

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club  
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER  
MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

BMW RA #072

AMA #6830

**NEXT MEETING**

**CHOTEAU**

**LOG CABN**

**SATURDAY, 1:00 PM**

**-HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE-**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**T**his month I'm feeling more like Chuck Kuralt from *On the Road* than myself. Read on and see why.

I was having a hard time getting started on this month's newsletter. Other than the highlight of receiving my 100,000 miles pin/sticker acknowledgement from the MOA for miles ridden on BMW's, I was in a funk in the month of June. After getting out and riding lots in May, in June I hardly raised the kickstand. Why? The same-ole-same-ole...letting work schedule and weather trump my saddle time.

I have to admit the inspiration for this article came randomly from our ride event to The Dinnerbell. Wow, what a great turnout, filling up 2 tables with 16 members/wives/friends.

If you didn't make it for the past 3 annual outings and if it fits your schedule next year, this ride is one fun event! The location is close to home but far enough away to get in some quality motorcycle time. The venue is unique, especially for us city dwellers. It's really out in the country, 12 miles out in the country from Drummond, which I think of as country. The food is a chicken dinner. The restaurant is run by a Mennonite family and served family style around large tables each Thursday evening to 150-200 people. This year we had table reservations outside the main dining hall because every Thursday night is so full to the brim with diners you can't hear the conversation of the person across from you. Heaven forbid you miss anything motorcycle related at any gathering of like-minded motorcyclists, right? Though I came with family (wife, mom, sister) I tended to have my ear tuned to the motorcyclists at the table.

Sorry Mom! Sort of similar to my mom, were two members, usually quiet, but much-experience riders. It was Don Deuel and Greg Hintz. Yes, they ride another brand (Honda Goldwing) but the #hashtag for these guys is motorcycle enthusiasts! Man do they ride. When we turn in our mileage forms to Larry Banister in April, Greg and Don have usually already done 3,000 to 8,000 miles by then. Being retired helps but these guys are committed and have lots of riding experiences to enlighten you with. Though our conversations regarding our motorcycles usually revolve around newest and greatest this-or-that \$\$\$\$ farkle, sometimes it's the simple things you take away from the conversation.

In our conversation I mentioned how sleepy I was on the bike on my way to the Dinnerbell. Both Don and Greg have done lots of Iron Butt riding and had their own take on remedies to help you awake after so many hours in the saddle. Amazingly, it was Jelly Beans! HA! What?! Yes, they purchase them at REI (the icon of pure outdoor living). They're made for competitive trail runners and over indulgent athletes that need help to keep moving forward when they're ready to drop. It just so happens these jelly beans are great for keeping you awake! Lots of sugar and fortified with electrolites! Yes, yes, I know that tank bag is already so full. But the next time you ride and you're feeling the 'sleepies' come on these jelly beans could be a lifesaver (no pun intended). This is an unusual but great new idea. You never know what you'll learn from motorcycle conversations! Thanks to Don and Greg for a fun (and enlightening) conversation!

So now, like Chuck Kuralt...you heard it on the road! I didn't make the June meeting but it sounds like Echo Lake Café still draws a good crowd. It was especially great considering it was raining cats and dogs. Though we had reservations thanks to Gordon Phillips for getting there early and helping secure an in-door table for our group. Those attending were: from the

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Flathead...Mark F800GS & Stephanie F650 Johnson, Doug Byrne R1100GS, Terry Logan R1200GS, guests Ron Schlagenhauser R1200GS & Joe Schletz F6550GS, Joseph S1000XR and Monika Pulielli F700GS, Wade Allred R1200GSA, Gordon Phillips R1200RT. From Missoula and Bitterroot Valley...Dave McCormack Buick Enclave, Larry Banister Triumph 800XR, Karen & Lynn Springer Mini Van, John DiBari Honda Africa Twin, Chris Keyes R1200GSA, Dick French F800GS.

And from Helena, Mike Meredith F800ST.

