Spring Rides Announced for Mid-Atlantic and North Central Riders

IFMR riders in the mid-Atlantic region and the North Central region can look forward to great spring rides scheduled for mid-May and early June. And later rides in the Southeast and other areas are still in the planning stage.

In the mid-Atlantic region, Bob Shriner has put together a 3-day, 3-state ride in the mountains of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia, May 12-15. Riders will meet at Berkeley Springs, WV, on Thursday evening, May 12, for dinner and a 'meet & greet' with members of the Berkeley Springs Rotary Club at the Ale & Angus next door to the Best Western. On Friday the group will ride WV, MD, and PA backroads through several state forests, scenic Amish communities, and small, picturesque Maryland and Pennsylvania villages to Dubois, PA. On Saturday, they'll ride 200 miles southwest to historic Ligonier and scenic Ohiopyle, PA, then continue on past scenic Deep Creek Lake, MD, to spend the next night at the recently expanded Canaan Valley Resort & Conference Center at Canaan Valley State Park in the WV mountains. On Sunday, they'll ride back to Berkeley Springs on mountain backroads, including a ride to the top of 4963 foot high Spruce Knob, the highest point in WV (weather permitting). After another fellowship dinner in Berkeley Springs that evening, everyone will head home on Monday, filled with memories of another great IFMR spring get-together. A flyer with full details of the May ride is attached to this newsletter.

In the north central region, Rory Windrim and Gerry Jackson have mapped out another great 3-day spring ride along the shores of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior, including a trip across the famous Mackinaw Bridge for a day of riding in Michigan's scenic “UP” (Upper Peninsula) region, and two nights at popular Mackinaw City on the shore of Lake Huron. The group will meet on Thursday evening, June 2, at Muskegon, MI, for a backyard party at the Windrim's lakeside home. A flyer with more details on the June ride is also attached to this newsletter.

In the southeast region, Carlton Pernell (carltonpernell@aol.com) is still working on route details for a ride, tentatively slated for late June or early July in the mountains of northwest Georgia. In the southwest, Brian Gray (bigbrian@graymatter.net) recently announced an April 1 “Polio Ride” at Woodland, CA, in conjunction with the District 5160 conference. For more information about these rides, contact the organizers by email.

If you'd like to organize an IFMR ride in your area, just do it! And let us know at editor@ifmr-na.org and we'll help you promote it. You can also get help with planning and promoting local rides from your Regional Director; and, if you’re interested, you can ask him to be designated as an official IFMR “Ride Guide” (roughly equivalent to a Rotary assistant governor) to help promote IFMR and organize rides in your area. Go for it!

For info on domestic and international IFMR rides, also check www.ifmr-na.org and www.ifmr.org. If you plan an IFMR event in your area, send information about it to newsletter editor Juan Yebra editor@ifmr-na.org and to webmaster Chris Jones at webmaster@ifmr-na.org

Start planning your IFMR rides for 2016 now. Pick the date and location, then let us know and we’ll help you get the word out to other IFMR members in your area. Also, let your DG, ADG, and district bulletin editor know; and ask them to help you spread the word among Rotarians who may not have heard of IFMR yet.

IFMR . . . Join, Ride, Share, Enjoy!!!
Spring is Back!

Here in Missouri USA the weather is finally starting to break and temperatures are coming up. I know that some of you are able to ride year round but around here the riding season is just beginning.

Don’t forget to double check your bike and have the appropriate maintenance done before hitting the highways. Don’t forget to keep us updated on any rides or events in your area this year and send in any photos or articles you can regarding your event. One of the great things about our organization is being able to see what folks around the world are doing and sharing in their adventures.

You may have noticed recently that we have been working to clean up some records in an effort to make things more efficient and streamline our processes. While an undertaking like this is not always pleasant, it’s necessary from time to time and was long overdue. Thank you for your cooperation and support while we get this completed.

Thank you again for your membership and support of the IFMR-NA. I encourage you to help spread the word about our organization as you attend Rotary events and to your friends and family that may be interested as well. There are people in our respective areas that would enjoy being part of our group.

Notes . . . from the Top
by IFMR-NA President Tim Cudd

Nominees Announced for IFMR-NA VP/President-Elect and Two Regional Directors
Bob Shriner, Immediate Past President
bob@shriner.com

In early March the IFMR-NA Nominating Committee submitted its recommendations to chapter president Tim Cudd regarding nominees and election procedures for chapter vice president/president-elect and for the two regional directors, all of whose terms expire July 1, 2016.

Via email to all IFMR-NA members, the committee asked for member recommendations for nominations for VP/PE, noting that candidates could be from any region except the same region as the current VP/PE, Chris Jones, who lives in North Carolina, which is part of the Southeast region. The committee then contacted each member who was recommended to ask if they were willing to serve if elected and also verified that each was a current member of IFMR. They determined that two nominees were willing to serve and were current members: Gerry Jackson, of Davisburg, MI (NC region) and Rich Nice, of San Mateo, CA (SW region). Under the IFMR-NA Leadership Plan agreed on in 2012, the IFMR-NA Executive Council will decide which of these two nominees will be elected and take office July 1, 2016.

The committee also sent emails to all IFMR-NA members in the Northwest and South Central region seeking recommendations for nominees to serve as Regional Directors in those regions starting July 1, 2016. Since the current Regional Directors in both regions – Mark Shirley, SE; Marc Baker, NW -- are eligible to serve a second term, they were contacted and agreed to serve a second term if elected. The committee received no other recommendations from members for candidates for either region, so they recommended that both incumbents be confirmed for a second term by the IFMR-NA Executive Council. Regional Directors promote awareness and membership in IFMR, organize and promote rides and other IFMR activities in their region, and serve on the IFMR-NA Executive Council.

