

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders



CLUB CHARTER
MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

AMA #6830

NEXT MEETING

LAKESIDE

TAMARACK BREWERY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

1:00 PM

-HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE-

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Ah, the raffle drawing...

As my favorite motorcycle author, Peter Egan, might say.... this is the time of the "winter moon". Well, winter doldrums for sure. At least it is for those of us not skiing, sledding, skating, ice fishing or making snow angels. 😊 For sure one of the big topics right now, based on conversation at

our First Saturday Breakfast, members are planning/researching motorcycle rides and trips for 2019. Whether you are poring over maps, falling asleep with travel books or coffeeing-up with other members, it seems we are all looking forward to when the warmer and longer days arrive. In fact, this planning could be an obsession.... next to NFL playoffs and overdosing on Netflix series shows. But as far as our club goes, one of the pluses of belonging to the club; is getting to know others that you can meet with and plan some great rides.

Anyway, while we are still dealing with short dark days, ice and snow and our colder climate, the club will continue with our First Saturday Breakfasts, some Saturday get-togethers at Big Sky BMW for some tech talks, and some Long Winter Night Get-Togethers.

Member Jim Krausch will present a travelogue on travel overseas in some fun and far-away places. This will be the second Saturday in February at Big Sky BMW. Ben, in parts at Big Sky BMW, has agreed to put on a seminar on travel communication devices one Saturday in January. Stay tuned for specific times.

We have a varied schedule this year for monthly rides, many on Saturday this year. And it seems the organizers of our Cafe2Cafe (Kevin Huddy) and Park2Park (Gary Graham) are collaborating and putting together a very inter-

esting and challenging ride competition for the 2019 summer (I believe that it will be called Place2Place). Details forthcoming. We're also planning a couple of back country dual sport rides for later in the summer, including another Forest Service cabin with a motorcycle rendezvous sometime in the summer. With the National BMW MOA Rally so far away in Lebanon, Tennessee I'd like to see if we can't adopt the *Beartooth Rendezvous* in Red Lodge in August as our club rally this summer; We can set up a mini-camp on their rally grounds or reserve one of their large cabins while planning a dinner out with maybe some collaborative rides over the Beartooth Mountains and in some of the wide open mountain valleys in Wyoming, with a side trip to Cody. Though it may seem a life time away right now, it'll be here before you know it.

As a primer, we'll start with our first monthly meeting Saturday, January 19th in Lakeside at the Tamarack Brewery. Same time 1:00 PM.

We'll have an election this year in September. Having done club admin for about 15 years I feel my enthusiasm waning and with my wife and I contemplating retirement I am ready to take on less responsibility. We need to have some new blood to take the club on from here. It's a great club and I will miss the interaction with you all. For the record, if you are interested in any of the positions, President, Vice President or Secretary/Treasurer please get your name to me or Chris Keyes by email, text or phone.

Wishing you good luck with the rest of the "Winter Doldrums" and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Happy Trails,

Chuck Reaves

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMWMOA CORNER

*Billings Area Lunches, cattleguards & BMWMOA Membership -
Tom Moe, BMWMOA Regional Coordinator*



I sure enjoyed getting to the Christmas Party this year and sincerely hope to make it from here on out. It was a very nice event, well attended with a good program and awards. What a swell bunch of folks MTBMWRiders is made up of.

On a national level BMWMOA is working to schedule a regional meeting of the regional coordinators and chartered club leadership in the first quarter of 2019. Looking at my territory which includes MT, WY, OR, ID and WA it appears that Spokane is a good mid-point so I have begun work to make it happen in conjunction with the NW Inland Empire Motorcycle Show, Spokane, WA March 15 to 17. The purpose of the meeting is to promote coordination with national, membership, activities, events and socializing amongst the members of BMWMOA. I would hope that leadership and others interested would be able to make the meeting. The motorcycle show should be interesting as well.

You will see we have set "save the dates" for several summer Billings centric motorcycle rides. We very much are looking forward to these rides and a special thanks to Mike Hofferber for coming up with these rides. Meeting places, times and lunch locations will be announced in coming newsletters.

