



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI



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August 2023



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Oregon State UMCI - August 2023

2023 INTERNATIONAL REPS COMMENTS!!!! MY HONEST OPINION GREAT RALLY!!!!

It's in the books, the 2023 International is over and it was a success. Although it was really hot, I think everyone had a good time. Monday was registration and thanks to George and Willie Penner, registration went great. Thank you very much, it takes a lot off my mind. We had 39 members camping and 43 for our banquet meal.

Tuesday, the 18th was a "ride on your own" day. It was pretty hot so not too many took off, plus the wind raised its ugly head. Tuesday night we had an Ice cream social that was really appreciated, it was so darned hot. As usual, everyone was in bed by 9:30 (real rowdy bunch, for sure).

Wednesday, the 19th, was again, ride or go wherever you wanted. A lot of people took off to Leavenworth or just visited the sights in Cashmere, where the museum, Aplets and Cotlets Candy Factory were a real popular destination.

Randy and I planned a poker run about 3 weeks before the rally. It was held Wednesday morning. About 25 members went on the poker ride. It was about 65 miles round trip. \$50.00 for high hand and \$25.00 for low. I of course got nothing but a good ride. I lead a ride over Badger Mountain to Waterville, then down McNeal Canyon to Lone Pine for lunch, then back to the fairgrounds. All those on the ride seemed to have had a great time and I didn't even get lost one time. Of course, I was born and raised in Waterville so that helped a lot.

Wednesday night, Randy and Lynn Schaal made Enchilada casserole for everyone. The club purchased all the groceries and they did the cooking. It was really great food. Randy was the cook and did a great job, go figure, he can do something good. But thanks for doing that, everyone appreciated the effort. I must say, they came up from Arizona to help with the International and it is so appreciated.

Thursday was the last day of the rally. Everyone just kind of hung out at camp. It was 100 plus that day, but fortunately we had an air-conditioned building to slip into. A lot of members ended up playing cards or just sitting and enjoying each other's company.

We had our Rep's meeting at 3:00 PM and had a great session with great attendance and membership participation. I will complete the minutes shortly. I felt it was a great meeting and good input.

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We adjourned the meeting around 5:30 and got ready for our banquet. Classic Grill'n out of Othello catered our event and they did a fantastic job. I don't think anyone left hungry. They catered our Spring Banquet and it was equally as good.

We had our door prize drawings and I want to thank you all for bringing so many great door prizes. It was a lot of fun and thank you to Mary Nordby and Randy Schaal for running prizes for me, helped a lot.

We had our 50/50 drawing and we gave all of the money back on the last night which was really appreciated. I want to thank Carol for selling 50/50 tickets all three nights. That was a great big help and I think she really kind of enjoyed doing it.

The numbers were down, but I think everyone had a good time. When I looked around, everyone was either getting ready to go for a ride or just really enjoying each other's company, and that's what it's all about.

I hope that any one that took pictures please share them on the UMCI home page or get them to David Fitzgerald, he can work magic with pictures we are so lucky to have David and Susan, sure missed them at the Rally.

Thanks for letting us call you a friend, it is our pleasure!

Kevin and Kevi

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INTERNATIONAL 2023 REP'S MEETING MINUTES!!

Thursday, July 20th, Cashmere County Fairgrounds, the Reps meeting was called to order by Kevin Besel, International Rep, at 3pm.

Kevin reported that Washington State was still going. David Fitzgerald is doing a good job with the Seattle area, not too many new members, but financially holding their own. Charlie Crane was representing Spokane Area and said they showed no growth, but still had active members and riders. They're holding their own financially. George Penner reported he is talking to everyone that he runs into on motorcycle and hands out cards but no growth.

Oregon has no State Rep at the present time. Gary and Wanda Shearer have stepped down. Kevin said he understood completely and thanked Gary and Wanda for all of the years they have helped this organization. Gary turned over all club money and minutes etc. to the International Rep (Kevin).

Zack, the Southern Oregon Rep, said he had about 12 to 14 at times for breakfast, not too many riders, but still plugging along. He said Rick Foley, at Grants Pass, had active riders but not too many new members. Current leadership is tired, someone needs to step up with new ideas and get up and go.

