

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER
MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

BMW RA #072

AMA #6830

NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY

MARCH 19 @ 1:00 PM

BUTTE

THE HANGING FIVE CAFE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As the man with a keen sense for the obvious said... "It's been a long winter"! I'm visiting family in NC and the temps are 30-40 degrees warmer than Montana. As much an aberration to the cold side of the thermometer as we have had in Montana, North Carolina has had the adverse; a much warmer winter than usual. So of course, I'm noticing a lot of motorcycles on the roads here. Yet being so close to riding, I'm so far away. I only have a Buick to get around in. The only thing I've been able to do vis a vis motorcycles is catch up on my BMW-MOA magazines.

I'll have to say, in recent years this magazine seems to be in closer touch to the everyday rider, be they hobbyists or enthusiasts (How do you like that comparison?). And a lot of the articles are more prescient and reader friendly. One thing about BMW compared to most marks is the diversity of rides/outfits, meaning more of a diversity of riders. Their draw as being the "Most Reliable" mark back in their heyday of the 70's and 80's is now their default. As a hobbyist or enthusiast think of all the many spokes going out of that hub. Their R&D has produced so many advances making riding more fun, safe and rider friendly. The older machines; the 70-95 era has a huge following with its own club (Airheads) which is one of the biggest clubs at any of the MOA rallies. Prior to that are the classics which keep another segment of riders and collectors busy. Ask anyone of those two eras and they'll tell you most parts are easy to get. And according to most mechanics I talk to, that is not the case with most other manufacturers. BMW created the Adventure Bike. It's now almost a cult in motorcycle circles which now includes motorcycle brands across the board. The aftermarket for these bikes is an economy all its own. In the past years BMW had started to take into account us short legged riders. And as of this year they are mov-

ing to the under 500cc market with its multi-personality. A 310cc bike, it has many visages... it can be a roadster or something to customize like the R9T (just smaller) or a smaller displacement adventure bike, like the bigger GS's. It'll be interesting to see and I hope we can have Nate at Big Sky Motorsports show it off when it comes out this year. This thought process has also brought to my attention that we are so lucky to have a dealer in Missoula. Over the course of this winter we've defaulted to a few tech sessions at Big Sky. A big thank you to Gail and Andy at the dealership for putting those on. I do hope you will all help support our dealership.

Coming up in March, we'll have Gary and Carol Graham present a travelogue of some of the adventurous places they've been. Stay tuned for date and time.

Another great venue from last year, the Café 2 Café, is being redone for 2017 thanks to Kevin Huddy. He has found even more ways to wear the rubber from your tires this summer. See further detail further on in the newsletter. Thanks Kevin for such a fun event that gives us ever more reasons to get out and ride and helps us get to know other members!

Additionally, after looking at several regional motorcycle newsletters, there seems to be a common thread among them. Their clubs hold breakfast rides/meetings. Seems a good idea. We had our first in February. I plan on keeping that going. We'll meet on the 1st Saturday of each month. I feel a reasonable time to be 9:00 am. For some that may be too early. For some it'll be time for lunch. But let's say 9:00 am. No business, just coffee and conversation as *BMW Anonymous* calls it. (Another great reason to join BMW-MOA).

For now, the breakfast meetings will be at Paradise Falls in Missoula. If you come, I'll be asking what places you like and we can move it around as the seasons change. Unfortunately, I will not be back for the March breakfast meeting. You are welcome to meet if you like. But count on it from April till the end of the year.

There has been a shadow clouding the first few months of 2017. That has been the passing of a couple of long time members from Missoula. Gary Edwards earlier and this past week I got the news that Jerry Abbott had passed away, the result of a massive infection in his spine. Jerry always said the most important thing you should bring on a ride was a "Good Riding Attitude". He was right and he always did. What a great sense of humor and lots of years of riding experience he brought to the riding table. As a kid, he rode dirt bikes in the desert outside LA

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with friends and family where he grew up. He could have been in or produced the documentary, *On Any Sunday*. He loved diversity in bikes and always was proud that he rode Japanese bikes. He liked to ride for pie and to Canada. Banff & Jasper Parks were two of his favorite spots on earth. Jerry was always up for a ride. (Even though he might not be with you at the end of the ride... inside joke). Our thoughts, prayers and condolences go out to both Gary and Jerry's families.