The IFMR-NA nominating committee was comprised of past chapter presidents Bob Shriner (chair) and Ron Lyster. The committee’s recommendations were submitted to chapter president Tim Cudd for early approval by the Executive Council.
Good riding weather coming our way!

This winter has been WET and not the best for riding in the Pac NW, but the weather it is changing. Have been on a couple of rides the last 2 weeks, one was up to the road closure (MP 134) on Hiway 20 here in Washington, better known as the North Cascade Highway. Have not ridden a prettier route in the US or Canada. The St of Washington closes this route as the two passes you go over are above 5000 feet and the avalanche chutes produce over 30 feet of snow compacted on the road. Hopefully it will be cleared by the end of April.

The second ride was just last Friday (3/18) with 2 other friends riding the back roads around and down Whidbey Island. Making a loop of aproximately 136 miles with a lunch stop in Coupville, WA at the famous Toby's Bar and Grill for some great Penn Cove mussels.
Greetings from west Michigan. My grandson and I finally put away the snowblower and shovels. (He is positive we won’t need them anymore.) The weather is finally getting to where we can go for an occasional ride. I’ve only been out once but I have seen a lot of bikes out lately. Everyone is bundled up but at least they are out riding. I am personally looking forward to another great riding season and trips with old IFMR friends and meeting new IFMR friends. Please be safe if you are going for a ride, those four wheel drivers have had a whole season to forget about “looking for Motorcycles”.

Speaking of Safety, don’t forget to check your personal safety gear along with your motorcycle items.

Currently there is not much to report from the North Central region except the June (2,3,4,5) ride in Michigan. It is listed on the “Upcoming Rides” on the IFMR website. You can also contact me at rlwindrim@aol.com for more information. We have 15 rooms blocked at each hotel (more are available) but after May 1st, the rooms will be unblocked. Please let me know if there are any rides or events in the North Central area (includes our Canadian riders) others might be interested in so we can get it in the Newsletter. They don’t have to be full of “twisties” or hills to be a fun and interesting ride. Hoping to see you on a ride sometime. Until then, ride safe.

Show IFMR pride on your next ride

IFMR long-sleeve blue oxford button-down shirt
Great for club meetings and beyond . . .
$40 delivered

Now just $30

SHOP OUR ONLINE SPECIALS & SAVE BIG $$$

www.IFMR-NA.org/store/specials.htm

NC Region Report
Rory Windrim, Regional Director
(rlwindrim@aol.com)

As we approach the new Rotary year, and we elevate current IFMR-NA Webmaster and Vice President Chris Jones to President, we are now looking for a new individual to take on managing our website.

If you have web skills and are interested in taking on this rewarding position, please contact Chris at cbjones560@gmail.com or 980-288-4007. It is not a difficult or even time intensive position, and one that helps keep our members informed and enables purchases of unique IFMR-NA items.

We endeavor to have our leadership positions spread among many so that none of our leaders have too much on their plate. So please put your Service Above Self hats on and contact Chris.

Thank you for helping our Fellowship with your time and talents.
GREAT RIDE -- GREAT FUN -- GREAT FELLOWSHIP

IFMR 2016 SPRING RIDE

3-Day PA-MD-WV Mountain Tour

May 12-15, 2016

Mark your calendar for another great IFMR spring weekend get-together and 3-day ride in the scenic mountains, fields, and forests of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

We'll meet on Thursday evening, May 12, in scenic/historic Berkeley Springs, WV, at the Best Western, with a fellowship dinner a few steps away at the Angus & Ale Restaurant.

On Friday we'll ride about 190 miles north on scenic backroads thru forested PA mountains and picturesque Amish valleys to Dubois, PA, at the Hampton Inn where we stayed last spring.

On Saturday we'll ride about 200 miles southwest thru forest and mountains of PA, MD, and WV, stopping enroute at historic Fort Ligonier, Youghiogheny Falls, and Deep Creek Lake, before spending the night at the recently expanded Canaan Valley Resort & Conference Center, WV.

On Sunday, we'll wander on scenic WV mountain backroads, and (weather permitting) take a spectacular ride to the summit of 4863' Spruce Knob, highest point in WV, then return to Berkeley Springs for a final evening of fellowship and dinner.

Mark your calendar, call now for room reservations, and plan to join us in Berkeley Springs on May 12. Or if your time is limited, meet us later at Dubois or Canaan Valley for the rest of the ride.
For room reservations, contact the following hotels, and mention “IFMR/Motorcycling Rotarians” for the group rate indicated.

**Thursday, May 12 & Sunday, May 15 - Best Western Berkeley Springs, WV**
$89/room (King or Double) plus tax 304-258-9400

**Friday, May 13 – Hampton Inn Dubois, PA**
$94/room (King or Double) plus tax 814-375-1000

**Saturday, May 14 – Canaan Valley Resort & Conference Center**
$99/room (King or Double) plus tax 304-866-4121 x-44

If you have questions or want more details, contact me at the email or phone numbers below. Otherwise, just send me an email to let me know you plan to come so we can have a head-count for the fellowship and meals. And don’t forget to pass the word to your friends.

**Don’t Miss it!**

Bob Shriner
bob@shriner.com
703-795-4355

* If you'd like to spend part of your stay in Berkeley Springs enjoying the world famous spa, I have reserved a few rooms at the historic Country Inn on the spa grounds in downtown Berkeley Springs for a special reduced room rate. Contact me for details if you're interested in that option.