



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI



Volume 08 - Issue 03



March 2024



The Sparkplug Coming Events

Oregon State UMCI - March 2024

2024 Rides and Rally Schedule

Apr 27-28, Spring Banquet, Othello Senior Center, Othello WA

Kevin Besel, kbesel52@gmail.com, See Registration - Click & Type

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 (Site #C20), 206-300-5034, [Resv ASAP](#), Will fill fast!

Jun 3-5, North Cascades Campout - Loup Loup Campground, Twisp WA

Dennis Parsley, 360-672-1901 - No Resv, ([Info](#)) ([Map](#)) ([Google Earth](#))

Jun 24-27, Laird Park Campout, Laird Park campground, Harvard ID

Lynette Caruthers, 509-760-7956, [Info](#), ([map](#)), BBQ/Potluck on 26th.

Jul 23-25, UMCI International Rally, Clearwater River KOA, Kamiah ID

Rick Killebrew - ricadev@mindspring.com, [See Flyer & Registration](#)

Aug 5-9, Vista Park, Skamokawa WA, Reserve now for best selections

David Fitzgerald, 206-300-5034, [Online Reservations](#) ([Map](#))

Aug 27-Sep 1, Tygh Valley, Wasco County Fairgrounds - Tygh Valley OR

Ben Altman, 541-993-9015, No Resv, Early Arrival 26, Depart on 1st?

Date TBA, Bear Hollow Park (After Tygh Valley), Fossil, OR

Ron Mattox, ronmattox@wavecable.com, Bear Hollow Road, [Map](#)

Sep 24-26, Boundary Dam Campground, Metaline Falls WA

Ron Mattox, ronmattox@wavecable.com, Free Camping, [Map](#)



Updated Info

Cover Photo

View of Tygh Valley from the [Wamic Market RD.](#)

[International Website](#)

[Oregon UMCI Website](#)

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Oregon State UMCI - March 2024

INTERNATIONAL REPS TWO CENTS

Hi everyone! I certainly hope that all of you have survived winter with great health and ready for a great riding season . On the east side of Washington, it's been unusually wet, but it was so badly needed for our farmers. Lots of smiles when they come into the store now. They have a little hope for a good crop.

I'm tired of the rain and fog, but when around dryland farmers, you have to be careful saying you're tired of the rain, they could tell you off. I had a conversation with one of my farmer friends and he even said we had enough for a while.

It's getting time if you haven't already done so, to check your bike over and get it ready to roll. One of the first things I check is my tires and inflation. They can lose a pound of pressure a month during the cold winter, so you could be as much as 4 to 5 pounds low.

I want to point out and say welcome to the club; Hale and Kathy Enlow. They're the Columbia Basin's newest members. They rode with us a couple of times last year and were a pleasure to ride with. They heard about our club by word of mouth and also know Richard and Kathy Aldrich. They actually came to our chili feed and walked away with the trophy. Oh well, another year and I didn't win, but congratulations you two, and welcome to the UMCI!

We have several activities on the events calendar already. If you're going to participate in any or all of them, get your reservations in early. I found out last year that these campgrounds and R.V. places fill up very quickly. I've been asked why the person that is putting on the event doesn't secure a block of sites. Well, that usually requires a down payment and that's coming out of their pocket, so I totally understand.

So please, if you see it posted, get your reservation in quickly. The registration for the International at Kamiah is posted, so please let Rick know you are coming. And don't forget, you need to make reservations at the R.V. park on your own.

Kevi and I are really looking forward to riding this year. I'm trying to retire and having one heck of a time doing so, but hope to have a lot more time this year for great rides and adventures.

Please ride safe, ride lots and most of all have a ton of fun.

God Bless Kevin and Kevi

See you down the road and hope to see you at Spring Banquet.

March 2024 Wasconian Tidbits – Ben Altman

Wow, a month and a half gone already! Guess time flies even when you're not having fun.

Weather Report

The arctic snow and ice storm ended Monday (22nd). It left 9 inches of snow topped with 1/2 inch of ice.

