



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI



Volume 08 - Issue 12



December 2023



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - December 2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS and **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Hi to all of you. I hope this note finds all of you in God's good health and maybe sneaking in a short ride during the week. I have my bike put away so I won't be riding for a while. I have a temporary shed to keep it in. The cats think they can sit on it in the winter so I got a big tarp and wrapped it up to keep them off. Got to build a garage.

It's so hard to believe that it's the December issue already. Time has gone so fast. As I look back on 2023, I must say that it was jammed packed with things to do and campouts to attend. Thanks to all of our members who went the extra mile to setup those campouts. I didn't attend as many as I would have liked, but I hope you did.

We had our Columbia Basin Breakfast on the 10th, and it was well attended for November. I think we had 14 and one brave rider, although it was only a little above freezing. We learned that Tracy, our newest member, is going to Turkey to spend the holidays with her daughter and family. We wish her safe travels in this day and age. It is a risk but, it sounded like she knows her way around over there.

We won't meet at Bob's next month because we'll have our Christmas party at Lynette and Bills. She does such a tremendous job and makes us all feel so at home.

I wish I had lots of words of wisdom, but the only thing I can say is stay healthy and we'll try to have a fun filled 2024 season awaiting you. I have come to believe that we are small in numbers, but the quality and the enthusiasm that our members display is fantastic. If you're thinking of a ride or campout, share it with your rep, no idea is a bad idea.

Kevi and I wish all of you a blessed holiday season and hope that you stay in God's good health and spirits, so you will ride with us next year. We truly feel blessed that we are able to call you friends.

Kevin and Kevi

The Sparkplug Coming Events

Oregon State UMCI - December 2023

2024 Rides and Rally Schedule

May 10-12, Sauk Park Campground, Concrete WA, FCFS, \$10/Night, Info
Duane Wood, 360-766-6603, [54569 Concrete-Sauk Valley Rd](#), Concrete

May 13-18, Cove Palisades / Crooked River State Parks, Culver OR
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034, [Resv ASAP](#), Will fill fast!

Date TBA, Boundary Dam Campground, Metaline Falls WA
Ron Mattox, ronmattox@wavecable.com, Free Camping, [Map](#)

Jul 23-25, UMCI International Rally, Clearwater River KOA, Kamiah ID
Rick Killebrew - ricadev@mindspring.com, See Flyer

Aug 5-9, Vista Park, Skamokawa WA, Reserve now for best selections
David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034, [Online Reservations](#) ([Map](#))

Date TBA, Bear Hollow Park (After Tygh Valley), Fossil, OR
Ron Mattox, ronmattox@wavecable.com, Bear Hollow Road, [Map](#)



Cover Photo

The South Falls, one of about ten waterfalls at Silver Falls State Park. Observe the trail/viewing area behind the falls.

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

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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

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

North Falls at [Silverfalls State Park](#), about [20 miles east of Salem](#).

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

MORE SAD NEWS

I just got news that Polly Blankenbaker passed away Thursday, November 2. Polly and her husband Glenn (deceased) were long time members of the Portland/Oregon City group. She enjoyed the Portland Widow's Lunch and attended several St. Patrick's Day lunches. In more recent years Polly had spent a lot of time with her grandchildren traveling to Europe, China, and various other countries.

Weather Report

The week of October 23 started out Monday with a high of 57, with winds up to 25-35 mph. It rained all afternoon Tuesday and overnight (.37"), with more drizzle Wednesday night. Friday was our first below freezing overnight temperature of 22°. The rest of the month overnight temperatures remained in the low 20's with highs just in the 40s.

The drizzles and showers combined for a total rainfall for October of only .84 inch.

Wow November! November 1st arrived above freezing at 35°, overcast, but dry. High for the day was 51°, with evening rain showers (.26"). Thursday through Tuesday the overnight lows were in the low 40s with highs in the upper 50s and low 60s, but Wednesday night it dropped to 28° and only made it to 45° Thursday with a light wind. The first week and a half we also had an additional .78" of rain.

Veterans Day, November 11th 61° with 30 mph wind today, cloudy with some sunshine. The rest of the week overnight temps were in the upper 20's – low 30s with highs in the mid-to upper 40s.

It was dry all year until now. The October & November rain total so far was 1.78 inches. That's much more than we had last year for the same period, which was next to none.

It's not officially winter yet so I guess this is just practice winter weather. All signs indicate this will be a strong El Nino winter, which means we're not really sure what to expect, other than it probably won't be like the last 2-3 years. So far forecasts seem to lean towards a slightly warmer and dryer winter for the northwest, but we've already had more rain than last year. We'll see...

What Time is it:

It's that time of year, so, November 5th, we did our fall back to Standard Time. It sure would be nice if Congress could get their act together and pass the legislation that would allow Oregon to comply with the vote of the citizens to eliminate the yearly switch back and forth.

The only good thing about Standard Time is sunrise starts out before 7:00 am but the bad part is sunset is before 5:00 pm. Wow, it sure do get dark early! So, my idea is we should go to Standard Daylight Time (SDT). We start the day at 12 midnight on Standard time, then switch to Daylight time at 12 noon. With this program we get earlier daylight and later sunset. If we're looking to improve upon daylight savings time, maybe we should consider saving up some of Alaska's 24 hour per day summer sunlight and use it down here in the winter. I'm sure those legislative wizards can figure that out.

Report

Saturday October 21: Just scope my 10 millionth point playing Spider. That's enough of that for quite a while.

Sunday October 22: Mary & I drove over to Lyle for lunch with the Mid-Columbia Group, including Joanne, Bernice Miles, CZ & Klickitat John.

Monday October 23: Joanne left for Yuma today. Guess we'll see her in the Spring.

November 2: Mary headed south today, decided to not stay until Thanksgiving, because our sister and brother-in-law were not going to come down as originally planned. She is going to Prairie City today to visit with friends, then will head-on south Friday.

Saturday November 4: I just updated the Oregon Roster. Surprisingly, we have **98** members. Of course, many are not active, but still interested members. Some only attend the local food gatherings. The two largest groups are Roseburg and Grants Pass.

Sunday November 5: This morning it was time for the Mid-Columbia breakfast at Bob's Steak House in Rufus. CZ had a family birthday thing so he could not attend, and our two Snowbirds went south, so it was just Klickitat John and myself this morning. Bernice intended to come, but didn't make it.

Thursday November 23: By the time you read this you will probably be full of Thanksgiving turkey and other fine foods. Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Recalling One of Those Moments

I don't remember why I had the bike in Mary's trailer, but this was one of the moments when ya just say Hum, how did that happen? This was at my apartment in Wilsonville.

I was backing the bike out and didn't realize the kickstand was down, until of course the sudden stop when this happened. The stand dropped into the hinge gap of the ramp.

And, of course, the bike was too close to the right side, so the handlebar wouldn't allow it to lean to the right. Guess it was a democrat moment. And, as we know, you can't start the bike with the kickstand down!

Luckily Mary was there, giggling, but more importantly my neighbor was home, which wasn't always the case. Naturally, Mary had to take photos before fetching my neighbor for assistance.

With assistance, following photo shoots, we were able to extricate the bike from this predicament.

These photos hang on my garage door as a reminder of what not to do.



December Birthdays

happy
birthday

16 - Richard Headley

17 - Gary Miller

21 - Julia Bowcutt

21 - Linda Gritzner

26 - Bill Garner

31 - Carol Smith



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Oregon State UMCI - December 2023

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 (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