



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



**Our Only Business**  
**Freedom, Friendship, Food & Fun**

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

**Ride Beside Me - Be My Friend**





# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Table of Contents

<b>Announcements &amp; Tid Bits</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>International Reps Conclusions For 2022</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Inland Northwest News</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>In Memory of Peter Rodland</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Events On The Horizon</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Ten Top Lists For Alaska</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>For Sale</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Reps &amp; Breakfast Schedules</b>	<b>15</b>

[International Website](#)

[Washington State Website](#)



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Announcements & Tid Bits

March 10 - 12, 2023  
The 18th Annual [Motorcycle Show](#), Spokane County Fair & Expo Center

April 22, 2023  
The [Northwest Motorcycle Classic](#) - Swap Meet and Show  
[Northwest Washington Fairgrounds](#), Lynden WA

June 21 - 24, 2023  
2023 [International Norton Owners Association Rally](#)  
[Pine Near RV Park](#), Winthrop

September 24, 2023  
40th [Annual Oyster Run](#)  
Free event • No official starting point • No time schedule • No required route  
[Oyster Run - Motorcycle Run](#) - Anacortes WA

[Seattle/Puget Sound Area Lunch Rides](#)

Cover Photo  
**Happy New Year**



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## INTERNATIONAL REP'S CONCLUSIONS FOR 2022!!

2022, to say the least, was a trying year, but also a very rewarding year for the club. We started out with our spring banquet held at the Senior Center in Othello. We had a fantastic turnout both for the banquet and the breakfast in the morning. A big thank you to Lynette Caruthers for putting it all together and for the all the ladies that helped. We will do it again next year.

June 7-10, was Fields Spring State Park at Anatone, WA. I heard nothing but great reports about it except it rained a lot. But it sounds like everyone had a great time. David Fitzgerald did the foot work on this one and of course did a fantastic job. Maybe again this year???

June 14-16, we were able to attend the Idaho State Rally at the Lewis and Clark Resort in Kamiah, Idaho. Larry Phelps and his gang did another great job with the rally. There are so many beautiful rides in that area and his road captain made sure that we saw many of the sights.

June 21-23, Duane Wood organized a campout at the Alpine RV Park on Hwy 20, Marblemount, WA. I was not able to ride at that time so didn't make it, but heard that it was a lot of fun and again, there are some beautiful rides in that area. Thanks Duane!

July 19-21st, Gary and Wanda Shearer did a fantastic job of hosting the UMCI International although the turn-out was low, the fun and rides were fantastic. Great for me and Kevi, we were able to swap motorcycles with Larry Phelps, his 2008 Honda Trike for my 2008 Honda two wheel and a little cash. Worked out great for both of us. The Rally was a lot of fun; great banquet and Gary and Wanda had self guided rides set up so everyone that attended enjoyed the Rally.

We did find out that burns Oregon has it's fair share of mosquitoes and they established that the campground was theirs. For sure it was a topic of conversation. Sadly, Gary and Wanda said they would be stepping down as Reps. It was just too much, and I totally understand where they are coming from. I just want to say that I have always looked up to Gary, he has done all positions in the club and done them well. Enjoy your retirement and Thanks from all of us.



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



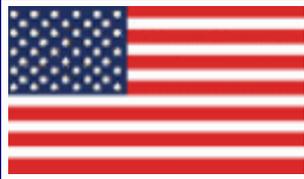
July 29-31st, was the North Cascades Campout at Klipchuck Campground at Mazama, WA. Dennis Parsley put this one together and from what I have been told, it was a fantastic time had by all. Again I didn't make it, but thanks to Dennis and Heather for putting it together.

September 2-5, Was Tygh Valley hosted by Mary and Ben. Kevi and I were able to make that our maiden trip on our new ride and it was truly fantastic from start to finish. We had a great time, and Mary and Ben could not have done a better job. We had heard about Tygh Valley but had never attended the rally, but I highly recommend it. There were a lot of rides and it's beautiful country.

As you can see we had a lot of great activities for 2022, and I am hoping we will have the same or more in 2023. Thanks to everyone that planned these events and to those that attended. Without you, it's just not a rally.