Dry Campin – Not by Choice

For me the storm was a real ordeal! First, I experienced 5 days with a frozen water pipe, surviving with bottled water. Interestingly the pipe thawed at 19. I am assuming the problem is where the pipe comes into the house under the foundation. Apparently, it is not deep enough and/or lacks proper insulation. That, for sure, will be a spring fix!

Then once the pipe unfroze, I ended up with a clogged sewer line, which is actually a lot worse than not having running water. It took 6 days to get Roto-Rooter (\$470) out to unclog the line. The delay was a combination of lots of people with plumbing problems and bad road conditions. Finally, functioning toilets and my first shower in 11 days Monday (22nd) what a luxury!

Well, I made it through and now living back in the lap of luxury with running water and flowing sewer.

Credit to the Road Crews

I have to give credit to ODOT and the Wasco City Crew as they did a very good job of keeping the roads plowed! I also can say my truck did real good getting around! Actually, the hardest part was just getting out of the driveway, and for a couple of days out to the main road (Old 97) as the city didn't plow the local streets during the heaviest snow fall and after the freezing rain. They plowed the local roads Monday (22nd). They even cleared the entry to my driveway.

Tuesday was mostly sunny and warmed up to 45°. It rained off and on the rest of the month with temperatures in the mid-30s to mid-40s, none below freezing. Even with the warmer temperatures (lower-30s & mid-40s) and the rain, it's been a slow melt-off of the snow and ice, just not enough sunlight (heat).

Monday the 29th through the end of the month heavy fog (300' visibility) and cloud cover limited temperatures to under 50. With the ice capping the snow,

the snow slowly melted from the ground up. More rain after the 20th (.87") added 1.72 inches bringing the monthly total to 2.59 inches, plus 9

inches of snow. So, the higher amount of precipitation rate (El Nino) continues into 2024.

February started out with three days in the low 50s, first for 2024, then dropped back to the low to mid-40s on Sunday and through the following week and a bit of rain Sunday night, Tuesday and Monday (.17").

Saturday (10th) the clouds cleared off, which dropped the morning temperature to 27°, but no significant wind. The high for the day was 51°. Real nice day! The warmer 50° weather continued through Tuesday, then it cooled off.

Wednesday morning started out at 28° with a light wind (5-7 mph). It got up to 38° then started to cool off about 3:00 PM and also started to Snow dropping about 1.5 inches. Most of the snow melted Thursday morning until about 3:30 PM, when the temperature dropped and it started snowing again, accumulating another 1.5 inches overnight. Most of the snow melted off by the end of day Friday, although it only got up to 36°. It only made it to 33° Saturday with a bit more snow in the evening, overnight, and continuing Sunday morning dropping about 2 inches.

Most of the snow was gone by February 3rd. However, some of the deeper snow drifts, and particularly the large, plowed piles were still hangin around February 18.

From October through February 18th total rain has been 6.52 inches, not counting snow. That is more than we had over the last 2 years combined.

Lunar New Year

February 10th is Lunar New Year. I guess the man in the moon has his own calendar. I'm not sure what significance this is. I guess it has more to do with agrarian societies, harvest moon, etc. Don't think it means much for the local wheat ranchers.

Slightly More Daylight

As the days slowly get longer it is nice to have daylight by 7:00 AM which extends after 5:00 PM. We are gaining a bit over 2 minutes per day. At this point we get about 10.5 hours of daylight. The Spring Equinox is March 21st when we hit the high of 12 hours of daylight.

I still don't think it is right that we only get two longest days of the year. But I guess that also means that we have two week each year that are longer than the others.

Participation as a Non-Rider – Odd but OK

I sold my bike just before I retired. I felt a little odd at the first campout I attended with no bike. But I soon realized bike, or no bike made little difference in my acceptance or enjoyment at rallies and campouts. Now I don't even think about not having a bike. Although I do miss the group rides. However, group rides can be done in a cage. The one thing I don't miss is riding in the rain and/or real cold weather. In those conditions I am very happy to be in a warm, dry cage.

