

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The month of

November....It was the best for riding and twas the worst for riding. How many years can you put miles on any day in the month of November? In retrospect I think a lot of us were sorry the mileage contest was over in October.

I could have ridden parts of almost any of the first few days of November: from the 1<sup>st</sup> until the 9<sup>th</sup>, when the 1<sup>st</sup> Polar Vortex hit.... and stayed!! November this year was more the reverse of March...out like a lamb, in like a lion. Son Mike and I were coming back from a hunting trip in Eastern Montana on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. After beautiful blue sky days on Saturday and Sunday morning, the skies started to darken about midday. We were headed back from Great Falls on Hiway 200, my favorite motorcycle road in Montana. We'd agreed to stop on the way home, at Freezeout Lake, and try and shoot ducks off the north dike. The weather was still nice when we pulled into the parking lot on the north end of the project and walked a half mile west to a spot we decided to conceal ourselves amongst the brambles & volunteer wheat. After 45 minutes we'd hadn't fired a shot at ducks even though the skies were filled with white Snow Geese by the thousands. They were obviously coming in ahead of the storm, which was drawing further south & getting blacker by the minute. Almost immediately upon my announcing, "I think it's time we better head home" the wind started to blow in earnest. The storm coming in at ground level appeared as ground fog rolling in. But as it turns out it was a ground blizzard. By the time we walked back to the truck we were bent over, our heads & bodies bent to avoid the surging wind and spitting snow. The truck was shaking & vibrating from the wind as we headed out from the Freezeout area, then turned west at Simms onto Hiway 200. Luckily the brunt of the storm, the cold and freezing rain, was yet to come. Watching the thermometer in the truck it never dipped below 35 degrees, even going over Roger's Pass. Though we did get lots of rain, none of it turned into dangerous icy conditions. Ahh, home sweet home. A week later Mike's deer is still hanging frozen in the

### Club Memberships

MOA # 155  
RA # 072  
AMA # 6830

garage. That was November's Polar Vortex. As I said, prior to that date I could have ridden the RS almost any day. Crazy November!

Our Saturday November 22<sup>nd</sup> the 'dog and pony show' for the 2015 BMW R nineT was sparsely attended. There were lots of leftover donuts, which I'm sure the guys at Big Sky Motorsports appreciated. Anyway, the R nineT looks like a very nice bike. BMW has put out so many great bikes in the past 10 years it's no wonder they, along with

### 2015 MT BMW Riders Calendar

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

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

*Triumph, are some of the only manufacturers with increasing annual sales.*

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*The weather stayed in the deep freeze this past Sunday for our November meeting in Drummond But, we were still able to turn out 10 cold weather-averse adventurers who had relatively clear roads to negotiate to the Wagon Wheel Restaurant. As usual The Wagon Wheel was accommodating, the meal was great, and they had the heat on. No need for their pie though, as Annie Huddy brought Rice Krispy treats for dessert. Thanks Annie!! Shades and memories of Donna McInnery!!?*

*Those braving the sub 20 degree temps were...From Calgary, Alberta long-rider & member Marq Lang. From Helena, Kevin Huddy, John Boyrau & Secretary/Treasurer Annie Huddy (gratefully accepting next year's membership dues...still \$15). From Missoula...Kim Lemke, John Torma, Brad Wonnacott, Chris Keyes & myself. From Florence, website editor & manager, Mike Wright. From Victor Newsletter editor extraordinaire Dave McCormack.*

*After the meeting members stayed for a long while talking motorcycleing, the schedule for next year, the MOA Rally in Billings in July next year, and our club in general. It was great to see such interest. You can see next year's monthly ride schedule further on in this newsletter. We are hoping as a club we can support the MOA this year by volunteering at their rally in Billings. Lots of opportunities. Marq Lang says security is the best job, Bob Testut has worked registration for many years while Annie Huddy says "Work the beer tent"! Those working as volunteers can arrive early & get their RV or camping spot. Sounds like a good idea because it sounds like the METRA in Billings, may be a little limited on space. And 'rumor control' says the hotels nearest the METRA are already full. It may be a good time to reserve a room in Billings early.*

*OK, the Missoula Area Christmas Party will be held Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> at Big Sky Motorsports.*

*Nate Bertland at Big Sky is again offering the upstairs room free to our group. A big thank you to Nate.*

*The party will be 5:30-8:30 PM.*

*Our club will furnish the entrée, fried & baked chicken, the tableware & utensils, coffee, water & pop.*

*There will be a cooler w/ ice for those wanting to bring their own beverages. We ask those with last*

*names A-O bring a dessert and P-Z bring a side dish or side salad. Please bring your own serving utensils.*

*After dinner and prizes are given out, the mileage contest winner announced, and shoppers have finished shopping downstairs, we'll begin the White Elephant exchange. You must bring a gift to receive a gift...limit \$20.00.*