Kevin and Kevi





# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Inland Northwest News

The UMCI club met on December 3, 2022 on a very chilly morning. The temperatures fell down to single digits during the previous night, and most roads were a glare of ice as were all the parking lots. Riding season is officially over till spring unless by some miracle, we have a thaw. We usually get a January thaw, but no one knows what Mother Nature will bring us next. No one rode to the meeting and one of our members, John Gaumer, was making an appearance as Santa Claus for some local children. He makes an excellent Santa Claus with his white hair and beard and his jolly smile that all the children love.

Speaking of Santa Claus, UMCI will be at the all club Christmas party on December 10th, at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho at JBS restaurant from 12:00 noon till 1:45 pm. We decided to have the party at noon because the roads may be pretty slick in the evening. No one likes to drive at night in the winter time. There will be a gift exchange and some great prizes. Hopefully we will have a good turnout.

The meeting today was well attended. It was good to see Tom Wells and Rick Giger. They both live west of town, past Reardon. One never knows if they will make it to town or not when there has been a heavy snowfall. The highways out their way tend to fill up with drifted snow, but today was a good day and they both made it to the meeting.

Out west of Spokane, there was a heavy snowfall in the Rathdrum, Spirit Lake area. Billie Leonard, and David Irvine, live at Twin Lakes,, which has heavy snowfall because they are in a snow belt. The snow plow driver fills their driveway with a berm at least 4 feet high and six feet wide. This takes at least an hour to plow out. Billie spent the last 2 days plowing and Dave was shoveling. They finally cleared the driveway out and cleared a path through the huge berm the snow plow left, so they could make it to the meeting.

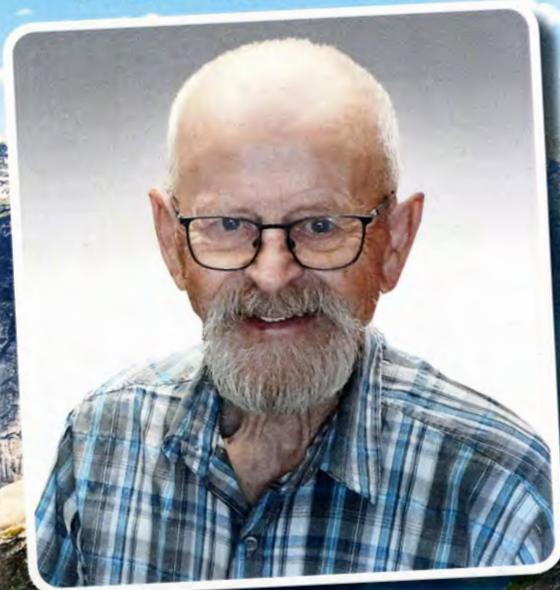
We lost one of our members in November. He came down with Covid and it turned into pneumonia and he passed away from complications. He had been a long time member. His name was Ernie Slinkard. He was a lifelong resident of Spokane. He always rode in all the charitable events that the various clubs held. He and his son David had been attending UMCI meetings together for years. He will surely be missed by all who knew him.

Due to the weather, there was no ride afterward. In fact, no one rode their bikes to the meeting. The President of the club, Charlie Crane can't get his bike to the highway because of snow and ice.

Meeting was adjourned.

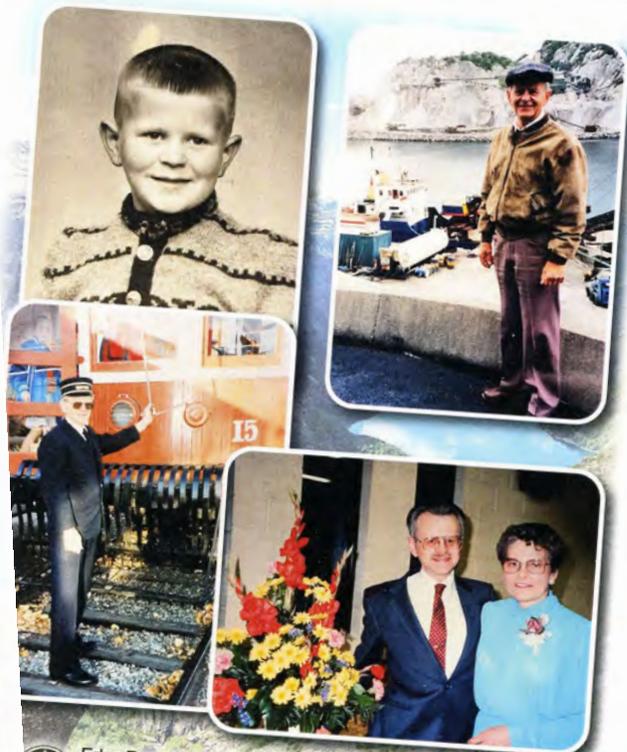
Billie

In Loving Memory of



Peter Rodland

February 15, 1933 – November 11, 2022



Eden Brook Funeral Home & Cemetery  
by Arbor Memorial Inc.