Rick Killebrew, Idaho State Rep, said they have usually 35 for breakfast and financially very strong. Rick has a hard job but he is ready for the challenge. He will do a great job. Rick said he has started using an app called *Meetup*. It basically hooks you up with other people with similar interests. He said he had 57 members he communicates with. Rick said if you got one new UMCI member time well spent. Go get them Rick.

Canada was represented by Anne. She said about 5 for breakfast in Calgary, only Marg is left. Medicine hat is still active and they have 20-30 for breakfast. Not interested in doing the International at this time. Great to see all of the Canadians for sure.

Kevin thanked all the reps for their hard work and for staying with it. From this meeting, conclusions were made mostly by Kevin.

1. **Large problem attracting new members, younger people don't belong to clubs** and usually when they do join, they don't want to get to involved.
2. **Our membership now is getting older** and a lot have quit riding, but still enjoy getting together and seeing old friends. One of the points in our motto is friendship.
3. Kevin noted that these two large problems have been with the club for as long as he has been in the club and will probably be with us a long time to come.

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Several great ideas came out in discussion, great input from all members.

1. Take your newsletter and see if your local bike shops will let you leave a copy so others could read what you are doing in your areas.
2. Hand out cards with your name, time and dates of your breakfast meetings. Kevin said Dan Magee will print cards and will send some to each rep to hand out.
3. Come up with a one-page handout with all areas represented. Pending rallies and events coming up would be easier to promote. It would be easier for people to get a good idea as to what the UMCI does. Will take some real communication to get this done but would be a great tool.
4. We should all look into the *Meetup*, app that Rick mentioned. It can't hurt and what a connection to other riders, might be a great tool for all areas. Ricks email is listed in the Idaho newsletter if you have any questions.

Ben Altman wanted us to be sure that in the quest for new blood that we don't forget our current members and make sure we are doing the types of things that still keeps them in the group. I totally agree with that.

We had some general discussion and more great ideas and I was happy to come away with the feeling that we all want the club to continue and will work to make sure that happens.

I spoke to each Rep and inquired if there was anything I could do to help them. One of the topics we discussed was the By-Laws and I came to the conclusion that our by-laws are so simple the only thing that might be changed would be the age limit, otherwise the by-laws will remain as is.

I walk away from this years International recharged and happy that we are a part of this group. We will continue on. I just want to thank all of those that came to the rally and hope that all of you had a good time.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M. but not before I got a chance to harp on wearing your vest or patches on your hat or clothes. People do ask what the UMCI is all about when they see our colors.

Minutes are respectfully submitted by Kevin and Kevi Besel

DISCLAIMER: MINUTES ARE AS SUBMITTED AND WRITTEN AS WELL AS WE CAN REMEMBER. I AM SURE SOME THINGS WERE MISSED BUT AS ACCURATE AS WE COULD GET THEM.

The Sparkplug Coming Events

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2023 Rides and Rally Schedule

- Apr 29-30, Spring Banquet - Othello Senior Center, Othello WA**
Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com - Registration attached
- Jun 2-5, North Cascades Campout - [Loup Loup Campground](#), Twisp WA**
Dennis Parsley, 360-672-1901 - No Resv, FCFS ([map](#)) ([G. Earth](#))
- Jun 11-16, Idaho Panhandle Tour 2023 - Includes Idaho State Rally**
Daniel Magee, 403 878-5859 - [Panhandle Tour Information](#)
- Jun 13-15, Idaho State Rally - Clearwater River KOA, Kamiah ID**
Larry Phelps, ljphelps1951@gmail.com - See Flyer for information
- Jun 20-23, Farragut State Park (Snowberry Campground), Athol ID**
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 - [Resv](#) (Non-Idaho Residents = \$\$\$)
- Jun 26-29, Laird Park Campout - [Laird Park Campground](#), Harvard ID**
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 ([map](#)), Please RSVP
- Jul 17-20, International - Chelan County Fairgrounds, Cashmere WA**
Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com, See Registration - Complete ASAP
- Aug 8-10, Clyde Holiday Campout - [Clyde Holiday State Park](#), Mt Vernon OR**
Dick Hohstadt, 541-786-0230, **Reservations Required**, [See Info](#)
- Aug 23-27, Coos Bay Campout, Coos County Fairgrounds, Myrtle Point OR**
Chris Williams, 541-404-5286, Additional Info - See Registration Form
- Aug 25-28, Lost Resort, Cabins & Campground ([map](#)) - Ozette WA**
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034 ([Info](#))
- Sep 1-4, Tygh Valley, Wasco County Fairgrounds ([map](#)) - Tygh Valley OR**
Ben Altman, 541-993-9015 - Reservations not required