*If you want to get there early, Big Sky will have the cash registers available for all Christmas shoppers to fill their 'wants & needs lists'. There'll be lots of stuff for stocking stuffers I'm sure. Big Sky will be offering some discounts for those attending. Anyway, there's lots to celebrate this time of year; talking motorcycleing with old friends as well as meeting new riders. This is what makes this sport so much fun. I hope you can all make it. Again this is a Missoula area wide Christmas party, so bring a friend. The more the merrier!*

*Next club meeting...Seeley Lake on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. We'll meet at the Double Arrow Lodge. If you can, ride. If not, bring your X-Country skis for an afternoon of another kind of adventure touring.*

*Happy Trails!!*

*Chuck Reaves*

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## MILEAGE CONTEST

Drum roll.....we have officially ended our 2014 Montana BMW Riders Mileage Contest. We had a total of 16 riders reporting mileage, 14 of whom actually qualified as "official participants" (meaning they turned in beginning mileage at the start of the contents, and final mileage at the official ending), Thanks to all who participated!

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Winners will be announced at our annual BMW Christmas party, December 6th at Big Sky BMW. First place finisher will receive a \$75.00 gift certificate to Big Sky BMW. All remaining "official participants" names will be placed into a drawing and the name drawn will win a free oil change from John's Motorcycle and ATV Werks.

Looking forward to seeing everybody in December...it's shaping up to be a great party, with good door prizes, lots of good food and a great opportunity to spend a winter night with motorcycle friends.

Thanks again for participating in our mileage contest!

Larry Banister  
Mileage Contest Coordinator-Montana  
BMW Riders

\* \* \*

## EDITOR'S SPOT

*As you may have gathered, this old boy gave in and bought a three wheeler and rode it to the Trixie's gathering in Ovando. So, that's the end of that series of articles. I could, if nudged, start a series on the pluses and minuses of the Can Am Spyder and riding lame. Let me know.*

*Other items of interest that I've been asked to include are the upcoming BMWMOA rally in Billings this summer. There is a huge need for volunteers to man the event and doing so would be rewarded with at least a hand shake and maybe some swag. Other than that, the BMWMOA rally only comes once in a rare while to Montana and this is an opportunity to put it on your calendar. We have scheduled the rally as the July ride as we feel it's that important. We've even laid out a breakfast ride just to entice you to participate.*

*Here's a note from the rally folks:*

*"I am the rally chair for Billings along with co-chairs Jiggs Olson and Vince Barkhoff, and as you can see in the email below, we are really hoping that the local BMW riders will offer to stay and extra few hours on Sunday morning to help with the rally clean-up.*

*If you would like to do more than that, that would be AWESOME too! :)*

*Please let me know what your pleasure is. We appreciate your help - before, during, and after the rally. AND --- Thank ALL OF YOU for hosting the BMW Rally next summer. Jiggs, Vince, and I promise to do you proud.*

*Sue Rihn... #43753*

*Rally Chair*

*sue@beemerhill.com*

*2015 BMW MOA National Rally, Billings  
Montana*

*Be The Adventure!"*

*Here's another request from the organizers... 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."*

*Editor's note: As the year unfolds, there will be more information coming your way about the rally, volunteering, campsites, hotels, and rides. Stay tuned. Any rides, café's, and other interesting things to do in the Billings area can be forwarded to me or Chuck or any of the staff for inclusion in the Rally guide being put together.*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

*One last thought...as your local club officers gather round the staff meeting table, the one question that continually pops up is: if money and time were no object, what would our membership want from the club, other than what's being provided. Our web master, Mike Wright, is working on a survey that will attempt to capture that information and we'll announce it when ready. Your responses will help us when we sit down to plan our year's activities. So keep an eye out for it...coming soon. And oh by the way...if you have a ride or know of a ride organized by another club or charity that you'd like included in our newsletter, send the information on to me and I'll see that it gets in on our larger activities calendar.*

*Did you know that the \$15 you pay for your annual membership is not tax deductible? But did you also know that anything above that \$15 that you donate to the club is (hint, hint)...tax deductible. We even will send you a letter stating that your additional contribution to the club is tax deductible with our tax id number.*

*Dave McCormack  
Newsletter Editor  
dhmcc@aol.com*

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## SAFETY CORNER

There was an excellent article in last month's BMWMOA magazine written by an ER doc who is also a rider. He begins his article by stating that he has a lot of friends who consider the combination of motorcycle rider and ER doc to be an oxymoron! But, as he continues to write, he makes an interesting rebuttal.