Another difference is the ability to haul camping gear, etc. For sure my truck easily carries much more than my bike ever could. The added carrying capacity has been a real blessing, particularly for Tygh Valley, where I haul gear for camping for the group. When I was riding, I always had to arrange with fellow riders and/or riders who haul their bike by trailer to help me carry all the gear and supplies for Tygh Valley. Now that is no longer a problem. If you haven't caged it to a campout, try it, you might like it!

Fountain or Drain

Travis Kelce, Kanas City Chiefs, has been all over the internet lately for football and also his relationship with Taylor Swift. I'm not a big football fan anymore, but it been hard to avoid all the press coverage.

One thing that caught my attention was a comment Travis made about one of his younger day football coaches. His coach had called him into his office to discuss his performance. During the discussion his coach noted that he thought people fell into one of two categories: People tend to either be a Fountain or a Drain. What I have observed is that you tend to be a Drain. That statement resonated with Kelce and altered his career.

That statement also resonated with me. Thinking about it, I feel that at times I have fallen into both categories, as I suspect many of us have, without ever recognizing it. But now, having made the distinction, it will be more on my mind with an emphasis on leaning more towards being a Fountain rather than a Drain.

Activity Report – Another pretty quiet month around here

Monday January 22: After the holidays gap, I attended the Monday Coffee at the Old School.

Monday January 22: I missed a couple of Monday coffees at the Old School because of the snow and ice. But I made it this morning, and it was just two of us attending.

Sunday February 4: This morning it was back to Rufus for the Mid-Columbia breakfast. There were just 3 of us this morning, Klickitat John, CZ and me. Bernice was a no show.

Monday February 5: I went to the Wasco coffee gathering this morning. There were 5 attending. I am slowly learning some of Wasco's history, and a lot about wheat.

Tuesday February 6: I arranged for breakfast at Sheri's in Troutdale. The reason was to give Paul Brown (Vancouver) a chance to attend. Since we lost Derald Johnson there haven't been any Vancouver breakfasts. We had 4 attending including Paul, Mike Bisceglia, CZ and me.

It was good to see and talk with Paul, who I haven't seen since Tygh Valley last year. It was also good to see Mike. I haven't seen him since Sheryl's memorial service.

Monday February 12: I went to the Wasco coffee gathering this morning. There were 6 attending this morning. I got a book from Lee on the history of Sherman County.

February 14, 2024: **HAPPY BIRTH OREGON!** Oregon became a state Feb 14, 1859, so it is 165 years old today.

Coming Up:

Sunday March 3: Mid-Columbia breakfast at Rufus.

Tygh Valley 2024

The 38th annual Tygh Valley campout this year will be August 27 thru September 1. Early arrival Thursday August 26th, Departure Monday September 1, or whenever.

The schedule will be similar to the last couple of years including the Fire District Breakfast at Wamic. The menu has not yet been finalized.

Ben

South Region

Hi Friends: I went to Grants Pass last weekend. About a dozen were there; not a motorcycle in the lot. The weather hasn't been too good for riding.

Saturday six of the Roseburg crew showed up at Abby's for breakfast. No bikes. It turned out to be a pretty nice day. However, I had looked at the weather forecast earlier in the week and it was supposed to be freezing. It was not that not bad, but I had made other plans. Some sad news, Hugh Waters passed

away recently. He was the leader of UMCI in Roseburg, when I attended my first meeting 38+ years ago. He was a really Good Guy.

Nothing more to say, except good time to make sure our rides are ready for the new season.

GOD BLESS FRIENDS

Zack Hoffman



MAUPIN MADNESS

SPRING BANQUET

April 27th & 28th, 2024

Othello Senior Center
755 N. 7th Ave, Othello, WA



The Spring Banquet is back at the Senior Center in Othello, for a great evening of good food, fun and door prizes. We'll hopefully get a chance to hear from all the Reps on what they have planned for the year.

Please Register ASAP so we can confirm the count with the caterer.

Dinner, served buffet style, starts at 6:30pm; \$25.00 per person. Same great catering service as last year. Good food and lots of it! Sunday morning breakfast starts at 7:30am; \$10.00 per person.

All are welcome! It's a great start to the season. -Kevin & Kevi

Registration

Please complete all fields to help update my records.

