

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

**BMW Motorcycle Club**  
Montana BMW Riders



**CLUB CHARTER**  
**MEMBERSHIPS :**

BMWMOA #155

BMW RA #072

AMA #6830



**NEXT MEETING**

**MISSOULA**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**5:00-8:30 PM**

**BIG SKY MOTORSPORTS**

## HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**B**ecause of the holidays, the December newsletter has been historically a short one.

Here, we'll give you the run-down on our annual Christmas party and the monthly ride locations for 2018. Further on in this issue, don't miss this year's pictorial 'year in review' by our roving reporter Dick French. There are some great shots of our club rides this past season.

I was absent but understand there was a great turnout at the November meeting at The Wagon Wheel in Drummond. 15 members showed up and 5 rode their bikes. Those riding and enjoying the sunny though cold temps were...From Helena, Annie and Kevin Huddy. From the Bitterroot, Dave McCormack with friend and new member Ken Senn. From Missoula, John Torma. The others, all from Missoula were.... Larry & Liz Banister, Dick French & Sandy Knutsen, Kim Lemke, Chris Froines (actually Lolo), Carol & Gary Graham, Lynn & Karen Springer. Way to go guys!

Our Christmas party this year, as usual, comes on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of December. Because of the calendar, it comes right on the heels of Thanksgiving. The benefit of having our party so early is; we're giving you a chance to get

warmed up for all those other Christmas parties you'll be attending over the next several weeks.

Thanks to Big Sky BMW for hosting our holiday gathering. They have been great, over the years, offering their place at no charge. Plus owner Nate Bertland opens the store allowing a few hours of Christmas shopping, as well as donating to the drawing prizes. Thanks Nate!!

The party is a pot luck. Those whose names end in the letters A-L please bring a desert and M-Z please bring a side dish. Please bring serving utensils for your dish.

At no charge to the gathering, the club will furnish the entrée, fried and baked chicken from Rosauer's deli. The club also provides, plates, cups, plastic-ware, napkins, coffee, pop, water and a cooler with ice if you want to bring your own beverages.

The party will begin at 5:00 PM. We'll have a blessing and dinner will start at 5:30-5:45. After dinner we'll give you time to shop downstairs for 30-40 minutes, then the awards will be given out and then the drawings will begin upstairs. Afterwards there will be a White Elephant exchange; limit \$20 for a gift. If you wish to participate please bring your gift wrapped. This is always fun and you never know what you'll go home with.

With Kevin Huddy taking a 1 year sabbatical from the Café 2 Café contest, Carol and Gary Graham have offered to step in with a fun contest that parallels Kevin's famous Café 2 Café. It's called Park 2 Park. Thanks to the Graham's for putting this together and to Kevin Huddy for all his hard work over the past two years with what has become a fun contest and catalyst to get riders out the door and traveling to lots of great places to chow down, across Montana and its environs. Park 2 Park looks to be a great follow up to that, just with less calories.

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*Along the same lines, I'd like to say thanks to all who have contributed this year to making the club more fun. I'd especially like to thank newsletter editor, Dave McCormack, for all his expertise in making the newsletter a class act and something to look forward to each month, not to mention his help with ideas for organizing lots of events for the club. Thanks to Mike Wright for making the website a great place to go for info, & just plain fun to visit. That, along with his indispensable enthusiasm for riding, specifically off-roading, making him a great riding partner and for his memorable riding experiences to be told on the trail or over a beer. Thanks to Larry Banister for all he does for the club, from organizing the Christmas party to keeping folks thinking safety as our newsletter 'Safety Mom' and organizing the mileage contest. Larry would definitely be the utility player on this team. Thanks to Dick French for his many pictures that keep the memories flowing and organizing good places to adventure to. Chris Keyes has been a great riding partner and has kept the club on the straight and narrow financially; organizing Excel sheets with membership data and helping harass members out of their \$15.00 dues so they can be proud members of this club. Thanks to Kim Lemke for all his moral support, invaluable info as past president and his example of being a true motorcycle enthusiast. He's pretty good with photos too. Thanks to Terry Kay for managing our Facebook page. Thanks to all others who have helped when they can, whether it be just to show up at meetings and Long Winter Night Get-Togethers or have helped organize things such as the Huddy's putting on the tech weekend at the Huddy Outpost in Helena the past several years. And thanks to Carol & Gary Graham for their winter travelogues showing us places to dream about; wonderful places for visiting down the road. Thanks to others for organizing campouts, rides, volunteering to help with the Riverbank Run & TOSRV. And now, for their first time in organizing the new Park 2 Park contest. It all helps to make for lots of choices for our members and brings riders together to enjoy what they love...motorcycling..*