Coming up, on the road....our next meeting is at Chateau, Montana on Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>. It'll be at the Log Cabin Restaurant and starts at 1:00 PM. Our hot days of riding are coming up and as usual in July there will a drawing for a cooling vest. Another quick *Heard it on the Road*...for traveling in hot weather...the night before leaving put some green grapes in the freezer. Take'm out and wrap in a light weight towel. Put them in your tank bag where they're easy to get to. It's like eating a little Icey each time you pop one in your mouth. And it's amazing how long they stay frozen. Ok, lots of rallies coming up in July including the MOA national in Des Moines, July 12-15. See the list on our website or this newsletter.

Also at the end of July on the 28<sup>th</sup>, we have a GS weekend put on by member Chris Keyes. This is at the Bend Cabin, which is a Forest Service cabin between Thompson Falls and Kalispell. Understand it's mostly what Dick French & Larry Banister call a dirt 'Winnebago Road'. We have Saturday night at the cabin, but if anyone is interested in going up a day early and doing some riding in the Kalispell area Friday, let me know. Could camp or motel. I plan to go up early if for no other reason than to capture some of those northwestern Montana State Parks.

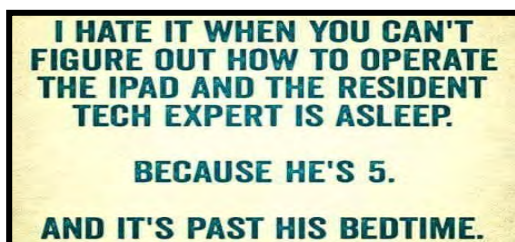
Ok, safe riding out there. Thanks to all those who participate and those who volunteer to make this club run like a fine German watch.

Hope to see you in Chateau. Till then, Happy Trails!!

*Chuck Reaves* (not Kuralt)

\*

\* \*



## BMWMOA CORNER

BMWMOA Regional Coordinator

Tom Moe



I had the pleasure of attending the getaway and enjoyed it very much. From Bozeman the route there was either to West Yellowstone or Ennis and into Idaho near

Henry's Lake and over Island Park to Ashton where a left is taken to Driggs and across the WY border to the Grand Targhee Ski Resort. It was raining over Island Park which seems normal for that area, either snowing or raining. I had hoped to go back through Jackson, WY and Yellowstone Park but the forecast Sunday was for steady rain all day long so I beat feet and headed home the way I came. It was raining again over Island Park. I am pleased to say my RTW kept me pretty darn dry.

Having been raised on a farm at Lewistown I couldn't help but marvel at the great farmland and farms in eastern Idaho. The soil was black and rock free. My dad would have really en-



joyed farming soil like that and having irrigation as well.

The views of the western side of the Grand Tetons was spectacular as well. A first for me, seeing them that close.

The getaway was well attended with 51 members being there, only one no show but 2 walk-ins to make up for the one. Friday night happy hour was followed by a wonderful buffet dinner with a chance to meet other attendees. I finally had the opportunity to meet Kevin and Annie Huddy and enjoyed conversing with them very much. I also met BMWMOA executive director Bob Aldridge and BMW ON editor Bill Weigand and got a chance to get to know them as well.



Some folks got the chance to try out and evaluate some nice equipment and gear, a Sargent seat for RTWs, some boots, some gloves and another item I don't recall right now brought by Bill Weigand.

On Saturday quite a few of the attendees made the 1.5 hour trip to the Klim facility in Rigby, ID where were afforded a very nice tour of the headquarters, informed of product development, shopped the retail store and were fed a very nice lunch.

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

I suspect every attendee wanted a piece or two of Klim gear and a few opened up their wallets and became Klim customers. I know I plan to acquire a Klim jacket. Thanks to Klim and Mark, our tour guide, for the wonderful tour and education as well. He and Kevin had a very engaging and educational conversation at lunch which I enjoyed listening in on and learned a lot.

We were given a one-time ride pass on the Dream Catcher chairlift to the top which was at 10,000 feet which I took Saturday afternoon. From this point the view of Grand Teton Peak at 13,770 feet was spectacular. During the summer thousands of folks take the chairlift to get their mountain bikes to the top and ride down the trails. If you thought BMW motorcycles were expensive a Yeti brand mountain bike sells for \$6,700 or so making a G310 GS seem cheap. At least you get a motor with the G310s. I didn't see any "older" folks riding bikes down the mountain.

