

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



2015 seems to be Rockin' & Rollin'. With the

moderate weather we've had as far back as late February, we've had great member turnouts at the last four recent club events. This includes the 36 riders that made it to the Lincoln meeting in February and the 15-20 that made it to the Huddy's ride-in tech session in Helena and the May Philipsburg meeting. That said, I think we're just beginning one of our best riding seasons in recent years. That is...until the probable smoke starts moving in to our western valleys.

At the May meeting, The Sunshine Station did a great job with food and service and produced a wonderful chocolate birthday cake. But, your own executive committee fell down on the job, forgetting to send a roster sign-up sheet around, so here are the riders from the May meeting as my mind remembers, and that's not a good thing to count on. So forgive me if I miss anyone.

From Missoula, Greg Hintz - Gold Wing; Chuck Reaves - F650GS; Mike Reaves - R1100RS; David and Kristy Gordon - K1200LT; Bart Martyack - R1200RT; and Chris Keyes - R1100RTPD. From Helena, Bob Rennick - K1300RS; Annie Huddy - F800GS; Kevin Huddy - Yamaha FJR; and Dick Field - K1200LT. From Kalispell, Doug Byrne - R1100GS. From the Bitterroot, Dave McCormack - Can Am Spyder. From Arlee, Don Duell - Gold Wing. From Bigfork, Gordon Phillips - R1200RT.

Club Affiliations

MOA # 155
RA # 072
AMA # 6830

On the way back from Philipsburg a few of us from Missoula stopped just east of Rock Creek as one of our own had a little motorcycle trouble. Bart Martyack's R1200RT gave up the ghost just as he was passing an 18 wheeler. He coasted onto the shoulder and after several attempts to restart decided he had a fuel pump problem which was exactly what it turned out to be. We didn't need the BMW Anonymous Book, we just called Mr. Jim Iverson who was able to hitch up his trailer and bring it out to the rescue. The only drawback was being harangued by Jim that this wouldn't have happened if we'd had a good bike...a Honda. Thanks, Jim.

NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY

JUNE 20

ECHO LAKE CAFÉ

BIG FORK, MT

TIME: 1:00 P.M.

Other thanks needs to go out to all the riders that helped out for the YMCA Riverbank Run. Gary & Carol Graham, Dave McCormack, Terry Kay & Kim Lemke. The 'Y' changed the route so that we had even more riding across the University of Montana campus than in past years. I'd have to say we not only had a lot of fun but we looked good doing it, especially with Dave McCormack carrying the 'Y' race

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director on the back of his Spyder! Hey, not a BMW, and not a Honda. What kind of club is this!!?? Also there was good news as I did NOT almost run over anyone this year, though I saw some runners looking at me real funny. ☐

There are lots of things coming up, some of which are mentioned further on in this newsletter. I will say that you should let me know ASAP about whether you're able to ride to The Dinner Bell the evening of June 11th. This is the Mennonite diner at Gold Creek, Mt. Dinner is at 6:00 PM. The menu there is famous for its famous chicken and mashed potato spread. We'll leave Missoula around 4:45 pm. It takes just over an hour to get there. No alcohol is served there and since we're almost to the longest day of the year, so you should be in good shape and driving home with plenty of daylight.

Right NOW would be a good time to make housing accommodations if you're interested in going on the August dual sport ride. Our first day's ride ends just west of West Yellowstone and north of Henry's Lake. West Yellowstone is crazy with people that time of year. Accommodations are hard to come by and expensive. Our second night is in Dillon, MT. No sweat there.

The last weekend of June we have a club campout at Lake Inez north of Seeley Lake. See David Gordon's note about this further on in the newsletter. Last, but not least, one of our (newest) favorite places to meet is our destination for the June meeting. This is the Echo Lake Café, just a little north of Bigfork. If you have the time, this is a good time to see a play at the Bigfork Playhouse and ride the Going to the Sun Road in Glacier Park, which should be open by then.