*I'm looking forward to seeing you all in 2018 but before the year is out I look forward to seeing you at Big Sky BMW this Saturday evening.*

*Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and holiday season.*

*Chuck*



## EDITOR'S CORNER

**I**t's been a great year for me, being your editor and being a rider. I had the most fun fiddling here with the newsletter and various styles. It's all about staying challenged as we age and learning new things.

I'm blessed to have a good friend and coach in Chuck, our tireless President, who seems to know what the club needs next and has the presence of mind to not wait for anyone's approval. It's also been fun to cajole, nag and harass folks into contributing to the newsletter and then discover talented writers, dreamers and Motorcyclists who love the sport as much as I do and volunteer to contribute to it.

Lastly, as many of you now, I had enough mishaps on 2 wheeled bikes that became serious physical issues, such that rather than quit riding, I elected to go to 3 wheels. I told my lovely wife, Sue, I would try 3 wheels for a year and if I didn't like it, I would go back to 2 wheels ( I was dreaming of an R1200 RT). That was 3 years ago. I am now a convert to 3 wheels, especially the Can Am Spyder. I have come to believe it is the only course of action for those of us who have physical issues, slowing reaction times, or who can no longer hold a bike up...quit or stay riding. For the first few years of Spyder ownership I noticed two things, (1), I believed 3 wheel travel for long distances wasn't possible. I didn't have confidence in the technology and opted always to ride with someone; (2), 2 wheel drivers didn't include me as much in "motorcycle" conversations because they didn't understand 3 wheels or thought 3 wheel riders were weird. This past year I took a trip of over 2000 miles, doing it solo and had no issues either way. Even rode through lightening, hail, wind and rain with no issues. Had the best time...which served to confirm for me the whole mystique of motorcycling... we all like being challenged on a bike and would always opt to ride solo...for the excitement of it all. Even when you're two-up, you are riding for you and only peripherally riding with the passenger in mind. So, we can ride until the Doctor says we can't and even then we can sneak a few miles in before we turn in our keys and helmet.

Wishing you all the best of the Holidays. And... wave at 3 wheelers... They've probably been riding longer than you.

*Dave*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## MILEAGE CONTEST



*Ladies and Gentlemen...the pyrotechnic show is ready to be lit and the marching band is lined up and ready to go! We'll be announcing the winner and players of the 2017 mileage contest at our*

*Christmas Party this coming Saturday evening. Those of you who meet the "official deadlines for submitting your beginning and ending mileage" will be placed into a drawing for a \$50.00 Visa gift card which I would think is a good incentive for sending your mileage in and riding!!!! The winner will be receiving a \$75.00 gift card from Big Sky Motorsports and have his/her name permanently inscribed on our Club Mileage Trophy which is on display at the dealership. Both of these awards should also be a pretty good incentive for participating (not to mention the fame that comes along with being permanently memorialized on our club plaque!). Thanks for all of you who joined the adventure. I'll look forward to seeing all you all on Saturday night!*

*Larry Banister*

Mileage Coordinator-Montana BMW Riders

\* \* \*

## SECRETARY/TREASURER'S CORNER



*If Chris weren't so darn busy, he surely would have written a little blurb about how well we're doing financially... as the goal has always been to break even at the end of each calendar year, hoping that enough folks have "paid it forward" to cover the expenses that hit in the first three months.*