Saturday night happy hour followed by another wonderful buffet dinner and drawing where many attendees won some nice prizes. On this night, although chilly, we were able to sit outside. The BMWMOA foundation also held a silent auction raising money for the foundation. Scala stepped up big donating prizes for the drawing and silent auction and hats for all the losers (me) who didn't win something in the drawing.

Thinking back this getaway was a bargain at \$99 as we got two very nice dinners worth at least half the cost of admission. And the gift bag wasn't bad either, a nice tee shirt and waterproof bag.

The next MOA getaway is at Copper Mountain, Copper Mountain, CO 08/24/18 to 08/26/18 which I seriously hope to attend. BTW, you do not have to be a member to attend. Check the BMWMOA website for details.

*Tom Moe*

## **NHTSA RECALL NOTICE**

**Model: Ducati Supersport**

**Year: 2017-2018**

**Issue: Hoses Near Exhaust May Melt  
Causing Fire**

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## **FREE TO GIVEAWAY**

I have the stock windshield for my ex 2005 R 1200 RT & my ex 2010 K 1300 GT. They are in good shape and are in the original boxes. The after market windshields came in. They are in the garage in Bigfork. And, my wife would like them to go away. And I like to please Her.

Wade Allred

[dwadeallred@aol.com](mailto:dwadeallred@aol.com)

Cell 406-407-0611

**I thought  
growing old  
would take  
longer.**

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER MASTHEAD

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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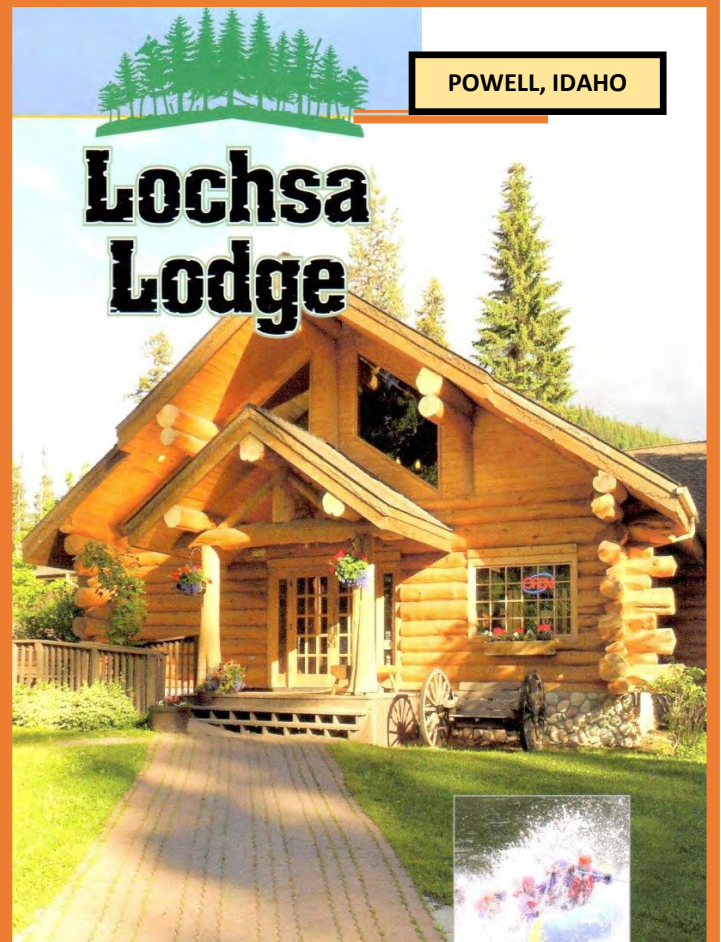
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Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be sent to: Editor, P.O. Box 1353, Victor, MT 59575.

Emailed text is preferred. Photos as attachments. Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the consensus of the clubs or its officers.

