

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



I hate to say I am giving up on riding for the year, but listening to KPAX weather this morning..."snow above 5,000 feet, and temps are expected to be 18-20 degrees in the mornings", I will definitely be very selective of all rides from now till next year. Yes, available riding days are now limited. I have made the choice to not consider a day ride until late morning at best...after 1:00 PM even better. But still I'm not willing to give up on it. I suppose one of the best things about modern motorcycles is the fact that you don't have to do much to winterize them (see article in this newsletter) and if you keep your battery charged during the "out of season", you can sneak out just about any day during the late fall or winter depending the weather and your own sense of adventure.

Looking back on the 2015, I feel we had a great riding year weather-wise. The threat of smoke was hanging in the air for much of the summer but the reality was...there only a couple of weeks of smoky skies. Otherwise great riding weather started as early April & May, then continued through the fall. (Unfortunately you can't tell that by my personal mileage in the mileage contest).

But as we say, "There's always next year". Well maybe, the Lord willing and the fires aren't too bad. Better weather, better economy, or changing of attitudes; whatever it is, our membership has taken an up-turn in cumulative numbers and in attendance at monthly meetings this year. We are having 20 riders a

BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER MEMBERSHIPS

BMWMOA #155

BMW RA #072

AMA #6830

month at most meetings! Awesome! So, give yourselves a pat on the back for supporting the club while getting in some great rides.

NEXT MEETING

NOVEMBER 15

DUMMOND

THE WAGON WHEEL CAFE

TIME: 1:00 PM

That gives me a lead-in to ask you for some help. Please pass on your experiences and passion for this motorcycling sport. Ways you can do that...it could be an article for the newsletter, you might organize a ride with other members, (like a Pie Ride!), reference a good book you've enjoyed, a safety class you've taken, a website that helped, a road you've ridden, or pass on your critique of riding gear or farkles you really liked. Since we all have the same thing in common, it's about making the riding experience better for everyone. Just send anything you have to Dave McCormack our inspiring Newsletter Editor and it will be disseminated in a newsletter in the future.

One of the fun things you can do...cook! Our annual Christmas party is coming up **Saturday**,

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December 5th. Nate @ Big Sky BMW/Kawasaki/KTM in Missoula is again donating his upstairs room for our festivities. Time **5:00-8:30 PM**. It's a good old fashioned 'potluck', along with being a get-together to celebrate Christmas & the recent riding season. It's a great chance to tell some tales, have some fellowship and some great food. To get this potluck going, let's say last names ending in **A-I bring a side dish, J-R bring a desert, S-Z bring a salad**. Please bring your own serving utensils. The club will provide chicken for the entrée, water & coffee & all the paper & plastic ware. You are welcome to bring your own choice of beverage if you like. We'll also have a 'White Elephant' exchange (limit \$10-\$15) for those interested. Gifts must be wrapped. The goofier the gift, the better. Also, Nate at Big Sky BMW usually has the store open for us with some good deals to boot. Yes, this is conveniently 3 weeks before the "Big Guy" comes down the chimney.

We'll be putting out the ride schedule for 2016 in next month's newsletter. So this is your last chance to send me any ride you'd like to do next year. Otherwise you are at the mercy of the executive committee. Also, we'll have the names on a ballot in this month's newsletter. Please send in your votes to Dave McCormack.

In October, we literally surrounded Trixie's Antler Saloon in Ovando with 20 bikes. Being one of the club's most popular rides, Trixie's treated us very well & we experienced a great lunch & great service. Looking back on the past 17 years of club rides, I believe Trixie's has always been our default ride in the month of October. 17 years ago the chance of riding to Ovando was slim because of cold and/or the threat of snow. Annie Huddy pointed out that since she & Kevin have been members the past 5 years, the trip to Trixie's has been rideable. Global warming or not, it is nice to have that extension of nice weather to add another great ride for the season.

Those attending Trixie's at the October meeting: From Helena, Kevin Huddy - Yamaha Super T, Secretary/Treasurer Annie Huddy - F800GS, Terry Gauthier - R1200GSA. From Missoula, Larry Banister - K1200GT, John Webster - K1200LT, Greg Hintz - Honda Gold Wing, Gary Graham - F650GS, Carol Graham - F650GS, David Gordon - K1200LT, Chris Keyes - R1100RT, Chuck Reaves - R1100RS. From Victor, Newsletter Editor Dave McCormack - Can AM Spyder. From Arlee, Don Deuel - Honda Gold Wing, Adam Jurgens - R1100RT with guest Doug Zentner - Yamaha. From Rollins, Hank Fisher - R1200GSW. From Bigfork, Wade Allred - R1200GSA, Gordon Phillips - R1200RT and last, but not least, from Denver, Colorado members Donna & Mike McInerney. They just happened to sashay up to Trixie's for the October Meeting; each riding their own R1200GS. Very admirable!

I'll end with reminder to get your vote in for the upcoming election. I hope to see you at our next meeting in Drummond at The Wagon Wheel Sunday, November 15th. Same time, 1:00 PM. Bring a friend.