*So, show up at the Christmas party and bring you 2018 \$15 membership dues.*

*Chris Keyes*

Secretary-Treasurer  
Montana BMW Riders  
BMWMOA #174257

'13 R1200GSA; '99 F650; '97 R1100RTP

## WINTERIZING

*(ED. NOTE: From a recent article in Motorcyclist Magazine, without their permission, but nevertheless a great article worth sharing)*

"Yup, it's getting to be that time of year when it's too cold out to ride, and if your idea of putting your bike to bed for the winter entails draping an old sheet over it and calling it good, you're liable to have some issues when spring rolls around. So, before you park your bike for the season, there are a few steps you'll want to take to ensure your ride is ready to rip when the weather warms up.

At minimum, you've got to attend to the fuel system and the battery. Whenever you're parking your bike for an extended period of time you run the risk of having your battery go dead and the gas gumming up.

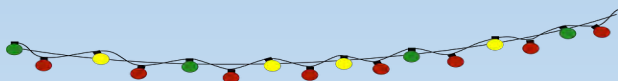
Luckily, a tank full of foul-smelling swill is pretty easy to avoid. If your bike has carburetors and a petcock, you can drain the fuel system. However, most modern bikes are fuel injected, and there's really no easy way to empty the tank. Instead, (we) like to fill the tank to the brim and mix in a fuel stabilizer like Bel-Ray's All-In-One fuel treatment. A quality fuel stabilizer will keep the gas from going bad and it also helps neutralize the ethanol that's in today's gasoline, so it doesn't wreak havoc on your fuel system.

Storing the bike with a full tank does two things: First, it doesn't leave any room for air inside the tank, so rust is less likely to form. Second, you roll into the next riding season with plenty of gas for that first ride. So go ahead and top the tank off, add some stabilizer, and run the bike for a few minutes so that treated gas makes its way throughout the fuel system.

The next big concern is the battery. Traditional lead-acid batteries self-discharge over time, and, left alone, your battery will probably be too weak to start your bike after a few months. So it's really, really important to hook the battery up to a smart charger so it stays topped up and ready to crank. There are lots of chargers and maintainers out there, but you want to make sure you get a smart charger that only feeds current to the battery when needed. You can take the battery out of the bike and hook it up, or just install a \$5 quick-connect harness. If you've got a lithium-ion battery in your bike, you can get away with just disconnecting the negative terminal. Lithium-ion batteries have an extremely low self-discharge rate and can sit for a year or more without losing much juice.

Okay, so if you're in a hurry or just lazy, then those are the minimum requirements for winterizing your bike. But if you want to do everything you can to preserve your motorcycle's finish and moving parts, here are a few more things you should do.

Before you mothball the bike, give it a proper bath to wash off the grime and dead bugs and other stuff that can corrode the paint and metal. Then wax the painted parts, apply a silicone protectant to plastic panels, and wipe down chromed, polished, or anodized metal components with a rag that's been moistened with an aerosol lubricant. The wax and silicone will keep those painted and plastic parts clean



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and protected, and the light oil in the lubricant will help prevent metal from rusting. Speaking of rust, make sure you thoroughly clean and then **lube your chain**.

Next, let's turn to the engine. Extremists insist you need fresh oil in the fall before storage and fresh oil come spring. That's over-kill, and a waste. Of course you don't want dirty oil sitting in the engine stagnating all winter, so if you're more than halfway to your next scheduled oil change, go ahead and do it now. That way the engine internals are bathed in fresh engine oil and you'll be ready to ride in the spring. If the oil is pretty fresh, just make sure it's topped up.

Another thing may want to do for your motor is close the doors. (We're) talking about blocking the muffler and airbox inlet with heavy plastic and a rubber band or zip-ties. This takes care of two things: First, it'll discourage rodents from nesting in your airbox and muffler, and it'll seal out moisture that could potentially corrode your valves or cylinder walls. And while we're talking about pain-in-the-ass procedures, if you really want to protect your cylinder and rings, you can pop the spark plugs out and squirt some fogging oil in the cylinder. In (our) opinion though, that's not necessary, especially if you're already plugging the pipe and airbox.