NOTE: The June meeting is a Saturday, June 20th because Sunday is Father's Day.

(Yeah honey, I'll take that bike over there). If you come...bring a friend.

Like I said, lots going on. If you know of a ride or event happening in the summer that merits attention, send the information to newsletter editor Dave McCormack or Mike Wright, our webmaster, so others can know about it.

I promised Dave I'd keep it brief, so have a fun summer, read Larry Banister's safety column, and hope to see you in June, somewhere in Montana.

Happy Trails!!

Chuck

* * *

Safety Corner

"I'm Invisible"!

There is an excellent article this month in Motorcycle Consumer News by David Hough entitled "Controlling the Situation". In it he has an interesting paragraph entitled "Inattentional Blindness" where he makes this comment: "There is a curious physiological issue called "Inattentional Blindness". In traffic there's just too much information coming in for the brain to process it all at once. The brain has the equivalent of an email "spam filter" to choose what's important and what's not. Let's say a driver's eyes notice a motorcycle and send the visual information to the brain. But the brain's spam filter can delete the input."

This goes a long way toward understanding the typical response from the driver who is involved in an accident with a motorcyclist..."I never saw him", and reinforces why we, as riders, need to adopt the attitude "I'm invisible".

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So, as we begin our riding season, let me suggest some things you can and need to do to become more visible:

1. Don't tailgate! Select a fixed object the vehicle in front of you passes (a mile marker, shadow on the pavement, etc.) and count "one thousand one, one thousand two". If you reach the same fixed object before you're done with this count...YOU'RE TOO CLOSE! ...back off!
2. Don't ride behind a vehicle where they cannot see you. You should be visible in both their rear view mirror and in the driver's side outside mirror. (If you can't see the driver's face in his mirror(s), you're in the wrong spot. This is particularly true for semis!
3. BRIGHT clothing/helmet...Black is cool but it's the same color as most hearses!
4. Ride with your headlight on bright during the day. Addition of a headlight modulator and auxiliary driving lights will also increase your visibility.
5. Add a brake light modulator.
6. Choose a lane location that makes you most visible to other traffic and gives you the most room to avoid a hazardous situation should one occur.

Remember, we're cool, but "we're invisible". Include the above practical steps in your riding this season and "live to tell the story".

Larry Banister
Retired MSF Instructor

* * *

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Mileage Contest

Mileage junkies...as of May 7th, we have 18 folks who have submitted their 2015 Montana BMW Riders mileage contest entries: These include, Larry Banister, Don Duel, Carol and Gary Graham, Annie and Kevin Huddy, Chris Keyes, Marg Lang, Mike Langhnan, Kim Lemke, Dave McCormack, Mike Meredith, Gordon Phillips, Chuck Reaves, John Torma and John Webster, Mike and Donna McInerney. It is great to see so many entries. That was the easy part...now the challenge is to get out and put some miles on the scoots! I'm looking forward to seeing you guys and gals on the road this year. With the weather we've had to date, no excuse not to be out (and if it stays this way, we'll be on fire by August!)

Ride safe...see 'ya on the highway!

Larry Banister
Montana BMW Riders Mileage contest coordinator

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Published Monthly

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Monthly Meeting: Third Sunday of each month, 1 PM, unless specified otherwise. Location Announced in Newsletter.

President: Chuck Reaves
241 University, Missoula, MT 59801
Email: reavesmt@msn.com

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Email: huddya@hotmail.com

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Mileage Contest Coordinator: Larry Bannister
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Editor: Dave McCormack
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Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be sent to: Editor, P.O. Box 1353, Victor, MT 59575. Emailed text is preferred. Photos as attachments.

Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the consensus opinion of the Montana BMW Riders.

Random Filler Photos (Name that place - Answers)



From last issue's Random Photo Quiz: Missouri River Cafe...now closed.



Philipsburg...several years ago.