Till then, Happy Trails!!

Chuck



Larry's Corner (Safety & Mileage)

Our mileage contest concluded on October 11th, the Sunday before we had an outstanding ride to our monthly meeting at Trixie's in Ovando! We had a great turn out with lots of chat, food and the usual amount of admiring the large number of bikes in the parking lot. I believe Mike and Donna McInerney would have won the trophy for riding the furthest to the meeting...all the way from their home in Northglenn, Colorado! Had the mileage contest still been underway, they would have posted a substantial total just for that ride! Mike and Donna

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said they had experienced a “4 season ride” getting to Ovando and were leaving to return to Colorado hoping to get home before they ran into further inclement weather. I got ending mileage numbers from Mike and Donna, Chris Keyes, Gordon Phillips and Annie Huddy at the meeting. **I am still needing final numbers from the following folks who have submitted beginning mileage: Kevin Huddy and John Torma....**so guys...if you haven't sent me your ending mileage and are reading this in the newsletter....” its time!”. Winners will be announced at our annual Christmas party at Big Sky BMW on December 5th...so see you there. Remember, as in the past, there will be a prize for someone other than the top winner. We will draw a name from the hat containing the names of all who completed the 2015 mileage contest, so to make sure your name is in the hat, I need your ending mileage!

Safety corner

....or in this case safety curve! My experience over the years of teaching as an MSF instructor, leads me to one of the most observed deficiencies for most riders.... keeping your head and eyes up and looking where you intend to go. My general observation is that far too many of us are looking at the ground right ahead of us (certainly when going slowly anticipating a tight turn) instead of our intended path of travel. On the highway, this translates into not looking far enough ahead, both on the straights and certainly in the corners. I thought I was pretty good at this technique until I participated in a track day at the local Nature Trail. There, during our first observed lap, I was told that I wasn't looking far enough ahead. The instructor said he could tell by the multiple course corrections I made during the cornering process. I was astounded as I thought I was looking well ahead and certainly through the corner. What I learned that day, and have practiced faithfully, is looking way ahead, generally as far as I can see. As the instructor told me, you can train your peripheral vision to gather information about things near and to the side while leaving your main focus well ahead. This offers you a number of advantages: 1) it slows your brain's sensation of speed, as your long focus expands your visual horizon, giving it (your brain) time to accumulate and process information; 2) your increased sight distance expands your reaction window, giving you more time to react to unexpected events (road hazards, deer, stopped tourists, etc.); and 3) in curves, looking through the curve will improve your

path of travel, your smoothness in cornering and increase your margin of safety. As mentioned last month, if you're extending your riding season even further with this nice fall weather, a longer sight window will help you in the shaded corners where leaves and frost are sure to be hiding.

Enjoy your ride, turn in your mileage and plan on attending our annual Christmas Party, December 5th at Big Sky BMW.

Larry Banister

Montana BMW Riders Mileage Coordinator and “Safety Mom”



Elections

As of October 31st, there has been only one nomination for any of the “Officer Positions” and no volunteers to “shadow” non-officer positions, other than the incumbents.

So here are the incumbents and the voting positions:

President: Chuck Reaves

Vice President: vacant

Secretary/Treasurer: Annie Huddy with a hand off to **Chris Keyes in June when he returns from Guatemala and completes his sabbatical with the U of M.**

The following are incumbent volunteers in non-voting positions:

Editor: Dave McCormack

Web Master: Mike Wright

Facebook Guru: Terry Kay

Mileage Coordinator: Larry Bannister

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Voting

You must be a paid member for the year 2015 to vote.

You may vote for some, all or none. You are not required to vote at all. However, a vote for any or all of the officers and non-officers is a nice way to say "thank you" to those folks who have given of their time and energy to keeping your club going.

Please either call me (Dave McCormack at 406-370-6628) or e-mail me your vote (dhmcc@aol.com) and be sure to add your full name to the e-mail or phone call. Annie will check all votes against the master member list and the new officers will be announced at the Christmas party.

By Dave McCormack



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

We're on Facebook Too:
Montana BMW Riders

Montana BMW Riders Newsletter
Published Monthly

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

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

President: Chuck Reaves
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Email: david_14933@msn.com

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Facebook Master: Terry Kay
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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 in jpeg format.

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

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Annie's Corner

Hello Everyone. Can you believe it is already November? I don't know about you but for me, this summer and the riding season sped past quite quickly. This also means we are nearing the end of the dues year. You can get a jump start on 2016 by paying your dues at the next meeting in Drummond. You can save a stamp and give me a check or cash as I will bring more change with me this time. Thanks so much to those of you who have already paid, (makes my life easier) and your info has been updated in the membership list. Hope to see you in Drummond!

