning colder quickly. Some of us have been getting in some riding in the last warm days.

At our Monthly Meeting I had two requests. One was for a dinner meeting and I have one set up for October 28th at 6:00 in the Evergreen Room at Taprock Grill in Grants Pass.

The other request was for a "Burger Ride " to McGrew's out in O'Brian on the following Thursday.

Turns out the phone line in O'Brian was down so I couldn't make a reservation and I wondered if they were open or not so I had "Plan B" to go to Carlos in Cave Junction.

That Thursday, I thought there would be six, maybe eight of us turn out for the ride, but 16 of us turned out, thirteen on bikes and three by car. Normally we would split into two groups for the ride, but I thought it would be a great thing to all ride together and it was, although I may never do that again.

It turned out McGrew's was closed due to lack of staff I found out later, so I called Carlos to see if they could seat us all and they could. It was pretty great, they sat us all together as if at one big table. It was a fun time.

It has turned cold here and I am already looking forward to warmer weather.

See you all soon,

Rick Foley

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

So Sad, we are in that terrible winter period where there are more hours of darkness than sunlight.

Finally, some real rain, like inches, and even a bit of snow in the mountains. Actually the 7th wettest September on record as it turned out. We have had a good variety of autumn weather with temperatures ranging from mid-50° up to a 90° day.

October has definitely brought the cooler and somewhat wetter fall weather. But, really not bad so far.

Activity Report

Saturday September 25: Vancouver, at Paul's, was on the schedule. However, unfortunately Derald was sick, so he couldn't make the breakfast. I didn't go either, but apparently CZ & Mike & Sheryl B. did.

CZ went by the check on Derald, he was waiting on test results, but it is not Covid, basically heart and lung issues. Hoping for improvements for Derald!

Saturday October 1: This morning was our first official meeting at Oregon City Shari's. We had 7 attending, include Glen & Barb and Sue Jenkins. Larry Dunton was in Seattle boarding a cruise ship.

Sunday October 3: This morning was the Mid-Columbia breakfast at Lyle. I didn't go, but the usual suspects (Dennis, Bernice, CZ and Klickitat John) minus Joanne were there.

Saturday October 9: So, this morning it was back to Shari's in Oregon City. The new place seems to be working our ok so far. We just had 5 attending this morning, including Susie Jenkins, Mike & Sheryl, CZ & myself.

Larry Dunton was off cruising the seas and I assume Paul Brown was over at his Trout Lake cabin.

Derald Johnsen is in a care facility recovering from pneumonia. Last report is he is doing much better.

Saturday October 16: CZ, Denise and Bernice went to Hermiston and met Ed Baker for breakfast.

I finally got my garage door, so I spent time in Wasco setting up wiring. I also spent about an hour sweeping a ton of dirt out of the garage, after some 10 weeks with no door. Plan to go back over next weekend and finish the wiring, so I have lights and powered outlets.

Oh, and Happy Birthday to me!



1939 Brough Superior Golden Dream

November Birthdays

2 - Karen Taylor
9 - Dennis Carr
12 - Gary Lesko
14 - Lance Tolle
14 - Judy Baker

21 - Linda Bayless
22 - Jolene Foley
29 - Rick Foley
28 - Georgia Rinnan



BIRTHDAY
BALLOON COUNTDOWN

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - November 2021

For Sale

2008 Bunkhouse Lil B • Motorcycle Camp Trailer

Asking \$2500

12 inch wheels • Radial Tires • Bearing Buddies • Extended Tongue, with Swivel Hitch
Retractable Front Screw-Jack Wheel • Screw Jack Stabilizers • Entry Canopy, w/custom curtains
Custom storage pockets on Top Cover • Storage Boxes front and rear • Spare Tire Rack



Contact: Ben Altman • 541-993-9015 • ben.altman47@gmail.com

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - November 2021

For Sale

Harley Davidson Leathers, Like New!

1. Harley Davidson leather pants. No hem at bottom. Waste is marked 40, but more accurate size guess would be 38. Cut like Wrangler or Levi. Length is good on me and I'm 6'1" easily cut shorter \$150
2. Harley Davidson Chaps. Size M, hemmed at bottom. Unisex. Small pocket. \$150.
3. J&J chaps. XXL with no hem. Pocket with flap on left leg. \$120
4. Harley Davidson FXRG lined Heavy Leather Jacket. Excellent condition in all aspects. \$350

Open to offers and would discount for multiple items purchased.

Contact Tom Wells: 509-995-5747 or tewells99029@gmail.com



The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - November 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

The SparkPlug

Oregon State UMCI - November 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!

1st Saturday Metro South (Oregon City) 8:30 AM <u>Shari's</u> at the Oregon City Shopping Center 1926 McLoughlin Blvd, Oregon City, OR Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 ben.altman47@gmail.com	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
1st Saturday Grants Pass/Medford 8:30 AM <u>Shenanigans Lounge</u> at Herb's Restaurant 515 Rogue River Highway, Grants Pass, OR Rick Foley cell: 541-916-2506 rick1foley@gmail.com	3rd Thursday North Coast Lunch 11:30 AM Golden Luck, 159 W. Bond St, Astoria Jim Roehr, 503-458-5852
1st Saturday North Coast Breakfast 9:00 AM <u>Buoy 9 Restaurant</u> , 996 Pacific Dr. Hammond, Or Jim Roehr, 503-458-5852	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
1st Sunday Mid Columbia 8:00 AM <u>Lyle Cafe</u> , 605 State St, Lyle Washington John & Hazel Dougherty, 541-399-6172 Goldendale, WA	4th Saturday Vancouver 7:00 AM <u>Paul's Restaurant</u> (No Host) 1800 Broadway Street, Vancouver, WA
1st & 2nd Saturdays, Metro South (Milwaukie) 8:30 AM <u>Shari's</u> at the Oregon City Shopping Center 1926 McLoughlin Blvd, Oregon City, OR Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 ben.altman47@gmail.com	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
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	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
2nd Saturday, Breakfast, 10 AM, Meeting at 10:30 AM <u>Abby's Pizza</u> , 1011 W. Central Ave, Sutherlin, OR Zack Hoffman, 541-430-3568, zhoffman3478@msn.com	Burns - Call Jim 9:00 AM Jim & Zelly Campbell, 541-573-7607 PO Box 1010, Hines, OR 9773

Gary Shearer
Oregon State Rep
 1995 Michigan City Ln NW
 Salem OR 97304-9561
backroad-rider@comcast.net
 503-508-2104

Wanda Shearer, Treasure
Pins & Patches
 1995 Michigan City Ln NW
 Salem OR 97304-9561
wandashearer@comcast.net
 503-580-7043

Zack Hoffman
South Regional Rep
 401 SE Grape Ave.
 Winston, OR 97496-9545
Zhoffman3478@gmail.com
 541-679-7883

David Fitzgerald, Editor
SparkPlugEditor@gmail.com
 206-300-5034



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



Gary Shearer
1995 Michigan City Ln NW
Salem OR 97304-9561