**We're on Facebook Too:**

**MONTANA BMW Riders**

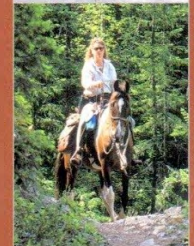
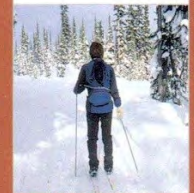
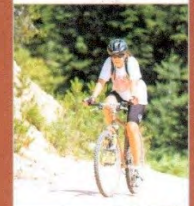


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# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## SAFETY CORNER



You'd think our motorcycle magazines have all been purchased by AARP! It seems like all my various publications contain numerous letters from readers, editorials and articles addressing the continued ageing of riders. If you look at our membership, that would apparently be true. A "young" rider now appears to be someone in their 50's! Suggestions contained in these various articles include: riding a lighter bike; riding a three-wheeler or trike; quit riding altogether; or yadda, yadda, yadda. I found an article in the most recent 'American Motorcyclist' that addresses this issue with a positive view....things that we can do to continue to ride, but also to recognize that the object of most riders is NOT to crash! You can read the entire article in the June issue, but here's a brief summary:

**Know your bike and yourself.** Make sure your bike is mechanically sound and that you know your personal limits and ride within them. Are there days you just don't feel "up to a ride"? Then don't. If you're like me, the heat and cold that didn't used to affect me much, now does. Dress/ride appropriately.

**When the rain comes.** We've all been there...out on a ride and the rain comes. In the past, I was inclined to ride through it...after all, I had a long ways to go and a short time to get there. Not the smartest. As per the article.... "Street oriented motorcycle tires can handle light to moderate amounts of rain. When rain becomes so heavy it reduces visibility or if lightning is sited, get off the road, park the bike and take shelter until the storm passes".

**Ageing riders.** No need to beat this point, that's the point of most articles in most of the magazines. However, there are a couple of good bullet points: While age can provide a rider with wisdom and riding experience, the health effects of aging can affect a rider's ability to ride safely. For example, generally speaking, night vision is poorer, overall strength decreases

and reaction time increases with age. Ageing also generally affects endurance and makes it more difficult to judge speed and distance. Some medications can compound these effects and affect cognitive processing.

### Some suggestions!

- 1. Acknowledge your current limitations. Avoid situations that heavily tax diminished riding skills. Some examples include maintaining longer following distances, in traffic, avoiding heavily congested riding environments and allow larger gaps when passing slower traffic.**
- 2. Compensate for weakened vision and eye muscles. Instead of relying on peripheral vision to see each side of an intersection, make a point to look directly at each side and receive better quality visual information.**
- 3. Be sure prescription lenses are current and scratch free.**
- 4. Listen to feedback from others. If a riding buddy mentions that he or she noticed your delayed reactions, or a family member notices differences in motor skills while doing work around the house or outdoors, it is a signal to exercise caution and take further action to understand the cause.**

As riders, I believe we possess a large portion of denial. We acknowledge the hazards of riding, but always think an accident either will never happen or will happen to someone else. Don't use this same set of denials when it comes to really assessing your riding abilities. Riding smarter (and perhaps slower??) will help you extend the years of riding enjoyment.

*Larry Banister*

Safety Mom  
Montana BMW Riders.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## 2018 RIDE SCHEDULE

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

**The John Munch Memorial (John's MotoWerks)**  
**will be held July 14, from 1:00 - 4:00 pm in Alberton**  
**at the Alberton Park Senior Center.**

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## ***Park 2 Park***

We are back from Italy. After four rainy days in Missoula, we fled to Oregon and the grandchildren. We will return for a longer spell in mid-July. Actually we had a great ride today from Portland to Astoria through the mountains where the most frequently seen traffic is logging trucks. It is a really twisty road and the excitement is enhanced by the lack of knowledge of whether you will meet a loaded truck straddling the centerline on any given corner.

(Ed. Note: The following is the result of participating riders asking for clarification on certain parks).

The rule interpretations are - After consultation with the judiciary and fair and honest persons far and wide, the following rule interpretations apply to the 2018 Park2Park rides:

1. As to gravel and dirt roads unsuitable for cruisers and minimal clearance vehicles (in the eye of the rider) credit will be given for the nearest paved approach to any park, particularly Hell Canyon and Elkhorn. While we all need challenges in our lives, we will leave it up to you as to whether, given your ride and skill level, you think is safe to proceed further.
2. At Beaverhead Rock, instead of the two track road the GPS would put you on, go to the Point of Interest about a mile south of the road.
3. We have a to-fer - Thompson Chain of Lakes and Logan are both credited for a visit to either. We also have a one-fer. A visit to one or both of the Milltown Dam State Parks gets you credit for one park because the new one that just opened will be considered just a part of the old one.
4. Wild Horse and Pirogue are both islands unconnected by bridges, ergo, you don't need to ride there. A photo from the nearest dry land will work.
5. There is no official like sign at Elkhorn but there is one of the usual historic ones just to the south. The off highway portion in 8.75 miles. Getting close counts (*editor's note*).