Though I was not there, I understand the February ride to Avon was under-attended compared to most years. There were 6 in attendance. From Helena, Steve Moore & Kevin & Annie Huddy. From Missoula, Dick French and chaperone Sandy. From Victor, Dave McCormack. Time to make up for that will be at our next meeting in Butte America. Date is Sunday, March 19. Time is 1:00. Place is the Hanging Five. Take the Harrison St Exit and go north. This is right after Saint Patty's Day so watch out for confetti on the road & beer bottles in the gutters!

I look forward to seeing you there. Bring a friend. Happy Trails till then!!

Chuck

MONTANA MOTORCYCLE SAFETY NEEDS

FACILITY—MISSOULA AREA

Motorcycle safety classes are in need of a facility. Cut backs at the University may force a move.

Do we have any members that know of a 200' x 300' paved and level area that we could use...with available toilets and classroom...preferred?

Any Policemen? Teachers? Business men/ employees where a lot is either not used or has a large part not used on Saturday & Sunday?

Geographic area : Greater Missoula ... Bonner to Frenchtown to Lolo.

Do you have any motorcyclist friends at any suitable site? Pass the word and let Kim know of any possible sites.

Contact **Kim Lemke @ vroom65@juno.com**

GET READY FOR CAFÉ 2 CAFÉ 2017!!!!

Yes, Café 2 Café (C2C) is back for 2017. The purpose of C2C remains to ride your motorcycle, travel through our wonderful state and region, spend time with friends and, of course, Good Eats! And it is FREE.

There are some changes in how we will conduct C2C in 2017. The significant changes are:

Participants will place themselves into one of two categories; the **Retired** category or **Worker** category. The Retired category is intended for those who are not employed, all others are Workers. Participants will self-select the category in which they will compete. Both categories will have a first, second and third place award based on the number of cafes visited. In addition, there will be a Grand Prize for the person(s) who has the greatest number of cafes visited regardless of the category in which he/she competed.

Optional Café 2 Café t-shirts will be available for purchase by participants. Cost of the t-shirt is \$15 and is not required to participate.

Dates of the event are 1 April – 31 October 2017

The list of cafes was expanded and now includes: One in Utah, One in South Dakota, three in Idaho, one in Wyoming, and two in Canada, including one in British Columbia. And a special event will be the Four Corners Challenge that requires a rider to visit four cafes that are spread across the four corners of Montana.

The 2017 C2C Guidelines and Café list will be published soon. The guidelines will describe how to register, order a t-shirt and the rules for participating. In the next several days you can expect an email from President Chuck that will provide both documents, and our Internet Techno Giant, Mike Wright, will also have them available on our club web site.

I look forward to another exciting riding season as we RIDE TO EAT & EAT TO RIDE!

Kevin Huddy

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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
August 18-20.....Beartooth Rendezvous...Red Lodge, MT.
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 dhmcc@aol.com.

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)

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

The Montana BMW Riders NEWSLETTER is Published Monthly.

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

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

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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.

BMW Diagnostics Available

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Ride longer. Recover faster. Repeat.

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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



BMW MOA RALLY - SALT LAKE CITY - JULY 13-15

For those of you considering going, we have compiled a huge list of potential rides in and around Salt Lake City and the Rally for you to consider. The rides are described by a knowledgeable local rider and are laid out in manageable chunks. For the next three months, we'll feature some of those rides which you can download and carry in your tank bag or pocket for reference. Also, if you're going and are not a ground sleeper, may we suggest you get busy and find local hotels/motels before they fill up.

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PERSPECTIVE

Everything looks better from the inside of a motorcycle helmet.



PICTURES FROM THE 1ST MONTHLY BREAKFAST AND THE AVON MEETING.



Not a motorcycle anywhere.



