



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI



Volume 07 - Issue 09



September 2023



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

International Reps 2 Cents

(for what it's worth)

Hi to all. I hope this note finds all of you in God's good health and enjoying a few good rides yet this fall. It has been really hot this last couple of days so I haven't been doing too much riding. Yesterday it was 102, so it doesn't make much sense to be running around in that.

But, it looks like next week will be down in the mid 80's. That I can handle and there still should be great riding. I think in the Pacific Northwest and the Columbia Basin it has forgotten how to rain. I've been talking to some of the farmers in the basin area and they're certainly down in the dumps, especially the dry land farmers where no rain means no wheat.

Kevi and I have not been able to attend many of the campouts that we have had this year. I thought we'd be able to attend several, but I'm still working so that throws a monkey wrench into camping. I just want to thank all of you who organized these campouts. No one can say this year there was nothing to do, there certainly was.

We had planned on going to Coos Bay and had things all lined up when Kevi remembered that her sister would be visiting during that time. She has Parkinson's disease and needs some assistance. So, Coos Bay will have to wait one more year! But we're going to Tygh Valley come hell or high water.

As I look over this year's events and things to do, man, we had a bunch of activities this year. I hope that you had a chance to take part in a few of them. I know as a rep, I get all wound up in trying to plan too much. A campout or a rally doesn't have to be difficult to put on, just a place to camp and an area where there is good riding. If meals are wanted, then do them, but not a requirement.

The best thing that I came away with from some of our get-togethers is that friendships are renewed and new friendships are made. I value those friendships made long ago and making a new friend is nothing better.

I wanted to take a few minutes and thank Rick and Carla Killebrew for stepping into the leadership role for the Idaho UMCI. Thanks for stepping up. I feel that you will do a great job. I just read the Idacycle and his write up was spot on. The letter exudes spirit and get up and go. "Thanks, I needed that". It's so refreshing to see someone's energy pop off the page. Keep it up Rick!!

I hope to see all of you at one of the next rallies. In the mean time, God Bless. Ride safe, ride lots and most of all, have a ton of fun.

Kevin & Kevi

The Sparkplug Coming Events

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

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

The 90 ft. long, [Stayton-Jordon Bridge](#), is located in [Pioneer Park](#), Stayton OR.

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

September 2023 Wasconian Tidbits

Ben Altman

Upon return from the heat of the International, July ended a bit cooler, much more comfortable with a string of days in the 80s, except Monday (24th) it only made it to 78°. No additional rain, just .02 inch for the month. We have had less than 2 inches of rain since February.

The first 4 days in August heated back up into the 90s. Then Friday was cloudy and only made it to 81° and we got .01 inch of rain overnight. It stayed cloudy in the 80s Saturday & Sunday with light wind 5-10 mph.

On Monday I left to camp at Silver Falls State Park with Mary and David & Sue Fitzgerald. See details below.

I returned home Friday the 11th. It was 96° with strong winds (17-25). It stayed in the upper 90s over the weekend, then it jumped up to 104° Monday and then hit 108° on Tuesday. It cooled off a bit Wednesday in to low 90s then dropped into the 80s for the rest of the weeks. We also got a lot of smoke from wild fires.

Well, all the wheat fields have finally been harvested, about a month later than historic schedules. The harvest typically has been completed by the 4th of July, but for the last 3 years the harvest hasn't started until mid-July. This year's crop was reported at about 50-60% of volume and quality at last year's yield. The high heat and lack of rain has impacted the crop growth. Last year was a record year, producing the highest and best quality yield ever. But last year we got an inch of rain in April, which was just what the wheat needed.

Lost Members & Friends

Last month it was reported that we lost Ned Ackerman.

That reminded me that I had not heard from Charlie and Audrey Cripps for quite some time, so I checked on them. Sadly, I found out from their son, William, that they had both passed away within months of each other in early 2021. Charlie was just a couple years younger than Ned, which made them our two oldest members.