24223 Township Road 242, Calgary, Alberta T3Z 3K2 • 403.240.4032

Memories & Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting edenbrookmemorial.ca

On November 11, 2022, Peter Rodland passed away peacefully at age 89 with his family by his side.

Peter was born on February 15, 1933, in Helluland, Norway where he grew up on the family farm. In his youth he worked as a farm laborer, an electrician's assistant and construction. In 1951 Peter started his carpentry apprenticeship in Norway, but after 4 years decided it was time to explore the world. He joined a cargo ship as an engine boy and worked his way up to repairman. In 1960 Peter came to Canada alone with only \$50 in his pocket, later teaching himself to speak English. He started working as a carpenter apprentice, eventually receiving his journeyman certificate in April 1963. In 1964 Peter began working at STI in Moose Jaw, where he spent the next several years instructing while at the same time completing his high school diploma and University Degree, eventually retiring in 1987.

It was while living in Moose Jaw that he met and married the love of his life, Yvonne Rodland (Leibel). Peter and Yvonne remained married for 43 years until her passing in November of 2017.

After retiring from teaching Peter and Yvonne moved to Calgary in 1991. During his retirement years Peter enjoyed photography, travel, camping, motorcycling, woodwork, computers, reading, and fixing and building anything and everything... (for anyone). One of Peter's favorite past times was spending time with his many friends and neighbors and volunteering his time and talent at the Scandinavian Centre in Calgary.

Peter will be lovingly remembered and missed by his son and daughter-in-law Dale and Tracy Rodland; and his grandchildren Kacey and Kailen.

**Funeral Service**  
Eden Brook Funeral Home,  
Friday, November 18, 2022 at 10:00 am

**Celebrant**  
Bobby Thirsk

**Eulogy**  
Judy Truax - Friend

**Tribute**  
Donna Englund, Calgary Scandinavian Centre

**Pallbearers**  
Kacey Rodland  
Kailen Rodland  
Jim Buist  
Russ Wiigs  
Karl Nordin  
Rob LaPietra

**Reception**  
Everyone is invited to share memories and fellowship  
at the Scandinavian Centre at 1:00 pm  
739 20 Ave NW, Calgary

**Final Resting Place**  
Eden Brook Memorial Gardens



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## 2023 Events On The Horizon

Washington, Oregon & Idaho

**Jun 2-5, North Cascade Campout - [Loup Loup Campground](#), Twisp WA**

Dennis Parsley, 360-672-1901 - First come, first served ([map](#)) ([G. Earth](#))



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



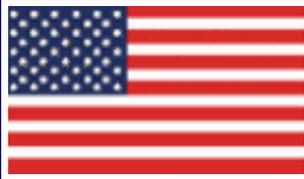
## Ten Top List For Alaska

By Colleen First

Anticipating a trip to Prudhoe Bay and the Arctic Ocean was daunting to me. Neither my riding partner nor I had never been on a major ride like this to a desolate and far away place. I researched all that I could on the Internet and asked the few people that I knew who had experience with the route. I gathered knowledge like a squirrel gathers nuts before the winter snow and ice. In the end it was all worth the effort. I breezed through the trip like I was riding to Neha Bay, not the Arctic Ocean. Did all of this preparation help? Well, some of it did. Some things were just luck and some problems never even surfaced. Below are some observations that I have about riding a motorcycle to Alaska, and the Arctic Ocean. Naturally, certain things will vary according to each individual, the fickle weather and road construction schedules.

**1) It's a long way to Alaska.** British Columbia itself is huge, and it took three days just to get from the BC border to the Yukon, although I suppose we could have pushed it and made it a much quicker journey. But that defeats the purpose of a ride like this, doesn't it? There were a few things that surprised me about the trip, although most of them were good surprises. For one, Alaska is vast. I knew that it is a big state, but until you ride for hours on the same road, seeing the same mountains in the distance, you can't comprehend just how large it is. The road from the border of the Yukon Tok to Fairbanks was straight for a considerable distance, or at least not as curvy as I expected it to be. However there were always mountains in the distance to fill my camera lens with, so scenery was never a problem. Each turn in the road brought something new to see, be it wildflowers, a distant mountain range, vast expanses of trees or even vast expanses of burnt out forests. There was always something different to catch my eye and my imagination.





# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State

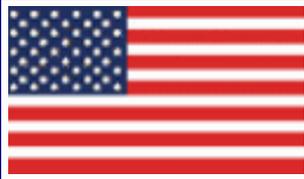


## Ten Top List For Alaska

**2) For the most part the roads are in good condition.** I had heard horror stories about miles and miles of mud, gravel, dirt and potholes... and found very surprisingly little of that. I suppose that there were more gravel roads that it appeared in retrospect, it's simply that I was anticipating the worst that a road could offer and it didn't live up to that expectation. We took the Stewart-Cassiar highway to the Yukon and the Alaska Highway back, and found very periodic segments of construction. I recall one stretch of very loose gravel about 10 miles long, but that was the worst that I came across, well at least until I hit the Haul Road. In the frequent construction sections along the Alaska Highway there was dust when it was dry and mud when it was wet, but it was all passable. Passing/following traffic caused more problems than anything else, with dust and hurtling rocks wreaking havoc on our bikes and visibility. The KLR made the ride easy and I would have been less enthusiastic if I had been on my VFR, but mostly because of the damage inflicted to the body panels of the bike by flinging rocks and not so much a lessened level of confidence. The preceding sentences do not apply to the Haul Road to/from Fairbanks to Prudhoe Bay, however. While for the most part the Haul Road was in excellent shape while we were on it, I can see that one flicker of the weather would turn it into a nightmare of slick mud (and it did in one section close to Coldfoot). Not to say other bikes can't make the trip, but the dual sport made it a lot more enjoyable.

**3) Spare parts, tool and mechanical knowledge are worth their weight in gold.** Because the two of us were riding the same model of bike we felt confident in only taking one spare of each part that we felt should be included. We split the tools and parts between the two bikes to make packing easier. I brought along service manuals in case we ran into something more complicated than a broken fan switch or a flat tire. Neither of us had much mechanical experience with our bikes, but we felt confident enough in the bikes themselves and our own ingenuity to be able to solve whatever problems came up. And we did just that. Be prepared to buy consumables along the way such as tires or chains. Most places did not stock such items (Fairbanks being the exception) so if you anticipate needing something you should arrange to have it shipped ahead or bring it along with you. Be sure that you know the basic maintenance of your bike and its components. We found out the hard way that O-Ring chains do not hold up well to gear oil and it caused some real problems on the return trip.

**4) What did I wish I had?** I had done a lot of research beforehand and wondered if I would leave anything out. As it was, there was very little that I was found wanting along the way. Some better dry bags would have been nice, but even those I was able to pick up along the way in Whitehorse. Warmer clothes for the snow that we encountered in the Brooks Range would have been welcome, but who was to expect snow in August? The only thing that I really wish I had was more time. Seventeen days from Seattle to Prudhoe Bay and back is enough time, but when you're on a trip as grand as this one there is never enough time. A month would have been perfect!



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Ten Top List For Alaska

**5) What didn't I need?** Fortunately I found that the only thing I really didn't need were as many clothes. Of course there were spare parts that I didn't use, but I wouldn't have chanced it and left them behind. But laundry facilities are available at some motels and I could have easily done without half the clothes I did bring. (But don't skimp on warm socks and a nice warm fleece to layer up with.)

**6) Bring cash.** While the larger towns and establishments will take plastic and offer ATMs, there are some places that don't, and when they don't take it you're not left with a lot of options. I was able to put almost the entire trip on my credit card but still had a tidy sum of US and Canadian dollars to tide me over for the little sundry purchases made along the way. Once north of Fairbanks, not only should you be prepared with sums of cash to get you through, but be sure to carry a couple of days worth of packable food items as well, as there are no grocery stores along the haul road, and one can't rely on the generosity of truckers handing out food along the way ... although one trucker did just that for us.

**7) The Milepost Magazine is also worth its weight in gold.** While I initially scoffed at my partner's purchase of this massive annual publication I soon realized my error and relished the in-depth knowledge that it held between its covers. It's well worth the price and weight of packing it along. Detailed and accurate mile-by-mile descriptions, mileage between gas stops, recommendations on local places; it's all in there.