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IN MEMORIAM

GERALD (JERRY) ABBOTT



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IN MEMORIAM COMMENTS

A bit hard to sit here letting my mind wonder about my adventures and MIS- adventures with Jerry. In the early 70's, Jerry moved to Great Falls from southern California. One of the first things he did upon arrival was look for a motorcycle shop. As luck, fate, whatever other forces were in play, he pulled into Slacks Cycle ... Rob and I were out front talking... I had just arrived home on leave from the Navy. For several summers, I would come home and go up to Benchmark and stay in Rob's cabin for two weeks of trail riding with my three sons.

Jerry was looking for a place to ride. Since his trailer had 1 road bike and 3 tail bikes, it looked like he was ready. Rob volunteered me to be a trail guide.... that was 45 years ago.

I still remember that Jerry showed me more ways to fall off a trail bike in two days than I had seen in my (at that time) 18 years of motorcycling... never a dull moment.

In 1976, I retired from the Navy and moved back home to Cascade. We hunted, fished, rode motorcycles, and sank canoe's in the Missouri River together. He moved to Missoula, but returned for hunting season each fall for many years.

When Carolyn and Jerry were married, I was honored to be his best man.

I am sure that his friends west of the mountains learned to expect the unexpected, be patient and be ready for a good laugh... Jerry brought some of each to every encounter. He was a friend in the truest form.

RIP Jerry
Tom Wrobel

A memory of Jerry

My son Mike was home from his first deployment to Afghanistan. Chuck suggested a ride over Thompson pass.

So, on a fine day; Chuck, Jerry, Mike and I headed up Highway 200. We stopped at an eclectic little cafe in Thompson Falls for lunch. There were only tables for two available. The food was good, although I do not remember what Chuck and I had, or if they even served pie.

I do remember Mike had French Onion Soup. Jerry asked Mike, "How is the soup?" Mike answered "Not as good as my Mom's." As we were getting back on our bikes, Jerry remarked that he enjoyed talking with Mike and mentioned Mike's comment.

More than once later, when he saw Rojene (Kim's wife), he remembered how he enjoyed lunch with Mike.

Here's to Gentleman Jerry!
Kim Lemke

I met Jerry in 2004 as part of the Retreads group. I was a Kawasaki rider...didn't know about the BMW club...yet. Anywhere we stopped or ate, Jerry was always the loudest voice in the group. I guess he got that from selling pharmaceuticals to deaf Doctors.

He and I often rode to Lochsa Lodge although in later years I was never sure he would finish the ride...something I think a lot of his fellow riders were aware of. He always remarked about the beauty of Montana and often would stop, get off his motorcycle and just stare at whatever he found worth observing. Sometimes we would stop and wait for him, other times not. It got so that we didn't worry about him...He always ended up back home.

He and I planned a 5 day trip to Canada one year. He was riding that Burgman Scooter. I picked him up at his house... he was togged out, rain gear on and a water proof roll bag strapped to the back. It was one of those misty, not quite rainy days and as we made our way towards the border, it got a little wetter. We stopped in St. Mary's for gas and he fell into a conversation with a UPS driver. We gassed up and headed towards the Port of Chief Mountain crossing on route 17. That little road out of St. Mary's is not the best maintained road and between the almost rain and the chuck holes, it was an energy sapping ride. At the border, Jerry stopped in the parking lot on the US side and waved me over. He told me he was turning around and going home. I said, "Why"? He said that the UPS driver had told him that Banff was knee deep in snow. I argued with him that we had prepaid nonrefundable reservations and at least we should go on to the first stop in Pincher Creek. Nope. He was going to head home and was I coming with him. When I said, "No", he was clearly disappointed. The border guard had watched this from afar and as I paddled to a stop he said, "Your friend not coming with you?" I told him the story and he laughed. He said he had access to Canadian weather reports and said..." It'll be clear and sunny your whole trip". And it was. But that was Jerry... caring and careful but always unpredictable. I think he discovered on that ride that the Burgman was not a long-distance touring rig. As Chuck said earlier, he was a fan of Canada and I sometimes wonder whether he ever really went there. Wherever you're going, Jerry, finish the ride.
Dave McCormack

We're on Facebook Too:
MONTANA BMW Riders