Okay, next up are your bike's tires. Sitting still isn't great for the rubber, so to help prevent flat spots you'll want to make sure the tires are properly inflated and prop the bike up on track stands so the tires aren't loaded. If your bike has a centerstand, you're golden. If not, it's worth investing in a set of stands since they're really handy not just for winter storage but also for performing regular maintenance like changing the oil and lubing the chain. The next-best option if you don't have stands is to roll your tires onto pieces of plywood or cardboard to insulate them from concrete. The concern is that the cold concrete will leach moisture and oils out of the tire and promote dry rot. Putting down a couple of pieces of wood or cardboard is pretty cheap insurance.

Finally, give your bike a comfy blanket to sleep under for its winter nap. Something as simple as an old sheet will keep dust off your bike, but cotton tends to attract moisture and might mildew, so you're better off with a synthetic bike cover or even a tarp.

Everything (we've) recommended so far assumes you're storing your bike inside a garage or basement or somewhere else out of the elements. If you're forced to park your bike outdoors, you'll want to do everything (we've) mentioned plus upgrade to a heavy-duty waterproof bike cover with grommets at the bottom, so you can strap it in place. You'll also want to remove the battery from the bike and plug it into a trickle charger indoors. So to recap: Before you park your bike for the winter you've got to mix fuel stabilizer into your gas and you have to keep the battery topped up with a Battery Tender or a similar device. Beyond that, a wash and wax, plugging the airbox and muffler, and propping the bike up on stands will all help keep your bike happy. And that'll make you happy once the weather warms up this spring."

\* \* \*

## Monthly Breakfast—November

### River City Grill



*A little icy in the parking lot!!!*



*The usual suspects...(L-to-R): Mike Wright, Dave, Chris Keyes, Chris Torma, John & Linda Torma, Dick French & Sandy Knutsen, and Larry Banister. Picture by Chuck Reaves.*

## NHTSA Recall Notice

**Recall ID # 17V682**

**Manufacturer: Indian Motorcycle Company**

**Subject: Incorrect Headlight Installed/FMVSS108**

<u>Make</u>	<u>Model s</u>	<u>Model Years</u>
<b>Indian</b>	<b>Chief</b> <b>Chief Classic</b> <b>Chief Dark Horse</b> <b>Chief Vintage</b> <b>Chieftain</b> <b>Chieftain Classic</b> <b>Chieftain Dark Horse</b> <b>Chieftain Elite</b> <b>Chieftain Limited</b> <b>Springfield</b> <b>Springfield Dark Horse</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>

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***Kevin & Annie Huddy's Secret to riding in the winter.***



*On Sunday the 25th of November, we rode around Canyon Ferry Reservoir to Townsend, south to Three Forks, west along the Jefferson River past the L&C Caverns to Cardwell, through the Boulder River Valley to Boulder and then home on I-15. Was 34 degrees when we left home, but quickly got into the 50s and was in the low 60s for parts of the ride. About 200 miles of great riding weather. This was taken along the Jefferson River a mile or so east of LaHood:*



*Here's hoping we have one of those winters where we can ride at least a couple of days each month.*

*Kevin & Annie*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

The Montana BMW Riders NEWSLETTER is Published Monthly.

Club Dues: \$15 per calendar year - Membership includes monthly electronic newsletter (or \$20 per year for snail mailed newsletter).

Monthly Meetings: Third Sunday of each month, 1 PM, unless specified otherwise. Location announced in Newsletter and on Web Page.

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**CLASSIFIED ADS FOR THE WEBSITE:** MIKE WRIGHT

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 of the clubs or its officers.