I am very much looking forward to the BMWMOA Getaways for next season. I certainly hope to make as many as possible. Some that are in reasonable riding distance include:

The Coeur d'Alene Resort May 10 to May 12, a truly great event and what a beautiful area to visit. I have already booked this one.

Cambria Pines Lodge, Cambria, CA May 17 to May 19. A bit farther but a great time of year for a ride to California. One could certainly go from Coeur d'Alene to Cambria and what a great ride it would be.

Copper Mountain Resort, Copper Mountain, CO August 23 to 25. A truly great riding area in the Colorado Rockies. I really hope to attend this one and it would be great to get a ride from Montana to go to this.

Cedar City, Courtyard Marriot Cedar City, Utah September 27 to 29. Southern Utah has some of the best riding in the country. I really, really want to do this one. Probably a two-day ride taking the most scenic as possible routes.

The information for these getaways is available on the BMWMOA.org website and certainly deserves a look.

And of course the national rally in Lebanon, TN this year June 13 to 15. It is a long ride but it does go through some states I have never been to so I may just go. The MOA moved it up to June hoping to avoid that super hot July weather. It makes sense to me, especially in southern states.

Facebook fans can find that BMWMOA, R1200RT Owners, BMW R1200 GS and BMWRA groups are certainly inter-

esting and will keep one informed and amused.

Happy New Year's to one and all.

Ride safe, keep the rubber side down.

Tom Moe

Below is a set of Rides for MTBMW Riders in the Billings area provided by Tom Moe

BILLINGS CENTRIC RIDES 2019

Save the dates for these Billings Centric Rides
The time and meeting places to be announced later. Your ride leaders will be Mike Hofferber and Tom Moe

May 18

Billings to Lavina (42 paved miles)

Lavina to Lewistown (via East Redhill road) 67 miles of good gravel)

Lewistown to Billings (through Roundup) 135 paved miles

A great lunch at Central Feed Grilling, the trip takes 3/4's of a day.

June 15

Billings to Red Lodge

Red Lodge to Roscoe (lunch at the Grizzly Bar)

Roscoe to Columbus

Columbus to Billings on the back roads

This trip takes about 5 or 6 hours

July 13

Billings to Dayton Wyoming

Dayton west up the Bighorn Mountains to Burgess Junction

Burgess to Greybull (really nice twisty mountain pass)

Lunch in Greybull

Greybull to Billings

This is a full day ride and very fun.

August 10

Billings to Red Lodge

Red Lodge south up to the Beartooth highway

Beartooth highway to the intersection of Chief Joseph Highway

Chief Joseph highway to Cody

Lunch in Cody

Cody to Billings

This is a full day, one of the best rides in the country

Tom Moe

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

THE TROUGH — JANUARY BREAKFAST



Pictures of the January Missoula area breakfast at The Trough. Eleven hardy souls turned out for the first 2019 breakfast.



In mid-October when the days were still sunny and somewhat warm, Chuck Reaves and I took a run to Lincoln, Montana to check out Bill Clausen's 2018 Honda Goldwing. Bill arrived at the Bushwhacker in Lincoln on his recently (July, 2018) acquired and well FARKLE'd 2018 Honda Goldwing. It is equipped with a seven-speed Dual Clutch Transmission that is activated by thumb and finger controls without a hand clutch. Slow speed maneuvering is assisted by a 'granny' low to paddle-foot forward in those tight spaces, and a transmission driven reverse gear that makes parking with the front downhill a problem of the past. With heated seats, Bluetooth and a built-in GPS feeding to an LED screen the size of a small TV, it is as close to autonomous motorcycling as you can get. Surprisingly, the center of gravity is so low that it was easier to pull upright off the side stand than my F800GS. Bill is looking forward to adding to the 2,200 miles of seat time he has had since it arrived in his garage.

