

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER
MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

BMW RA #072

AMA #6830

NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 19 @ 1:00 PM

AVON

AVON CAFE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Condolences and thank-you's are in order to start this month's article. Condolences to the family of one of our past members, **Gary Edwards**, who passed away about a month ago. Gary was a great guy, good friend and fun partner to ride with. He took great pride in everything he did, yet was a very easy going riding partner. He was willing to slow way down for things you might want to do, like stopping to take pictures, or willing to kick back for longer lunch breaks and good conversation. One thing you could be sure of was: if the town you were riding through at lunchtime had a *Subway*, you knew where you were stopping for lunch. Gary was a world traveler and fun to talk to about all the places he'd been. He was one of those guys I was always jealous of, because he could remember all the pertinent info from a trip taken last year or 10 years ago; the routes, the town/place names, even the highway numbers. Because of this he was a great one in helping you with in planning a trip, even if he wasn't going. He was an RT/LT guy and kept his bikes immaculate. He'd not ridden much with our group in the last several years, and that made the news of his death especially painful. He raised a great family and though humble about them, you could tell he was very proud of that fact. He'll be missed. Our thoughts and prayer go out to his family.

Thank you to Gail at Big Sky BMW for her tech session last weekend on helmets. Yes, we've had this subject before but Gail's presentation was great, taking not only fitting into consideration but all the little things to think about when buying one. She informed us there are some new helmets manufacturers on the market as well as extolling many updated features manufactures are putting into helmets today. Andy Main, Big Sky mechanic, is our guest speaker this weekend. He's so knowledgeable and bikes now are so complicated it will be great just to have him

answer questions you may have about modern biketry. CANBUS vs regular electrics; Tools you may want to carry; What's the right trickle charger; Using the new GS911 diagnostic machine; and Fork maintenance. I just found out my fork tubes need replacing. Ouch! What little I could have done to prevent that big expense. Suspension. Most bikes come from the factory set up for a 160 pound person. I don't know too many of those type of riders. My 20 year old son is even way past that. So, what's the right way to set up your bike to change that based on your own body size? Andy will tell all. Hope to see you there.

We had about the same turnout at Seeley Lake that we've had for the past 4 Januarys. Seven 'riders' showed for this meeting. The weather in January is not very conducive to motorcycle riding. But Double Arrow Lodge with its log interior and big stone



fireplace, plus picture windows showing off views of the Mission Mountains is just a great venue for this winter meeting. Those attending: From the Bitterroot, Dave and Sue McCormack. From Missoula: Lynn and Karen Springer, Chris Keyes and son Wyatt, Chuck Reaves.

Yes, winter still has a big grip on things and there's not much motorcycle riding to report. I'll do the basic "Dad" thing and say...you better get that bike maintenance done so when the weather breaks you can take advantage of it. And have you started planning for the MOA Rally in Salt Lake City this coming July? As per usual you better get that motel reservation made or you'll be commuting in to the rally from Ogden or Provo. Make it now and cancel later if it's not gonna happen. At least you'll have a roof over your head that is close to the Fairgrounds. There's always camping but my experience with that venue was soured after the rally in Billings two summers ago. Hotter than heck as usual in July and that particular fairgrounds was surrounded by highly trafficked streets and highways making it very noisy and hard to sleep.

The old motel gives you some respite after a hard day of shopping motorcycle vendors, watching seminars, checking out all the cool bikes, participating in all the food and beverages offered and/or riding the local twisties.

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Have you been making plans your for summer rides? Better get those lined up. Our meetings are a good place to parlay with other members for organizing trips hither and yon. And basic planning, while good, is not the same as dedicated planning. You have to make and protect those dates before that distant relative of your spouse claims any riding weekends for their wedding, graduation from culinary school, dog adoption or _____???. And all you can come up with is, "Oops, there goes another weekend". Don't know about you but using that old excuse, "Well, there's always next year." is getting old, hollow, and maybe not even not true anymore. None of us is getting any younger. So back to our meetings. Use these meetings to get together with fellow riders and plan those



Lynn & Karen Springer, Sue & Dave McCormack, Chris Keyes, and Chuck with Wyatt Keyes handling the camera.

weekends for motorcycle trips. On road, off road, it's gonna' be so much more enjoyable aboard that two wheeler than at that that 3rd cousin's baby christening. Your fellow members are just the ones help you rebel.