Annie
Secretary/Treasurer

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Murphy's Motorcycle Laws

1. A motorcycle cannot / will not fall over without an audience.
2. The fact your keys are still in your pants pocket will become apparent after you put your gloves on.
3. Motorcycles are to yellow bugs what aircraft carriers once were to Kamikaze pilots.
4. Quick fixes are named for how long they stay fixed.
5. The only part you really need will also be the only part on permanent backorder.
6. Nothing is harder to start than a used motorcycle being shown to a prospective buyer.
7. You will never suffer a punctured tire on the road until you leave the repair kit at home.
8. "Universal" accessories are so named because that is where you must search to find the bike they fit.

Be Smart. Ride Safe.

Editor's Note: If you have additional Murphy's Motorcycle Laws, please submit them to the editor and we'll publish in the December issue. There may be a prize for the best additional law.

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Guess the location



Ask Kevin Huddy – Answer on the last page.

FamilyDental Group Rowan P. McQuarrie, DDS, FAGD	4 Corners Rider Fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry
MontanaSmiles.com Appointments Available Evenings & Saturdays!	We are here when you need us. Southgate Mall in Missoula Next to Dillard's 406-541-2886

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2015 MT BMW Riders Calendar

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

The BUY/SELL/TRADE section for members has moved to the website.

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Winter Ready

By Andy Main
Our Favorite Mechanic
@
Big Sky BMW

Another Montana winter is here and it is time to store the bike. The last thing you want in the spring is to have that first nice day in late March when all your friends want to ride and your bike won't start. A little fall prep work can go a long way to prevent any problems come spring. Here is a list of a few things to remember:

Battery charger. There are many available models to fit any budget, starting at the \$30-\$40 range for an simple plug in charger, up to the \$80-\$100 chargers that can be programmed for any battery you may have (bike/car/lawn mower/boat). The main thing is to know what battery you have and use the appropriate charger. If your bike lives in a heated garage, just plug in and you are good to go. If it stays cold in storage, you may want to remove the battery and take it inside. In theory a charged battery shouldn't have any issues with the temps we see here in Montana, but with the prices of some of the batteries in our bikes I wouldn't risk it. Once a battery freezes it is junk. The other thing to think about is how long to charge the battery. Most of the chargers now have a storage mode that allows the battery to be connected constantly without over charging. Some of the older chargers don't have this feature and could possibly damage the battery if connected for a long period of time. BMW recommends that if the battery is connected to the bike (i.e. still has a slight draw from the electronics) it should be fully charged once a month. If it is unhooked from the bike, you could let it go for a few more weeks.

Fuel stabilizer. The best way to store a bike is with a full tank of fuel. More fuel means less room for condensation and less chance of water building up in your tank. Next is Ethanol. How do we deal with the fuel in the tank? There are many options out there for fuel stabilizers. I've heard of people having good results with Stabil. Personally I've had good results with Star Tron fuel treatment. My wife's dirt bike may get ridden once or twice a year and usually the worst I have to deal with is draining the carb before the next

ride. Ok, now the tank is full of treated fuel, start the bike and run it for a while to get that fuel circulated through the entire fuel system. It doesn't do any good to have a full tank of good gas in the spring if the carbs are full of untreated fuel that has plugged all the jets. On that note, I have yet to see anything that can be added to the fuel tank after the fact that will clean carb jets properly. They will need to come off the bike and be taken apart.

Tires. This note is more for spring riding than fall storage. Tires lose pressure. It isn't as noticeable in the summer when we are riding regularly and checking pressure frequently. But after 4-5 months' storage, a tire that had 36 psi when parked could drop as much as 50-60% or more. So that first ride in the spring your front tire could be as low as 18-20 psi. A tire that is run with low pressure could be damaged and have a shortened life span. Personally I like to get as much life out of my tires as I can, considering the cost of new ones.

Just a few ideas to keep in mind before the bike gets parked and the skis hit the snow. And as always the crew here at Big Sky Motorsports is always happy to help with any motorcycle questions you may have.

✂

Of Special Note:

The Missoula Area Motorcyclists annual toy run for the benefit of the Community Developmentally Disabled is coming up on December 5th. Toy boxes will appear in the local motorcycle shops the first week in November. Riders are asked to deposit new, un-wrapped gifts suitable for boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 12. These toys will be presented at the CDC Christmas party on December 5th to be held at the Missoula Alliance Church 100 E. Foss Court. Weather permitting riders will accompany Mr. and Mrs. Santa from the Cabela's parking lot to the church departing Cabela's at 10:45 a.m. For more information, contact Larry Banister at 406-728-8914.

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Trixie's Photos



Hope that "for Sale" sign isn't an ominous note for the future.



Most of us, it would seem, know how to line up properly.



Don Duele and his trusty Goldwing



Then there's the rest of us...

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Who let that guy in?



Can't get a good picture with all that reflective gear shining back.



David Gordon, smiling that he will soon be a fulltime RV'er.

Answer to Mystery Picture:

That's Kevin Huddy's Bike at the Barber Motorsports Complex and Museum in Birmingham, Alabama for the Annual Vintage Days Festival October 9-12.

The Huddy's maybe were trying to pile on the miles before the mileage contest concluded?



Looking a little grumpy that some people got served and others are still waiting.



The editor's favorite room at Trixies