**8) The camera.** Sure, it sounds obvious. But don't just bring your camera along; use it! So many people take trips and then say, "I was having too much fun riding to stop and take pictures." These are the same people who "ooo" and "ahhh" over other people's pictures, lamenting that they wish that they had stopped more often. You're on a Grand Adventure, seeing things that most people will never see in their lifetime and, more importantly, doing it from the back of a motorcycle! Stop and smell the flowers (or the moose, as the case may be) and engrave those memories into long-lasting pictures to cherish for a lifetime. It's also fun to show them off to envious friends and when you are writing your memoirs you'll be glad you had the pictures to bring all those wonderful memories back to life.

**9) Fuel.** Another concern about riding in Alaska is the lack of fuel. I didn't find this to be a problem, but then again the KLR gets 52 mpg and can go about 250 miles before needing refueling. The Milepost lists all available fuel stops, although I did notice its omission of a fuel stop just north of the Yukon River, but seeing as the station was not guaranteed to be open it was wise of them not to include it and present false hope. We each carried a 2-gallon container on our bikes but luckily never needed it. It was a nice peace of mind though, knowing that it was back there "just in case."



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Ten Top List For Alaska

**10) Your sense of adventure: bring it along!** If something unexpected like a flat tire or some other mechanical failure occurs, don't panic. Quietly and calmly try to figure out the best course of action. When you are riding down the road and you wonder where that side road goes, follow it. Or if you see an intriguing little shop at the edge of a tiny hamlet, take the time to stop and go inside. Talk to the locals, listen to the rivers, smell the smoke from forest fires. Each sense will heighten your appreciation of the journey that you're on. Don't be afraid to stop at the side of the road in the middle of nowhere and just sit and listen to the absolute silence or the wind sighing in the branches of the trees. Or to get off your bike and check out up close the devastation that a forest fire leaves behind in its wake, discovering the delicate return of life under the fallen trees.

There is so much more to a trip like this than just eating up the miles and saying "I did it." You're making memories, so make the most of it while you can.





# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## 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**



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## **For Sale**

### **Motorcycle / Sidecar Outfit**

#### **1996 Yamaha Royal Star 1300cc**

V4 • 5 Speed • Champion Escort Sidecar  
Fully Equipped with Running Boards • Fairing  
Studded Leather Saddlebags • Special Road Lights  
Special Patriotic Themed Painted Tank and Fender  
Color Matched Sidecar • Good Tires

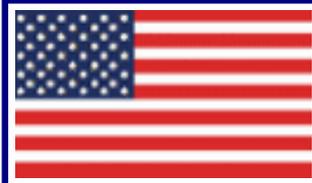
Sidecar mounted on bike was ~~\$10,000~~

Asking: \$6000 or Best Offer



Call Dave at: 208-210-8088 OR 208-627-8945

Email: [sidecarbikerbillie@hotmail.com](mailto:sidecarbikerbillie@hotmail.com)



# The WASH

UMCI Newsletter of Washington State



## Freedom, Friendship, Food & Fun Our Only Business

### UMCI Representatives

International Representative	Kevin Besel, Othello, WA	509-531-1942
WA State & Columbia Basin Rep	Kevin Besel, Othello, WA	509-531-1942
Inland Northwest Area Rep (1)	Charlie Crane, Spokane, WA	509-238-4677
Inland Northwest Area Rep (2)	John Fast, Spokane, WA	509-238-2341
Okanogan Area Rep & Treasure	George & Willie Penner, Okanogan, WA	509-429-1736
Seattle/Puget Sound Area Rep	David Fitzgerald, Kirkland, WA - <i>Temp</i>	206-300-5034
Sedro Woolley Area Rep	Duane Wood, Bow, WA	360-766-6603

### Monthly Breakfast Schedules

Columbia Basin Area, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun.	9:00am, Bob’s Restaurant, 1807 E. Kittlestone, Moses Lake
Inland Northwest Area, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat.	9:00am, Denny’s Restaurant, 6 N Pines Rd, Spokane
Okanogan Area, 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat.	8:30am, Cariboo, 233 Queen Street, Okanogan
Seattle/Puget Sound, 1st Sat.	9:00am, Sports Keg Grill, 1660 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington
Sedro Woolley Area, 1st Sat.	9:00am, Sports Keg Grill, 1660 S Burlington Blvd, Burlington

**David Fitzgerald, Editor**  
[UmciNewsWash@gmail.com](mailto:UmciNewsWash@gmail.com)