In researching the ride to the BMW-MOA rally in Salt Lake, there appears to be many ways to get there and many great roads to ride in the process. Just from a quick look, there are some great two lanners on either side of I-15 going south. Traveling through Yellowstone, unless you have a lot of time and patience, is maybe one way not to go. But thanks to Cole Bohler's book on riding the best motorcycle roads in Idaho, I've found some great looking routes going south. And with the internet there are plenty of additional opinions on good rides to get you there and back. All in all, February is a good month to reflect, a time to plan, read a few good motorcycle tomes or take in a tech session. Hope to see you at Big Sky this Saturday for the tech session and talk to you about where you want to ride this summer.

Happy Trails!!

Chuck

Gear Maintenance

Beings how most of us are reading and not riding this month, I wanted to follow up last month's article on gear by talking about riding gloves.

From observation, most of you I've seen have some brand of dedicated riding gloves (as opposed to leather work gloves) and most of them are leather. I also know from having been through a number of different brands of riding gloves, I've finally found a really great pair that fit, are comfortable and are specifically designed for riding.

Gloves range in cost from not so much to "you've got to be kidding me!". I'm here to tell you, that if they are made of leather, you'll extend the life of your gloves immensely by doing the following steps: **1)** clean your gloves thoroughly with saddle soap. The easiest way I've found to do that is put them on, apply saddle soap liberally and then massage the saddle soap into the gloves by using the same motion as you would when you wash your hands. Once you've done that, wipe the gloves with a clean rag, again if you keep them on, it's easier. **2)** Apply a good brand of leather oil (Tanners brand, for example) to your gloves. I find that if I put my gloves on, apply the leather oil and then work it in by using the "hand washing motion", I get good coverage of all the surfaces without creating an extraordinary mess. Once the oil has been applied, simply let it soak in. If you have an excess, wipe it off with a clean rag. This two step process will restore the flexibility and suppleness to your gloves, clean the grime and bugs off and apply a preserving oil which will extend the glove's life. By the way, as part of this process, be sure to check all the stitching, seams, elastic, etc. and make sure that it hasn't or isn't in the process of suffering a failure which would compromise your gloves in the case of a get off.

This is a great winter project which can be done while watching a movie and one that will have your gloves ready for the first day of riding. (As winter currently stands, that could be awhile!!)



Ride safe...

Larry Banister

Safety Mom

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2017 BMW MOTORCYCLE CLUB RIDES & EVENTS

March 10-12.....Inland Northwest Motorcycle Show...Spokane
May 15-19.....Sound Rider GPS Motorcycle Road Tour...E. Oregon & Idaho
June 4-5.....Black Dog Dual Sport Odell, Oregon blackdogdualsport.com
June 12-16.....Sound Rider Sasquatch GPS Adventure Tour...TBD
June 15-17.....Red Rocks Rendezvous...Panguitch, Utah (Bee Hive Beemers)
June 23-25.....Chief Joseph Rally...John Day, Oregon (Oregon BMW Riders)
July 6-9.....BMW RA Rally...Petosky, Michigan
July 13-16.....BMW MOA Rally...Salt Lake City
July 21-23.....Cascade Country Rendezvous...Republic, WA. (BMW Club of Washington)
July 20-23.....Top of the Rockies...Paonia, Colorado
August 10-13.....Stanley Stomp...Grandjean, Idaho
August 7-13.....Sturgis
August 18-20.....Bee Cee Beemers Rally...Nakusp, British Columbia
Beartooth Rendezvous...Red Lodge, MT. (date not published yet)
August 20-21.....Rat Dog Dual Sport Ride Tillamook, Oregon (blackdogdualsport.com)
August 23-27..... Rally in the Gorge...Hood River, Oregon

Ed. Note: If you know of other rides or events for BMW owners and/or events that would interest all motorcyclists, please forward them to "Editor, MT BMW Riders at P.O. Box 1353, Victor 59875" for inclusion in future Newsletters. Or there is an error in dates, places of event names, notify Editor at

Useful links to interesting motorcycle sites::

<http://www.thumpertalk.com/> Meant for riders with single cylinder motorcycles but has tons of great motorcycling info for all riders.

<http://soundrider.com/> The blog and on-line retailer out of Seattle. Good info on moto-events happening in the Northwest.

<http://www.half.ebay.com/>; Great place to buy those moto-books and movies

<http://www.alibris.com/>; Another great place for moto-books & movies

<http://www.ibmwr.org/> Marketplace for all things BMW (used things) but also with a forum & blog & place to get answers on motorbike maintenance.