Cover Photo

[Locust Grove Church](#), on Hwy 206, [approximately 4½ miles west of Wasco](#), OR

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

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**37th Annual
UMCI Coos Bay Camp Out
Coos County Fairgrounds, Myrtle Point, Oregon
August 23-27, 2023**

WEDNESDAY – Camp setup; self-guided tours.

THURSDAY - On-site registration; self-guided tours; **bring a can of chili!**; 50/50.

FRIDAY – Self-guided tours; hot dog and chili dinner; 50/50.

SATURDAY – 8 am: No host \$5 Pancakes & Eggs Breakfast (at fairgrounds)

9 am: Poker run; 6 pm: No host \$25 Seafood Dinner (at fairgrounds).

8 pm: Official meeting; 50/50 and ***door prize*** drawings.

SUNDAY – 8 am breakfast at Kozy Kitchen; breakdown camp. See you next year!!!!

RIDER 1 _____ AGE _____ YEARS ATTENDED _____

RIDER 2 _____ AGE _____ YEARS ATTENDED _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

<u>Fees</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total</u>
Registration per person	\$7		
Campsite at fairground \$35 per night	\$35		
Poker Run per person (optional)	\$5		
Dinner per person (optional) Sign up by Thursday night	\$25		
Grand Total of Fees			

Make checks payable to Chris Williams and mail to 721 7th Street, Myrtle Point, OR 97458
Questions or comments call Chris at 541-404-5286 or send an e-mail to ebecknesr@gmail.com.

THE UNDERSIGNED DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I/WE WILL NOT HOLD THE OREGON UMCI RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS, DAMAGE OR INJURY THAT MAY OCCUR WHILE AT THIS CAMP OUT.

Signature, Rider 1

Date

Signature, Rider 2

Date

August 2023 Wasconian Tidbits – Ben Altman

Well, the first half of the year is in the books and the rally season is in full swing.

Not much happenin here, so let's review the weather.

June ended with a string of days in the upper-80's to mid-90s and no rain. Only had .10 inch of rain for the entire month. Summer weather is here. Sure, could use some rain. I can't believe I said that.

The first 9 days of July we had mid-90s, but it did bump up to 101° Thursday the 6th.

Surprise, Monday (10th) rain blowin on my bedroom window woke me up. It didn't last long (.02 inch) and all it did was settle some dust and raise the humidity to 72%. However, it dropped back down to 30% by the afternoon. 20 mph wind dries things out pretty quickly. High for the day was only 78° however, it dropped back down to 40% by noon..

Back up to mid to upper 80s Tuesday -Thursday, oh and of course some wind but under 15 mph so not too bad. 15 mph here is considered mild. Then it hit 98° Friday & 104° Saturday!

Activity Report

Sunday July 2: This morning it was the Mid-Columbia Breakfast at Bob's Steak House in

Rufus. We had our normal attendance including D & B Miles, Joanne Daniel, Klickitat John, CZ and me. There were three riders. Would have been 4, but John's bike is still in the shop waiting for brake parts (4 weeks now).

July 4: Sad to say the 4th of July just doesn't have the spark it once did and still should. There is a parade, and some scheduled fireworks in The Dalles, but nothing in Wasco.

To me Memorial Day and the 4th of July are the only truly pure American holidays. It is sad to see them fade in importance to most people, for other than a paid day off.

July 12: Mary Nordby returned from her camp hosting at Yellowpine to get ready for the International.

July 16: Today it's off to the International in Cashmere for Mary & me.

Our brother-in-law has a guest house he is letting us use for the week. Dick Burnam and Maralee are sharing it with us.

July 17-20: Well, the International in Cashmere is over. The turnout this year was better than last year, as we had 44 attending the Banquet. While the attendance was relatively low, it was good to see all our old friends, all great folks!