Charley & Audrey were a great and fun couple. Mary & I shared a mobile home with them at the Moose Jaw Rally. We had a great time! William said he had reported it, but I must have missed the announcement.

Activity Report

Sunday August 6: This morning it was the Mid-Columbia Breakfast at Bob's Steak House in Rufus. We were short D & B Miles, but Joanne Daniel, Klickitat John, CZ and me did attend. There were 2 riders.

Follow-up Report – Bernice Mills had to have her trike hauled home on a wrecker after experiencing clutch issues on the return from the International. Dennis ordered a clutch slave cylinder and I believe he got it, but don't know if he has installed it yet.
August 7-11: Mary Nordby & I joined David & Sue Fitzgerald camping at Silver Falls State Park. Friends of theirs from Seattle were also there. And Joanne Daniel, Patrick McMannis & Jennie were also there.

The weather was perfect in the high 70s to mid-80s cooling down to the mid-50s at night. Did some hiking, to the extent my oldish body allowed me to.



That is my 60 second tent. It goes up quickly and down just as fast, then it only takes about an hour to get it back in the carry bag.

I was amazed that we could have campfires. We had some nice even fire chats and Wednesday we had a group dinner.

We met a couple (Julie & Jeff Brown) camping next to us from Salem, they were on bikes. So, we asked them to join us for our evening meal. We gave them a Sparkplug and explained about UMCI. They seemed interested. I invited them to Tygh Valley, but they will be in Venice, so don't expect them to make it. Got their email so we can stay in touch with them.



August 10: Mary headed back to Unity State Park to finish out the month of her camp hosting there.

I headed back on the 11th to Wasco but stopped in Silverton and had breakfast with CZ and Larry Dunton. I also made a stop in Tualatin (Best Buy) to pick up a new dryer. Seems mine died just before heading over the Silver Falls. However, it did last

about 30 years, so got my money's worth out of it.

NEWS FLASH:

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. At the end of this year, we will no longer be chartered in Oregon separate from the International Organization.

However, this does not mean that you no longer have a club. Oregon Members remain as Members of the International Group and we will continue to function as usual relying totally on our Local Area Reps in unofficial capacities.

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 to be held on a regular basis and rallies being scheduled and attended.

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

Pumpin Gas

Well, the Oregon Legislature didn't pass the lane-splitting bill but did decide that Oregonians may be smart enough to pump their own gas. After 70 years since 1951, Oregon has prohibited individuals from pumping their own gas.

In 2018 the law was amended allowing you to pump your own gas in rural areas. This year, the legislature finally passed a bill allowing such practice statewide, and the Governor has signed it into law.

I guess us rural folks proved it was possible, or maybe just that rural folks are smarter than the Valley people. Of course, Bikers have been pumping their own gas for years, so nothing really changes.



**37th Annual Tygh Valley Campout
(minus 2019 – covid cancelation)
September 1-4, 2023**

- Thursday Aug 31** Early arrivals
Setup camp sites
Food on your own
- Friday Sept 1** Setup camp sites
Breakfast on your own (Molly Bs)
Registration:
(All self register, with Camp Forms @ kiosk)
Self Guided Day Rides
5:00 PM – Spaghetti, Dinner – by Mary & Ben
(Donations Accepted)
7:00 PMish - 50/50
- Saturday Sept 2** Registration, if not already done
Breakfast – Wamic Community Center - Fire District
Self Guided Rides
5:00 PM – Tortilla Soup & Taco Salad - by Mary & Ben
(Donations Accepted)
7:00 PMish - 50/50
- Sunday Sept 3** Self Guided Day Rides
Breakfast – Wamic Community Center - Fire District
5:00 Chili, Hot Dogs & Fruit - by Mary & Ben
(Donations Accepted)
7:00 PMish - 50/50
- Monday Sept 4** Breakfast – On your own
Departures... **Have a Safe Return Home!!!**

Camping Fees

Camping Fees are all self-registering, with Camp Forms @ kiosk near entrance.