Rather than taking on the usual rant about safety gear verses those who choose to ride in tee shirt, jeans with sunglasses as their only head protection...he takes on a different slant. First, we all recognize (or should!) that riding a motorcycle has more inherent risk than other transportation activities. We need to approach our riding with that first and foremost in our mind...there is risk involved and are we willing to accept that risk? We also need to go a step beyond our personal assessment to consider our

families. Most of us like to think we have an important role as husbands/wives, fathers/mother, grandfathers/grandmother, and if we were seriously injured or killed, not only do we affect our personal life, but we dramatically affect those in our family. So if you're riding, you've come to some conclusion about the risk involved and have indicated you're willing to accept that risk.

He then goes on to quote a number of studies that have shown specific reduction in injuries associated with motorcycle accidents, all of which have to do with riding with the proper equipment. Helmet, armored, impact and abrasion resistant clothing, boots, gloves, etc. While this may not be "news" to most of us, I found it interesting that the visibility of these articles is a major contributing factor to accident avoidance. For example, wearing a white helmet (verses a black one) has a significant impact on your likelihood of avoiding an accident in the first place. Same with a hi-viz jacket. Add to this the new CE approved armored jackets and pants vs. jeans and riding jackets without such armor and you've taken a major step toward reducing your risk of injury.

So, it's not only about wearing all the gear all the time (ATGATT), it's about the color and composition of the individual components. If you're like me, winter is often the time that we assess our riding gear and start looking for replacements for next year's riding season. With that in mind, you might want to retrieve last month's MOA mag and read the entire article. If not that, consider colors and materials in your next buying decision. We should conclude that riding a black motorcycle while wearing a black helmet, black jacket and pants is going to expose you to a greater risk than riding that same black motorcycle wearing a white helmet with a hi-viz jacket.

Enjoy the winter, see you at the Christmas Party, December 6th.

Larry Banister  
MSF Instructor (Retired)

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# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## ANNIE'S CORNER



### Dues, News, Opinions, Wants, Needs?

Well there is good news and there is bad news with regard to dues for 2015---

The good news is they are still \$15.00, but the bad news is they are due now thru the end of March if you wish to stay current! So bring your cash or checkbook to the December Christmas Party (and save postage) or mail your check to:

MTBMW Riders  
C/o 6750 Silver Fox Court  
Helena, MT 59602

So what DO you get for that \$15.00? Well, you get a committed group of volunteers who set up a monthly ride schedule, offer Tech Sessions, hold free drawings at most gatherings, organize campouts, negotiate for a discount during the Christmas Party at Big Sky BMW, and an amazing WEBSITE. You want this to continue, but it takes funding, which is why your dues are needed in a timely fashion.

New this year will be a garage/swap meet sale for members (probably during a month where the mode of transport is four wheels (does not necessarily apply to John Torma who rides in any kind of weather!) where you can sell or swap all that gear and parts you have laying around your shop, house, or garage that no longer fits, or you no longer need and another club member could use. See--saving on shipping costs just paid your dues!!

Also new this year and it is totally up to you if YOU CHOOSE to participate, our newsletter goes out under a BCC format, which prevents anyone else from seeing your email address. So much for communication among members. This makes it difficult if not impossible for a club member to contact another club member about local rides, coffee runs, etc. Anyone else

show up at Lochsa Lodge and found no other members there?

We have new members that are either new to riding or new to the area and need your expertise. Some of our members would ride more and for longer distances if they had another rider to accompany them. You know the local roads, conditions, and might even know how to use a tool or two! Why not share that knowledge with others? It is amazing to learn the capabilities of other members.

We are thinking a very pared down version of the MOA anonymous book.... only email addresses and/or phone numbers that list you as a member who is willing to help out another club member in the event they want a riding partner, or have a minor breakdown in your local area. This would only be accessible for club members, NOT for general broadcast. Opt in or opt out. Strictly up to you. It would be YOUR choice to participate, YOUR choice of how much information you would like to put out there--again it would ONLY be for club members.

So what do you think? Would you participate in something like this? We really want to hear from you and be responsive to your needs. This could be added to a secured area on our Website, only those members who opt in would be given access. We really don't want to bug you! Inquiring minds want to know! Tell us the good, the bad, the ugly with regard to this idea. But HEY, please pay your dues in a timely manner so you can full take advantage of all the upcoming year has to offer.

Annie Huddy  
Secretary/Treasurer  
[huddya@hotmail.com](mailto:huddya@hotmail.com)



*Only the Wagon Wheel Cafe treats us this well.*



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## Drummond Getaway

Too cold to ride for some but not cold enough to miss out on a little warmth and chatter at the Wagon Wheel in Drummond on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The usual suspects turned up.



Good old comfort food at the Wagon Wheel



Left to right: Marg Lang, Kevin Huddy, John Beyrau, The Prez, Annie Huddy, John Torma, Brad Wannacott.