* * *

Thinking about updating your riding skills?

Check out the Montana Motorcycle Safety program for courses near you. You might even be taught by one of our members...many of whom are excellent riders and coaches:

<http://motorcycle.msun.edu/>

BMW Diagnostics Available

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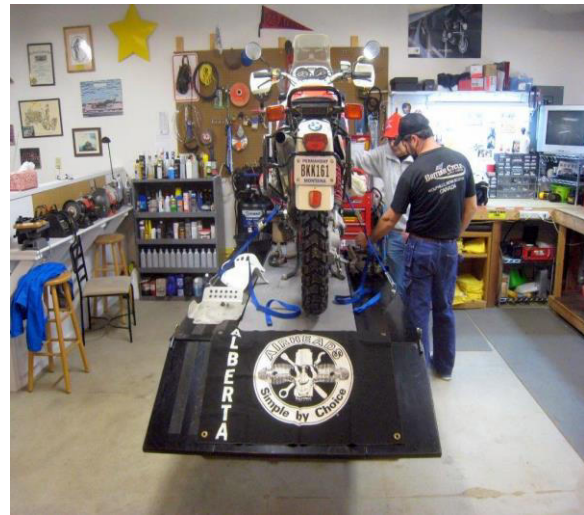
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*The only picture we have from the Philipsburg meeting in
May – Flesher Pass. Our venerable Sec/Treas.*

TECH Session Pictures



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Huddy's Outpost - Home of the 2nd Annual Tech Session

Thanks to the Huddy's for hosting this year's Annual Ride-In Tech Session.

* * *

BILLINGS BMWMOA RALLY NOTES REDUX (Ed. Note: We're re-running this column as we still need volunteers.)

(The following e-mail conversation between Prez Chuck and the BMWMOA rally coordinator is provided for your information.)

"From: sue@beemerhill.com
[<mailto:sue@beemerhill.com>]

To: Chuck Reaves

Cc: rallychair2015

Subject: RE: Volunteering for Billings rally

Hi Chuck -

Thank you for personally volunteering! I actually have a larger request for you and your fellow Montana members. It requires that you stay a little longer on Sunday morning. The Sunday morning clean-up committee. Typically, this committee is comprised of the people who don't have to travel far to get home, which is usually the nearest charter club. The more folks who can stay a few hours to help that morning, the faster it will go. What does this entail, you are wondering

--- Basically, it means that a group of volunteers will need to walk the grounds to be sure that everything is as tidy as it was when we found it. Ensuring that all of the loose trash is bagged and put in a place that's easy for the paid staff to collect is probably the single biggest item. Most of our members will do this themselves, but there

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are always a few loose items that need to be picked up by us.

--- Another big item is that we will need a crew of 4 to man the MOA trailer, to load all of the MOA equipment safely for the trip back to St Louis.

--- Probably more that I can't think of right now, but those are the 2 biggest things.

As a little incentive: We will keep out some of the unclaimed door prizes - hopefully there will be enough so everyone on your team will get a little something to take home with them. Hopefully this will all be wrapped up by 11 AM - 12 at the latest on Sunday.

This year it will be easier than in the past, because the MetraPark has a large staff to handle the projects like breaking down chairs and tables. This is a good thing for us. :)

ANYWAY - I hope your group will volunteer for this. Thanks for considering it, and taking it to your membership.

And, we could use some more articles and pictures for the BMW Owners News to promote the rally. Do you think you could put together an article (or 3) of nice little day-ride destinations? Maybe good places to eat, out-of-the-way things to see (waterfalls, ridge-tops, ride-for-pie, ghost towns, etc.)

We already have a few people writing articles about the "big" rides over the mountain passes, but sometimes our members just want to see something different, that won't require a high-skill ride.

Thanks for anything you can do for us.