There are now 15 riders who have visited five or more parks. Only three parks have not been visited by anyone. We are about to order the tee shirts which are beautiful (designed by a word-famous shirt artist) so if you haven't signed up for the Park2Park competition you will miss out on the opportunity to obtain a soon to be collectors item. They will cost only about \$21.00, but signup and ordering needs to be done within the next week (July 7th)

***Gary & Carol***



*The first attempt at a ride up to Lochsa Lodge for breakfast on the first Saturday of the month Missoula Breakfast schedule. Some confusion about what time led to a small starter crowd. L-R: Chuck Reaves, Chris Keyes, the Editor, and John DiBari.*

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

## **2018 RIDES AND RALLIES**

July 12-15	BMW MOA Rally in Des Moines, Iowa
July 14-15	Montana Ride For Hope, Lewistown, MT
July 17-19	Cascade County Rendezvous, Republic, WA
July 19-22	BMW RA Rally in Wellsboro, PA
July 18-21	Top of the Rockies Rally in Paonia, Colorado
July-23-25	Montana BMW Riders GS weekend ride
July 26-28	Gold Wing Riders Association Rally in Missoula, MT.
August 3-12	The Sturgis
August 9-10	The Idaho Stanley Stomp Rally in Lowman, ID
August 16-19	Beartooth Rendezvous in Red Lodge, MT
August 16-19	BC Beemers Rally In Nakusp, BC
August 22-25	Rally in the Gorge in Hood River, OR put on by Sound Rider



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# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## EDITOR'S CORNER



**H**ere it is again...another month of stuff to share with club readers. Two or three items popped up over the June month that should get air time.

For instance, there was a small dust up connected with the Missoula area breakfast in June. The Prez put out a flash note to members that June's breakfast (always the first Saturday of the month) would be at the usual time at Lochsa Lodge. No one questioned that note until the night before. Then there was a flurry of emails back and forth about "was that 9:00 a.m. at the Lodge (Idaho time) or 9:00 a.m. as if we were in Montana on MDST?". Not seeing a definitive answer from anyone in the email discussion, I took it upon myself to define the answer...9:00 a.m. is when we typically walk through the door for breakfast...so we should walk through the door at the Lodge at 9:00 a.m. Idaho time. Then I went to bed.

I rode up to Lochsa Lodge at 9:00 a.m. Idaho time and guess who had just finished eating...the Prez, the Sec./Treas. and John DiBari. Apparently, Chuck weighed in after my bedtime and determined that in order to eat at 9:00 a.m. Montana time, one must get on the road at whatever time to ensure that we are eating at 9:00 a.m. Montana time. At the table, they must have felt sorry for me as they stayed until I had eaten my breakfast. So, there you have it...the rule is **"Whatever time is set for the monthly Missoula area breakfast, it is always Montana time, regardless of time zones"**.

As long as we're discussing my troubles with authority figures and other rogues, the rain that was falling on the Saturday of our meeting at the Echo Lake Café in Big Fork was sufficient to cause some more email traffic, although not as many participants...I believe someone who had not been to the Echo Lake Café before assumed we would be eating indoors when he wrote, "Will they have room for us inside?". What I recalled from previous rainy meetings there, I wrote, "No, we eat outside under hopefully leak-proof umbrellas. It's a lot of fun. Where's your sense of adventure?". That comment came back to haunt me when I arrived in a car and the guy who posed the question (obviously had ridden) looked at me and with a slight sneer on his face said, "Where's your sense of adventure?". So, I've taken a beating lately but still am holding my ground on some issues and losing on others. I was never in favor of being an "A" student anyway. I prefer the more adventuresome spot of shooting from ambush from a strong "C" or weak "B-" position.