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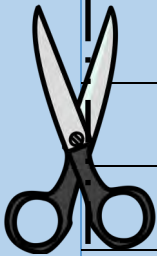
**We're on Facebook Too:**

**MONTANA BMW Riders**

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## 2018 Ride Schedule

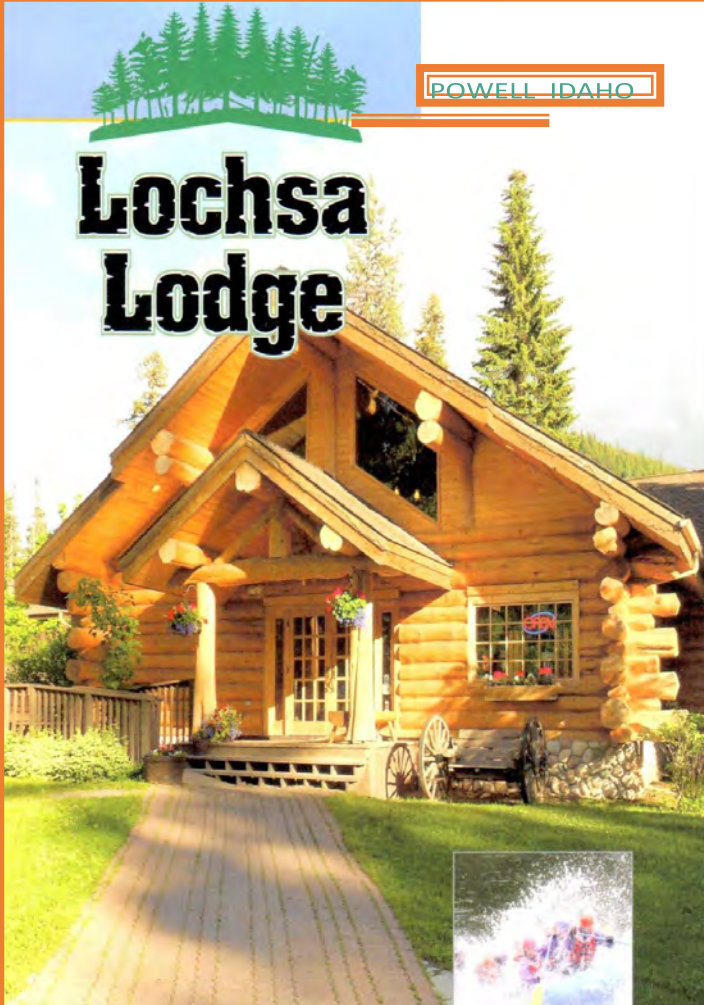
Month	Date	City	Place	Sat/Sun	Time
Jan	20	Seeley Lake	Double Arrow Lodge	Sat	1:00 PM
Feb	18	Avon	Avon Cafe	Sun	1:00 PM
Mar	18	Missoula	The Press Box	Sun	1:00 PM
Apr	15	Lincoln	Lambkins	Sun	1:00 PM
May	20	Philpsburg	Sunshine Café	Sun	1:00 PM
Jun	16	Big Fork	Echo Lake Cafe	Sat	1:00 PM
Jul	21	Choteau	Log Cabin	Sat	1:00 PM
Aug	19	Wisdom	The Crossings	Sun	1:00 PM
Sep	15	Three Forks	Sacajawea Inn	Sat	1:00 PM
Oct	21	Ovando	Trixi's	Sun	1:00 PM
Nov	18	Drummond	Wagon Wheel	Sun	1:00 PM
Dec	8	Missoula	Big Sky Motorsports	Sat	5:30-8:30 PM



*For this coming year, 2018, we've listened. As a result, we've added two different meeting places that you might find challenging: The Press Box in Missoula in March and the Sacajawea Inn in Three Forks in September.*

*We always have some favorite and traditional meeting places, like Lambkins in Lincoln, the Sunshine Station in Philipsburg, the Echo Lake Cafe in Big fork, and the Crossings Restaurant in Wisdom. But we always are open to suggestions for the following year's meetings. So pick a place, tell us about it and we'll check it out. It has to be able to accommodate upwards of 25 people all in one space, preferably a separate room from the main restaurant, have enough staff at 1:00 p.m. and beyond to serve all our riders and be open both Saturday and /or Sunday. Send your suggestions to Chuck Reaves, Chris Keyes or Dave McCormack.*

*All our meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. so that we don't push local restaurant patrons out and create an issue for the staff. We always call ahead and confirm we are coming. Therefore, we encourage members not to request seating until 1:00 p.m.*







POWELL IDAHO

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**BIG SKY MOTORSPORTS**



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Effective April 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

Quality products from BMW, KTM and Kawasaki and great service set Big Sky MotorSports apart. Our service department specializes in all types of motorcycle, ATV and snowmobile maintenance and aftermarket parts and accessory installation.