<http://www.airheads.org/>; For those of you who want info and camaraderie for those BMW motorcycles of old (1970-1995)

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Recall Notice

2016-2017 TRIUMPH



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

To find out if your specific, passenger vehicle is included in the recall, use our [VIN Look-up Tool](#).

NHTSA Recall ID
Number : **17V035**

Manufacturer : Triumph Motorcycles America, LTD

Make / Model

Years : TRIUMPH / 2016-2017

Subject : Throttle may Stick Open when using
Heated Grips



Comment about Urals and Ken Conrad from Alastair MacLean: *"Something about those Ural rigs that makes folks lose their minds and want to ride in very cold and snowy weather..."*

BMW Diagnostics Available

**JOHN'S
MOTORCYCLE & ATV
WERKS**

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We're on the Web:

www.mtBMWriders.org

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(406) 728-6333

HOLLY SILK

BUDDY COWART

HANNAH LEPIANE

HOME, LIFE, COMMERCIAL, AUTO,
MOTORCYCLE

WRIGHTINS@UNIVISIONWEB.NET

MOUNTAIN HOT TUB

Bozeman 2744 W. Main 586-5850	Butte 1601 Harrison 723-6513	Helena 2300 N. Montana 442-5551
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Ride longer. Recover faster. Repeat.

kelly@mountainhottub.com

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

SAFETY CORNER



Larry Banister

Safety Mom, Montana BMW Riders

Actually this month will sound like an “infomercial”! We had a great time at Big Sky Motorsports this morning at the tech session organized by Pres Chuck, and supplied by our commissary officer Chris Keys (donuts!!).

Gail did an outstanding seminar on helmets. If you read my column two months ago, I touched on this subject and Gail verified much of what was said...namely, you need to check your helmet to make sure it's still doing the job it was designed to do. As one of the attendees remarked, “Gee my helmet strap is fraying”, to which Gail replied...”bring it in, I’ll check it, but it’s probably due for replacement”. She also gave some excellent information on features which separate the lesser expensive helmets from the more expensive ones and I believe it can be summed up...”You get what you pay for”. There are some real valid differences between brands/features, so if you’re in the market for a helmet, check with Gail... she said she has some mid-winter discounts going on. She also mentioned that she has some terrific mid-winter close outs on some jackets and various apparel... so in keeping with the last two month’s features concerning our gear, it would be a great time to visit Gail, learn of some of the new terrific features in helmets (like transition lenses on face shields!) and see what she has that you might need to upgrade your riding gear.

Thanks to Chuck for organizing this mid-winter tech session; to Gail for an excellent presentation; and to Nate at Big Sky Motorsports for hosting the event. Those of us that were there probably need new helmets as our heads swelled with knowledge, and probably need new jackets/pants as our mid-sections swelled with donuts!

* * *

Ed. Note: Some of our members claimed they didn't get the notice about this tech session. We do everything we can to ensure we have up to date member's e-mail addresses. So those of you who didn't get the notice, go to the website (MTBMWRIDERS.ORG) and update your information. Or email Chris Keyes with the correct address. See his address in the box to the right.

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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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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2017 BMW Club Ride Schedule

Month	Date	City	Place	Sat/Sun
January	21	Seeley Lake	Double Arrow Lodge	Saturday
February	19	Avon	Avon Café	Sunday
March	19	Butte	The Hanging Five	Sunday
April	23	Lincoln	Lambkins	Sunday
May	19/21	Helena	Huddy's Tech days	F,S,S
May	21	Philipsburg	Sunshine Station	Sunday
June	17	Big Fork	Echo Lake Café	Saturday
July	13-15	Salt Lake	Utah State Fairpark	Fri/Sat/Sun
August	20	Wisdom	The Crossings at Fetty's	Sunday
September	16	Choteau	Log Cabin	Saturday
October	22	Ovando	Trixies	Sunday
November	19	Drummond	Wagon Wheel Cafe	Sunday
December	2	Missoula	Big Sky Motorsports	Saturday



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JANUARY PHOTOS and TECH DAY PICS



Another Tech Session coming up on Saturday February 4, at Big Sky Motorsports. 10:00 a.m. Donuts are actually a required healthy staple for

Safety Mom trying for freebies from Gayle.



Who wouldn't rather listen to Gail than Chuck.



Shoulda been there...learned a lot.



Real riders turn out even when there's snow.

<p>FamilyDental 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 & Saturdays!</p>	<p>We are here when you need us. Southgate Mall in Missoula Next to Dillard's 406-541-2886</p>