At 77, I make different decisions about riding than I used to when I was in my 40's and 50's. I have a rule, the same one that Larry Banister has..."If it's raining when you start, don't". There are times, in retrospect, that I wish I had made a different decision because rain may have only occupied a small cell above the house while the rest of the world was dry, or it turned dry later in the day and the ride home would have been worth enduring the earlier rain. However, I understand that serious younger riders will take chances and do things that I no longer consider prudent. I believe us older guys need to share our wisdom with younger riders and then step out of the way. Riding is risky to start with, and those who decide to ride a motorcycle are predisposed to follow their hearts when considering adding additional danger to their rides, like rain. So, I applaud those who rode to the Echo Lake Café meeting. We're just in two different places and our club has room, thankfully, for all those who love to ride, regardless of age or predisposition.

In this newsletter, Larry, our 'Safety Mom', addresses the issue of aging and making riding decisions in later years and offers some sage advice. And he's right...seems every motorcycle magazine I pick up has a column or 'letter to the editor' talking about getting older and when to make the decision to get off two wheels. It's an interesting dilemma. I suspect by the time many members begin to face that decision, there will be more alternatives than just a trike, or sidecar rig, or a TUF (two up front, like the Spyder) or two-wheel conversion kits to slap on your Goldwing, BMW or Harley full dresser. There are now conversion kits available for two wheels up front or two wheels in back, although fairly pricey as yet. I had to make my decision a lot earlier than expected because of injuries to both ankles in my early 70's. But I am still happily riding although on 3 wheels, and expect that I'll ride in to my 90's.

I got into trouble at Echo Lake again when I entered 'Spyder' under the bike column on the sign in sheet. My 'adventurous' friend insisted that that's not what I rode and I shouldn't get credit for a bike that in fact was still in my garage, all clean, dry and warm. So, live and learn. On the roster sheet when it's used at a meeting, where it asks for 'Bike', enter what you rode to the meeting, not what you either wish you had ridden or what you're hoping to buy when you win the lottery.

We won't talk about the fact that again, I didn't ride to the Dinner Bell. Had my wife along and her preference was a car.

*Dave*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## ECHO LAKE PICTURES



**THEN**— New member Monika Puglielli, Echo Lake Café June 2017 with her show room new BMW F700GS, and from all appearances new riding gear.



**NOW**— One year member, and apparently happy, Monika Puglielli on her F700GS with some well earned road grim replacing the show room shine, again at the Echo Lake Café.



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# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## The George A. Wyman Project

(Idea submitted by Greg Hintz -  
Material paraphrased or copied from the website)



**George A. Wyman** was the first person to cross America on a motorized vehicle. Wyman started in San Francisco, California on May 16 and arrived in New York City 50 days later on July 6, 1903. He rode a 200cc, 1.25 horsepower "California" motorcycle designed by Roy C. Marks, inventor of the first American production motorcycle.

This historic transcontinental motorcycle journey took place at the beginning of the 20th century when life moved at the pace of the horse and buggy. The "motorcycle" was regarded as a novelty, used by young men to cruise the neighborhood and ride around town. It was a time of innovations in personal transportation, but it would be the automobile that would capture the imagination of the public and change America. Sadly, the Wyman accomplishment was pushed aside, relegated to the back pages of history and was quietly forgotten.

The Wyman story is one of personal courage, determination and struggle to overcome adversity to achieve his goal. Wyman faced his long-distance motorcycling saga alone, without a backup crew, with only his ingenuity and resourcefulness to keep himself and his motorcycle moving. Crossing mountain ranges, vast stretches of desert, endless prairie, battling daily breakdowns and disabling mechanical failures, Wyman would ultimately succeed riding from San Francisco to New York City in 50 days.

**The Mission of the George A. Wyman Memorial Project**  
Promote the Wyman story, mark the points along the way from San Francisco to New York City, educate the motorcycling community and general public of the historic significance of the Wyman accomplishment.

**Editor's Note:** There will be a signed (by MTBMWriders club officials) poster given to Nate at Big Sky Motorsports to be hung in an appropriate place encouraging riders to investigate the Wyman Project and the many ways it can add to riding options. Thanks to Greg for providing the references. For more information please go to [www.http://wymanmemorialproject.blogspot.com](http://www.http://wymanmemorialproject.blogspot.com) or type George A. Wyman in your browser. Greg, who is an active Iron Butt member, suggests you also go to "[Iron Butt Association](#)" to see more about the association's support of and involvement with the Wyman Project.