Current Fees are the same as last year:

Full-Hook-up	\$30 per day
RV (Power/Water)	\$20 per day
Tent no power/water	\$15 per day
With or without power - No per person charge	

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

Keith Matteson Celebration of Life

Celebrate Keith Matteson's life with us on October 14th, from noon to about 3 pm at the Yaquina Bay Yacht Club, 750 SE Bay Blvd., Newport, Oregon 97365.

Keith wanted a potluck & party so bring your favorite dish and stories to share.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Keith Matteson to: The ALS Association Oregon <https://secure.alsoregon.org/site/Donation>

By mail:

Donations in memory of Keith Matteson to:

The ALS Association Oregon,
825 NE Multnomah St #940
Portland, OR 97232

South Region

Hi Friends,

Hope all is well with everyone. Sorry about not sending a report last month.

July 8, 2023 We had 12 for breakfast with 6 Riding. Gary and Wanda came down from Salem.

Not much news that I can remember from the meeting. 50/50 winners; Gregg Weber, Dwayne Varner, and Lee Huff.

Gary Shearer explained why he and Wanda were stepping down. Keep them in your prayers.

August 12, 2023 Five TRIKES and 10 smiling faces. Gary and Lyn won \$5, Gary and Judy Baker won \$10, and Lynda and Jeff Mason won \$10.

Now for the bad news, Dennis Coats was on his way home from coffee, Aug.3. Someone's big dog was loose and ran right in front of Dennis's Spyder. It threw Dennis off the bike and he broke his leg. He is out of the hospital and in a nursing home.

Archie Billings is very sick and needs to be in a nursing home. Some of his friends and family will be working on getting him some help.

Last week Don Evernden and I triked our way to Grants Pass for their meeting. There were about a

dozen in attendance. They're still very busy having breakfast and going on rides a couple of times a week.

After breakfast Don and I rode down to Rogue River, we then rode out to Wimer, Oregon and up East Evans Creek Road to Snowy Creek to Upper Cow Creek road. Then down past Galesville Reservoir to Azalea, then I-5 home.

Don Evernden, Sam Roth and I went to the UMCI International. We left Monday, around 6 AM, and rode up 138 to 97, then to Cashmere, WA.

We arrived around 4 PM. It was a wonderful rally, we had good time.

Many thanks and attaboys to Kevin & Kevi, Randy & Lyn, George & Willie for all their hard work and dedication.

GOD BLESS

Zack Hoffman

The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

2024 - UMCI International Rally

Sponsored by:

UMCI Idaho

July 23-24-25, 2024

Kamiah / Clearwater River KOA

4243 HWY 12, Kamiah, Idaho

208-935-2556

Email: lcresort@lewisclarkresort.com

Motorhome / Camping / Tent Spots Available

(50 Max Amp, 100' Max Length, Wi-Fi, Pool, Pavilion...)

Motel and Cabins Available

Everyone needs to make their own reservations ASAP

Let them know you are with **UMCI**

Please make your reservations early

(Proposed) **Schedule of Events** (Times TBD)

Mon 22: Early Check-In

Tue 23: Check-In; Organized Ride (Route TBD); Hosted Ice Cream Social; 50/50

Wed 24: Late Check-In; Organized Ride (Maybe a \$5-Poker Run?? Route TBD); 50/50

Thu 25: Rep's Meeting (All May Attend); Banquet; Raffle Prizes; 50/50

Fri 26: Departure

Registrations:

Registration Fees have not as yet been determined or set.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

Watch your UMCI Newsletters in early 2024 for "Official" Registration Forms.

If you have any questions, please email to: Rick Killebrew - ricadev@mindspring.com

September Birthdays

happy
birthday

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
21 - Barbara Reed
25 - Richard Emerling
27 - Kay Bowman
29 - Johnie Hughes



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

For Sale

2018 Suzuki 650 Bergman

Asking \$4,000, with extras



Contact: Dick Czomowski

503-971-3196 dickczmo@aol.com

The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

For Sale

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



Contact: Gary Shearer

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

The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - September 2023

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 (No Host)</u> 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