Name _____ Tel _____

Name _____ Tel _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Preferred Email _____

Dinner \$25.00 ea. x _____ = \$ _____

Breakfast \$10.00 ea. x _____ = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Please mail Registration to:

Kevin Besel, 1045 East Oak St, Othello WA 99344-1651

Othello Motels

[Othello Quality Inn](#), 1020 E. Cedar St. (509-488-5671)

[Othello Inn and Suites](#), 665 E. Windsor St. (509-331-5722)

The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - March 2024

The biggest show on Earth is back.

April 19 - 21, 2024 | Portland, Oregon

[Click for INFO](#)



The One Motorcycle Show is an annual exhibition that showcases custom-built motorcycles from around the world.

It was first organized in 2009 by See See Motorcycles and has since grown into a highly regarded event for motorcycle enthusiasts, builders, and riders.

The show featuring stunt shows and demonstrations as it celebrates the creativity, artistry and individuality of the custom motorcycle community, the show features a wide variety of motorcycles, from vintage to modern, hand built to professionally constructed.

In addition to the motorcycles on display, the event also includes live music, art, and other motorcycle-related activities, making it a unique and exciting experience for all who attend.

The One Motorcycle Show 's program, tickets, venue, shows time / schedule of events, how to get, FAQ etc. is present in the festival's link website.

[Get Tickets](#)

[Get Tickets](#)



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - March 2024



Maupin Madness Rally

Poker Run Saturday

June 6-9, 2024

[Click for Info](#)



2024 - UMCI International Rally

Hosted 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 (Extended stay is optional. If plan to extend your stay, make appropriate reservations with Kamiah/Clearwater River KOA.)

Registrations:

- Registrations Fees have set at \$15.00 for an individual and \$25.00 per couple.
- Pre-registration is strongly encouraged and will be rewarded.
- Your "Official" Registration Form is attached to this month's UMCI Newsletter.

If you have any questions, please email them to:

Rick Killebrew – ricadev@mindspring.com

37th Annual – UMCI International Rally

July 23rd – 26th, 2024

2024 Event Registration Form

(Everyone is responsible for their own camping, motel, and cabin reservations)

Location: Kamiah / Clearwater River KOA (*formerly Lewis & Clark Resort*)
Website: [Kamiah, Idaho Campground | Kamiah / Clearwater River KOA Journey](#)
4243 Hwy 12, Kamiah, ID 83536
(208) 935-2556
Be sure to mention that you are with UMCI when making reservations!!

Schedule: Mon 22nd: Early Check-In
Tue 23rd: Check-In; Organized Ride(s); Hosted Ice Cream Social; 50/50
Wed 24th: Late Check-In; Organized Ride(s) (\$5 Poker Run [possible]); 50/50
Thu 25th: Self-Directed Ride(s); Rep's Meeting (All May Attend); Banquet;
Raffle Prizes; 50/50
Fri 26th: Regular Departure Date
(Extended Stay Permitted with Appropriate KOA Park Registrations)

Name(1) _____

Name(2) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Total distance from Home to Kamiah _____ Miles/Kilometers

Registration Fees: (Please register early)

Prior to May 15, 2024 Single \$15.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Double \$25.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Prior to June 15, 2024 Single \$20.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Double \$30.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Prior to July 15, 2024 Single \$25.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Double \$35.00 = \$ _____ (\$usd)

Mail Registrations to: Rick Killebrew
2536 W Whitelaw Dr
Meridian, ID 83646-4921

(Email registration form to ricadev@mindspring.com to meet a deadline then **mail immediately**)

March Birthdays

happy
birthday

1 - Gladys Smith
1 - Dennis Smith
2 - Al Williamson
2 - Gary Shearer
3 - Betty Evans
3 - Larry Balloy
3 - Mary Lou Melzer
4 - Mary Canfield
4 - Susan Fitzgerald

8 - Karen Headley
9 - Sam Roth
9 - Pam Nelson
20 - Katie Scarborough
21 - Carol Williams
22 - Mike Bisceglia
28 - Bruce Schulz
29 - Dick Carson
29 - Al Gritzner



The Sparkplug

Oregon State UMCI - March 2024

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 - March 2024

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