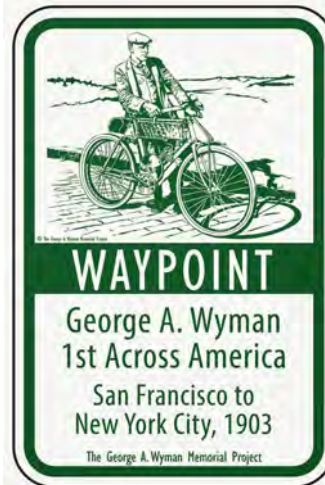


**MOUNTAIN HOT TUB**

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Ride longer. Recover faster. Repeat.

kelly@mountainhottub.com



**Iron Butt Association Certification** -- The long-distance riding community considers George A. Wyman the first American long-distance motorcyclist. [The Iron Butt Association](#), "World's Toughest Motorcycle Riders" is dedicated to the sport of safe long distance motorcycle riding. In collaboration with the Wyman Memorial Project the Iron Butt Association has designated two [IBA Challenge Events](#) honoring the legacy of his historic long-distance journey. These certified rides mirror the route and time of year; San Francisco to New York City, between May 16 through July 6.

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 28, 2018—THE ANNUAL DINNERBELL GATHERING IN GOLD CREEK**

BY DICK FRENCH



Thursday, 28 June 2018, we had eight restless riders and four other members of the MT BMW Riders at the Dinner Bell in Gold Creek for, well, dinner. Cloudy skies and some light rain didn't seem to dampen the enthusiasm.



Of course, no MT BMW Riders gathering would be complete without Don Deuel's (2014) and Greg Hintz's (2017) Honda Gold Wing. Both spotlessly clean we might add. Since Don's Gold Wing has over 140,000 miles, we are expecting him to show up soon with a new ride.



Left two pictures: Tom Moe, Bozeman, combined a service run to Big Sky with his stop at the Dinner Bell. Phil Yasenak and your roving reporter. Larry and Liz Banister, Sandy Knutsen, the Editor-in-Chief and Sue McCormack in the photos to the left.

Above, Don Deuel, Greg Hintz, Chris Keyes and Mike Meredith. Not shown, Chuck & Caren Reaves and family.

# ***MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER***

**ANNOUNCING!**

## **The MTBMWR Thompson River Rapid Retreat, July 28-29**

Join your fellow Montana BMW Riders for a unique weekend experience in northwestern Montana during the last weekend in July. The club has acquired exclusive access to the remote and scenic Bend Guard Cabin – an historic yet fully equipped cabin in the broad valley of the Thompson River and the long shadows of the Cabinet Mountains.



*The Bend Historic Ranger Station lies a few hundred yards beyond a gated entrance.*

The Bend Guard Cabin is part of the Bend Historic Ranger Station, remnants of a U.S. Forest Service compound that once served as the administrative headquarters for the old Cabinet National Forest, a sprawling forest of 2,060,960 acres that spanned Montana and Idaho until its subdivision in 1954. The original 1911 log cabin that housed the area's first forest rangers remains on the site, largely unchanged. The Bend Guard Cabin itself is a 1923 bunkhouse/cookhouse, remodeled and brought up to contemporary standards in 1984, and now part of the Lolo National Forest's

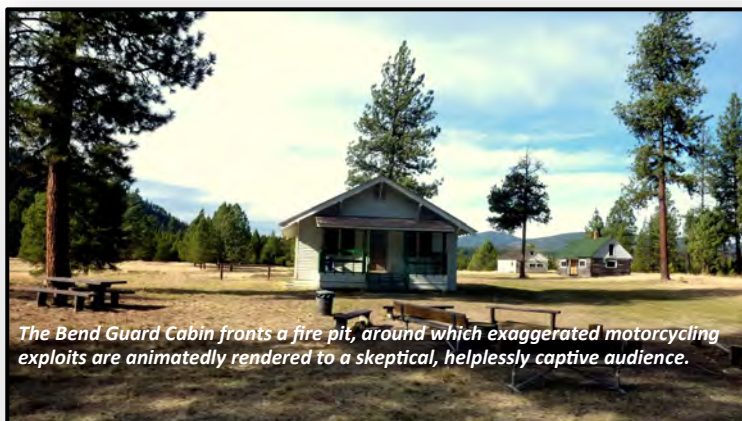
cabin and lookout public rental program. Among its features are: 4 dorm rooms with 4 beds each; two full bathrooms; an extra-large, fully furnished kitchen; and a spacious dining/lounge area.