Wander on down to **2315 South Avenue West** in **Missoula** or call **(406) 728-5341** to speak to one of the highly trained staff.

When you go, tell them you saw their ad in the MT BMW Riders **DECEMBER** newsletter.

**November 1<sup>st</sup> and going to January 31<sup>st</sup>...Big Sky Motor Sports will be giving a discount of 20% off labor in the service department.**

**Whenever you are shopping at Big Sky Motor Sports, always remember to ask for 10% off as a member.**



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## OVANDO PIX

*Pictures came in after November issue.*



These pictures came in after the deadline of the crew that showed up at Trixi's for our October meeting.



### **Park To Park Recap**

Details to follow in the January Newsletter, but here's a quick summary of what the Graham's are proposing for next year's exciting competition:

- Essentially the same categories as last year
- T-shirts for participants available at \$15 each
- Have to be a paid up member to participate
- Contest runs from April 1st thru November 1st
- Gotta ride a motorcycle (2 or 3 wheels)
- 53 Parks are the total target
- Pictures of the park sign and you and a dated photo are minimum requirements
- Some parks may require traveling on unpaved roads.
- Special extra categories for chasing awards.

### **Teaser**

By Dick French



This helmet is worn by a Montana BMW riders member, a well experienced rider. Who wears this helmet?

Clue:



Carol & Gary—our intrepid leaders

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS 2017 YEAR IN REVIEW***

***By Dick French with help from some others***



Dual Sport Riding instructor, Fran Tully holding class just off Big Flat Road, west of Missoula along the Clark Fork



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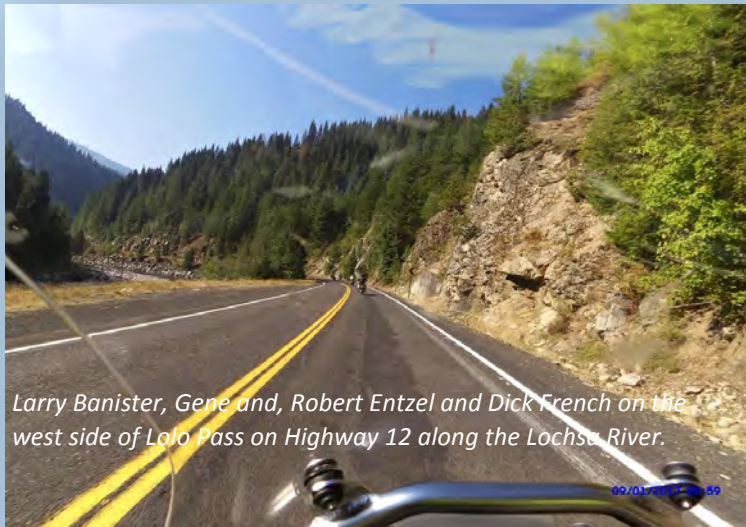
*Our instructor demonstrating creek crossings, and the consequences thereof.*



Sometimes your bike is just tired, so it lays down.



*The Club's first spring ride and meeting, in Polson, Montana with the Mission Mountains in the background.*



*Larry Banister, Gene and, Robert Entzel and Dick French on the west side of Lolo Pass on Highway 12 along the Lochsa River.*



*Chuck Reaves, Carol and Gray Graham and Dave McCormack ready to escort runners in the annual YMCA Riverbank Run, in Missoula, Montana.*



**Made in China      Made in Germany**



**Great leaders don't tell you what to do....they show you how its done**

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER



Kevin and Joyce (a.k.a Anne) Huddy hosted their annual "Tech" session, which attracted two excellent examples of the growing side car population, a Ural and more recent BMW.