Breakfast with friends



The Banquet



**Proof that Joe Holstadt can win 50/50
 *** No more whining Joe *****

On the return home Dick Burnam and Maralee stayed the night at my place before heading back to Boise. As always, Mary & I enjoyed their company.

The Decision has been made - **Oregon Will continue to Run, but without any State Officers.**

Gary & Wanda Shearer have officially stepped down and no one has stepped up to take their places as State Rep and Treasurer. So, at the International, Gary turned over the remaining funds in the Oregon Checking account to George Penner, International Treasurer.

So, other than limited cash funds I have on hand for Tygh Valley, Oregon has no bank account.

However, Oregon Members remain as Members of the International Group, and will continue to function as usual relying totally on our Local Area Reps.

I must say that given the continued efforts of our faithful Local Area Reps (Zack Hoffman, Rick Foley, CZ, Jim Roehr, Chris Williams & Dick

Hohstadt) things in Oregon seem to be running as well as can be expected. Weekly and monthly meetings continue on a regular basis and rallies being scheduled.

Hats off to all our Local Reps, Keep up the good work, THANKS for your continued support of the Club!

No Lane Splitting This Year

Well, SB 422 was left stuck in the Joint Committee on Transportation as the Legislature adjourned for this session.

I suspect ABATE will push to bring it back for the next legislative session.

Ben

August Birthdays



1 - Churck Christiansen
2 - Sandy Neuburger
2 - Duane Huff
3 - Tamra Mickley
4 - Marty Maxfield
6 - Mary Nordby
7 - Jerry Broaddus
10 - Steven Selensky
13 - Hal Thompson

14 - Lee Huff
17 - Dorothy Emerling
21 - Max Bowman
22 - Buck Buchanan
22 - Dorothy Kirchem
28 - Bill Melzer
31 - William Smith
31 - Jefferson Mason



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For Sale

1995 Bushtec Turbo Trailer • New \$6000
Was ~~\$2500~~, Now \$1500



Contact: Gary Shearer

503-508-2104 • backroad-rider@comcast.net

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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>Shari's Restaurant</u> 19001 Beaver Creek Rd, Oregon City Dick Czmowski, 971-338-3196 dickczmo@aol.com</p>	<p>3rd Thursday North Coast Lunch 11:30 AM <u>Logger Restaurant</u> 42929 Old US Hwy 30, Knappa OR Jim Roehr, 503-458-5852</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 Saturday Tangent 8:00 AM <u>Dixie Creek Saloon (In heart of town)</u> 32994 Hwy 99E, Tangent OR Floyd McMillin, 541-990-5304 ellentonimcmillin@gmail.com</p>
<p>4th 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 Hermiston 8:00 AM <u>Denny's Restaurant</u> 2265 Hwy 395 S, Hermiston Ed Baker, 791-338-3196 PO Box 141, Heppner OR</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>2nd Saturday, Metro South (Milwaukie) 8:30 AM <u>Elmer's Restaurant</u> 16087 SE 82nd Dr, Clackamas OR Dick Czmowski, 971-338-3196 dickczmo@aol.com</p>	<p>4th Sunday Coos Bay 9:00 AM <u>Kozy Kitchen</u> Chris & Eva Williams, 541-404-5286 721 7th St. Myrtle Point OR cwilliams88ci@yahoo.com</p>
<p>2nd Saturday, Meeting at 9:00 AM, Breakfast 8:00 AM <u>Abby's Pizza</u>, 1011 W Central Ave, Sutherlin OR Zack Hoffman, 541-430-3568 zhoffman3478@msn.com</p>	<p>Burns - Call Jim 9:00 AM Jim & Zelly Campbell, 541-573-7607 32401 Airport Lane, Burns OR</p>
<p>3rd Tuesday Portland Widow's Chapter 12:30 AM <u>Applebee's</u> 10172 SE 82nd St, Portland OR Lyn McCabe 503-351-7009 lcbrenna3068@gmail.com</p>	

Position Open

Oregon State Rep

1995 Michigan City Ln NW
 Salem OR 97304-9561
backroad-rider@comcast.net
 503-508-2104

Position Open

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: Ben Altman
PO Box 65
Wasco OR 97065-0065



Ben Altman
PO Box 65
Wasco OR 97065-0065