Picture this: all the normal camaraderie, bluster, and jackassery of a monthly MTBMWR lunch meeting – except with the addition of wood smoke, star-filled skies, cheap fizzy beer, and a peaceful stillness shattered by relentless snoring. Elk, moose, deer, grizzly and black bears, eagles, swans, herons, and ducks

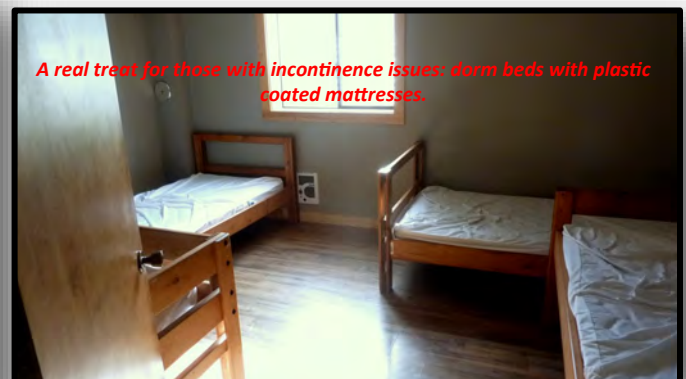


*The cabin's fully furnished and stocked kitchen meets or exceeds our cooking and eating needs.*

all take residence in this area. Like to fish? Take a short walk from the cabin to the serene banks of the Thompson River, cast your line, and test your mettle against the native trout and whitefish. Think of this as a spacious, private campsite, but with the advantages of the cabin's sheltering roof, electricity, flushing toilets and hot showers, refrigeration and cooking facilities, and beds.



*The Bend Guard Cabin fronts a fire pit, around which exaggerated motorcycling exploits are animatedly rendered to a skeptical, helplessly captive audience.*



*A real treat for those with incontinence issues: dorm beds with plastic coated mattresses.*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

As with any of our meetings or other events, you don't need to ride in, and you don't need a BMW. Ride or drive whatever you want; just get there. There's plenty of space to accommodate family members too (and so why not fold this event into your family summer holiday?); however, active MTBMW club members have first priority for bed-space. And Cafe2Cafe contestants take note: this is an ideal base for picking off Thompson Falls and Logan State Parks. So when the morning of July 28<sup>th</sup> comes along, load up a sleeping bag and some groceries, point yourself toward Bend, and get going.



*From the south, the access road closely follows the river.*

You'll find Bend on GoogleMaps, but not on the Montana official highway map. The cabin (GPS: 47.897988, -115.042021) is readily accessed via the improved, graded, unpaved county road no. 556. Providing access to many acres of actively managed Weyerhaeuser Co. (formerly Plum Creek) and State of Montana timberlands, the wide road is maintained in good condition for the many loads of logs that are trucked along it.

Arriving from the south? The road runs northward from its junction with Hwy 200 about 5 miles east of Thompson Falls (GPS: 47.579811, -115.242061), or just 0.2 mile east of the Thompson River Lumber sawmill and log yard. For the 31.9 miles from that junction to the cabin, this northward route initially runs close to the river through western redcedar forest, and as it climbs, enters a dry, flat valley of ponderosa pine forest.

Arriving from the north? It's 10.9 miles on the same county road from Hwy 2. That junction (GPS: 48.025162, -114.991395) is located 4.1 miles east of the Logan State Park entrance on Middle Thompson Lake, and is announced by the presence of a gravel yard on the north site of the highway. This southward route traverses fertile, river-fed ranchlands

that transition to ponderosa pine forest as the cabin



*From the north, the access road traverses scenic ranchlands.*

is approached.

Is this ride-in/drive-in, BYOB&F (beer & food) club event something that you simply must not miss? Yes, it is. So confirm your participation, reserve a bed, coordinate cooking or riding, or gain more information by contacting Chris Keyes at [crkeyes@icloud.com](mailto:crkeyes@icloud.com).

**See you there, but confirm, please.**

*Chris*