Sue, Jiggs, and Vince"

—

All members are encouraged to participate in this once in a life time rally here in Montana and if you have suggestions for rides or pictures, please submit directly to the rally chair, sue at "sue@beemerhill.com"

* * *

The Veep's Corner

CAMPING!

June 26-27, 2015 Lake Inez Point in the Seeley/Swan valley. Ostensibly, this trip was created to "test" your camping kit before the big rally trip comes around. However, it can be whatever we want it to be. So if you are interested in the camping weekend, please contact David Gordon at david_14933@msn.com. We will discuss and decide among us what the trip will become!

Also, contact me if you have questions or concerns about the Dual Purpose ride in August.

David Gordon

* * *

New Members

Melinda Kitchens - R1150RT BMW
Kevin Broderick – R1150 GS
Todd Van Alstyne – R1200 GS
Bob Pauley – Yamaha Super Tenere

(Ed. Note: If I've missed anyone new to the club...please let me know.)

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We're on the Web:
www.mtbmwridders.org

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We're on Facebook Too: Montana BMW Riders

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TOSRV Report

By D. McCormack

According to various sources, the Tour of the Swan River Valley (TOSRV - pronounced 'Toz-Rov') bicycle ride came off as a huge success the weekend of May 30-31st. And, the BMW Club made the front page of the Missoulian Newspaper on June 1st for their work to keep the bicyclists safe. The TOSRV has been going on for many years and our club has been the 'Go To' club for marshaling the ride. It's a two day ride from Missoula to Big Fork (126 miles) on Saturday and then back to Missoula on Sunday (99 miles). It attracts riders from all over the northwest and this year there were 135 riders who started and only 87 who finished. Those that didn't complete the ride were folks who obviously got tired of the constant rain on Saturday and either bailed out along the route or quit when they got to Big Fork. There were 5 members from the MT BMW Riders club volunteering...all lead by Mark Cadwallader of Helena...Chuck Reaves & Kim Lemke from Missoula, Gordon Phillips from Big Fork and Dave McCormack from the Bitterroot.

It's the place where you find out whether your electrics can handle a downpour. It's also the only ride where the bicyclists can actually gain weight...the food stops put on by volunteers are lavish. Civic clubs and Boy Scout troops who do the work of providing food and drinks were outstanding.

If you've never done this ride...you can sign up for it next year to do the whole two day event or just parts of it. It is a kick and the bicyclists are super appreciative of what we do,"...you have no idea how much we appreciate you motorcycle guys...knowing that if there's trouble, you'll eventually be along to help out." said one participant.

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TOSRV Pics



Kim Lemke chattin' up the pancake lady at Potomac.



Mark Cadwallader getting ready to take care of bicyclist's needs. That's the only shot of him with his specially built rack.



Potomac gym laid out with gobs of food for the bicyclists.

Pick Up Rides And The YMCA Riverbank Run Pics



Lochsa pick up Ride



1Kim, Terry and Dave before the start.



Carol and Gary Graham, happy volunteers

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2015 MT BMW Riders Calendar

- January 18th Seeley Lake - Double Arrow Lodge
- February 15th Avon – Avon Cafe
- March 15th Fairmont - Fairmont Hot Springs
- April 19th Lincoln – Lambkins
- May 17th Philipsburg – Sunshine Station
- June 20th Big Fork – Echo Lake Cafe
- July 23-26 MOA Rally in Billings
(Friday 14th- Breakfast ride to Ft. Rockvale Café from the rally)
- August 9th Wisdom – The Crossings at Fetty's
- September 20th Polson – Kwa Tuk Nuk
Lunch meeting followed by optional boat tour of Flathead Lake
- October 18th Ovando – Trixies
- November 15th Drummond – Wagon Wheel
- December 5th Christmas Party at Big Sky Motorsports

All meetings Begin at 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.



Dave and the Race Organizer. She rode in back directing volunteers along the route.



Could be any of the events this past month.



Future members?

FamilyDental Group
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4 Corners Rider
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