A few 'expert' hands positioning Chuck Reave's F 650 on the pneumatic lift and the Huddy Tech session.



The Sunshine Station, Phillipsburg, Montana almost always draws a crowd.



The newsletter editor just can't pass up a visit to the Sula Country Store and Resort.



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*And a summer's riding schedule would not be complete without a visit to the Dinner Bell in Gold Creek, Montana. No one seemed to be interested in visiting the golden spike site of the meeting of the east and west sections of the Northern Pacific Railroad.*



*The Crossing in Wisdom, Montana seems to be an attraction to riders of all models, including our club.*

***BMW MOA rally in Des Moines, Iowa is the meeting place on  
Saturday July 14th.  
Put it on your calendars!***

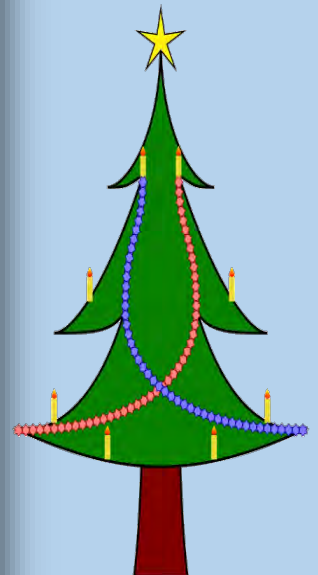
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*The Echo Lake Café in Big Fork was also a popular meeting place, drawing members from Kalispell.*



*A good ride to have on your schedule – over Skalkaho Pass to where Skalkaho Road crosses the upper Rock Creek, then north on Upper Rock Creek road the Kyle G. Bohrsen Bridge. A bit of coffee and some home-made scones keeps the whole thing quite civilized.*



# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***



*The bridge over the Clark Fork at Dry Creek west of Superior is always a nice place to stop while riding the Southside road out of Superior, Montana headed west. (Ed. Note: It's Dick's Article so we grant him space to show off his bike).*

No summer review would be complete without a photo of Mike Wright's wounded bike after its backflip demonstrating some of the 'adventure' in adventure motorcycle riding. JB Weld for the bike, and a little contemplation for Mike, and all was well.



*Irish Proverb:*

*May peace and plenty be the first  
To lift the latch on your door,  
And happiness be guided to your home  
by the candle of Christmas.*

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(L-to -R ):Kim, Larry, Dave and the Author, waiting for another cup of coffee.

*We don't know if it is the food or the ride, but no summer would be complete without the Lochsa Lodge.*





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Chris Keyes spared no expense to put together the most awesome Hospitality Tent at the July BMWMOA Rally in Salt lake City.



Larry challenges you to guess the identity of this rascal doing 50/50 tickets for the club. By the looks of him, he shouldn't go near a bike.



Chris (our Treasurer), used his own money in the bars...we hope!



Tried to park together wherever we could.



Kevin Huddy with face covered, Chuck Reaves, Kim Lemke, Bob Testut. Across from Bob Testut was Bob Rennick, then Rick Kuschel, and Annie Huddy. Picture by Keyes.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER



It was cold at Trixi's.



An outlier on Highway 12. There we came across a British fellow who had his Yamaha adventure bike flown from the UK to Vancouver, BC for a few weeks riding in western Canada and the northwestern US and then shipping his bike back to the UK. You do meet some interesting folks on motorcycles, and all are anxious to share their experiences, especially those who choose the roads less travelled.



Thank You -Dick French—for refreshing our memories of a great 2017 riding season.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## DRUMMOND MEETING—NOVEMBER



32 DEGREES...No slackers here. Serious motorcyclists!



Karen Springer and Sandy Knutsen sharing a laugh.



Larry and Lynn, proving that old club sweatshirts are collectible.



(L-to-R): New Member, Ken Senn (Triumph Trophy), John Torma, Dave McCormack and Carol Graham.