\* \* \*



The camera aimed in the opposite direction shows (LtoR) Annie, Torma, Wannacott, Chris Keyes, Mike Wright, Dave McCormack and our Canadian National member, Marg Lang.

\* \* \*

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

He's a rider AND a dentist....give him a jungle.

\* \* \*

# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

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: [reavesmt@msn.com](mailto:reavesmt@msn.com)

**Vice President: Terry Kay**  
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**Secretary/Treasurer: Annie Huddy**  
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**Web Master: Mike Wright**  
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**Mileage Contest Coordinator: Larry Bannister**  
Email: [beemermt@msn.com](mailto:beemermt@msn.com)

**Editor: Dave McCormack**  
Email: [dhmcc@aol.com](mailto:dhmcc@aol.com)

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.*

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## Volunteer Corner:

### Christmas Toy Run

By Larry Bannister

On December 13, 2014 the motorcyclists of Missoula and the surrounding area will once again sponsor the Christmas Toy Run for the children and families of the Child Development Center. With collection boxes for new, un-wrapped toys placed in the motorcycle dealership in Missoula and surrounding communities, the motorcyclists of Missoula will be collecting the

toys through December 6th for delivery on December 13th. The gathering location will be in the parking lot of Cabela's located at 3650 Brooks street at 10:30 a.m. where hot coffee will be served. Weather permitting all riders will parade to the Missoula Alliance Church located at 100 East Foss Court where the children, families and staff of the CDC will be awaiting arrival of Santa and the accompanying motorcycle procession. Children and families will meet Santa and receive gifts provided by the Motorcycle Community. Participating riders will be served coffee and refreshments and be a part of helping these children and their family have a meaningful Christmas. **Please inform your members of this great time and plan to be a part of making Christmas special for these kids. Please encourage your members to make their toy donations at their favorite motorcycle dealership prior to the pick up date of 12/6.** See you in the Cabela's parking lot at 10:30 am, December 13th! For further information please contact Ruby Jean @ [544-0901](tel:544-0901).

## Random Pictures from the year



January 2014 Tech Session at Big Sky Motorsports



Mike Reaves's bike?



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## BIG SKY MOTORSPORTS

2315 SOUTH AVE WEST MISSOULA MT

406 728-5341 / 888 277-9027

Owner: Nate Bertland  
[mail@bigskybmwkawasaki.com](mailto:mail@bigskybmwkawasaki.com)  
[www.bigskybmwkawasaki.com](http://www.bigskybmwkawasaki.com)



*The new BMW H4*

### Military Motorcycle Purchase Program

In appreciation for the commitment and sacrifice of our men and women serving in the US armed forces, BMW Motorrad USA is pleased to announce a special motorcycle purchase program for all \*active members of the US armed forces, to enable them to purchase the BMW motorcycle of their choice for personal use. Only new, unregistered BMW Motorcycles qualify.

And, Nate sells KTM's, Kawasaki's and scooters besides a large selection of riding equipment, parts, and a dynamite shop with all factory trained mechanics.

Check out [www.bigskymotorsports.com](http://www.bigskymotorsports.com) or [www.bmwmotorcycles.com](http://www.bmwmotorcycles.com) for the latest info.

\* \* \*

*We're on the Web:*  
[www.mtbmriders.org](http://www.mtbmriders.org)

*And on Facebook:*  
Montana BMW Riders

### Random Club Pictures



*Trip to Lochsa Lodge in March 2014*



*Trixies - the other table*



*John Torma & friends at Seeley Lake in January...on a bike no less.*



# MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

## CLASSIFIED

*This box is where new riders and old(er) riders can exchange parts, gear, and what-not's or buy and sell. This is a great place in junction with other ads like in Craig's List and E-Bay or Auto Trader. Free to members.*

**BUY                      SELL                      TRADE**

### **For Sale:**

**2012 Yamaha Super Tenere.** Skid plate, crash bars, heated grips, panniers, top box, PIAA lights, Corbin seat, new tires, Akropovic muffler, 18K miles. Listed at \$12,000. Discounts to MT BMW Rider members. Will deliver within 500 miles. Call Dave McCormack at 370-6628 or email at [dhmcc@aol.com](mailto:dhmcc@aol.com)

*Note: Unless the editor is notified the items are still available, ads will be removed at the end of a 3 month listing. Ads will be dated to reflect the end date.*

### **More random club pictures form 2014**



*Put your helmets on.... we don't recognize you otherwise.*



*Marrea Mathews...somewhere near a sign.*

## NEXT MEETING(S)

CHRISTMAS PARTY  
BIG SKY MOTORSPORTS  
DECEMBER 6, 2014  
PARTY IS 5:30-8:30 PM

JANUARY 18, 2015  
DOUBLE ARROW LODGE  
SEELEY LAKE