Dick French, Roving Reporter/Editor



LATE BREAKING NEWS

Mark Johnson writes in that he's put together a breakfast for members from the Flathead Lake region on January 12th at the Kalispell Montana Club at 9:00 a.m. If you haven't heard from him and didn't get the invite, dial him up at mark.johnson@hickeycountry.com and let him know you're planning on coming. (ed. note: Seems there is statewide interest and enthusiasm in having local breakfasts, especially during winter months, to huddle and discuss local and regional riding options.)

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2019 Ride Schedule

Month	Date	City	Place	Sat/Sun	Time
Jan	19	Lakeside	Tamarack Brewery	Sat	1:00 PM
Feb	16	Fairmont	Fairmont Hot Springs	Sat	1:00 PM
Mar	16	Seeley Lake	Double Arrow Lodge	Sat	1:00 PM
Apr	28	Lincoln	Lambkins	Sun	1:00 PM
May	18-19	Helena	Huddy Outpost	Sat	1:00 PM
May	19	Philipsburg	Sunshine Station	Sun	1:00 PM
Jun	22	Big Fork	Echo Lake Cafe	Sat	1:00 PM
July	19-20	Monarch Area	TBD	Sat/Sun	TBD
July	21	Monarch	TBD	Sun	1:00 PM
Aug	17	Big Hole	Off Road Ride	Sat	TBD
Aug	18	Wisdom	The Crossings	Sun	1:00 PM
Sep	15	Ennis	Sportsman's Lodge	Sat	1:00 PM
Oct	20	Ovando	Trixi's Antler Saloon	Sun	1:00 PM
Nov	18	Avon	Avon Cafe	Sun	1:00 PM
Dec	7	Missoula	Big Sky Motorsports	Sat	5:30-8:30 PM

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OTHER POSSIBLE RIDING EVENTS DURING THE YEAR...

MARCH ... ROAD TRIP TO NW INLAND EMPIRE MOTORCYCLE SHOW IN SPOKANE

APRIL ... YMCA RIVERBANK RUN—MISSOULA

JUNE ... RIDE TO DINNER BELL IN GOLD CREEK—MID JUNE

JULY ... FOREST SERVICE CABIN AND DUAL SPORT RIDE

AUGUST ... TOUR OF GRANT KOHRS RANCH ... WEEKEND RIDE TO CANADA

SEPTEMBER ... BOAT RIDE ON FLATHEAD LAKE ... RIDE TO CANADA

LONG WINTER NIGHT GET TOGETHERS AT BIG SKY

MOE TO COME AS PLANS SETTLE IN AND MEMBERS LODGE THEIR INTERESTS.

WATCH THIS SPACE & STAY TUNED

PARK TO PARK

The Park 2 Park contest was considered wildly successful this year and there is promise of another similar contest being designed by the two co-chairs of the 2019 competition, Gary Graham and Kevin Huddy...both of whom can't seem to stay off their motorcycles. We expect the next iteration of the contest to include some stops we've already experienced and some new ones, yet to be determined. The expectation is we'll have the concept and the rules written and ready to go sometime in February/March timeframe in time for the opening of the riding season in April.

Stay tuned, campers.



L-R: Kevin Huddy and Gary Graham

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

SAFETY MILEAGE CORNER



Oops, it appears that your mileage coordinator made a mistake! Hard to believe, huh? Anyway, I left one of Ken Senn's motorcycles out (a Triumph no less!) He had sent me his final mileage for his Triumph Explorer and I didn't enter it into the final numbers. While it does not change this year's winner, and Ken's name was in the drawing for the \$50 gift card, he did not get credit for his correct 2018 mileage. He did in fact log 13,663 on his three motorcycles, enough to put him into the 3rd most miles accumulated this year by participating Montana BMW riders. Congrats Ken, and my apologies for incorrectly reporting your mileage.

Again, thanks to all who participated. I hope that you'll join us next year in what looks like it will be a great year of Montana BMW riders "contesting"...(a new riding contest being engineered as we speak by Kevin Huddy and Gary Graham!)

Enjoy the winter!!!

Larry Banister

Safety Mom & Mileage Coordinator

Note from Member John Webster to Chuck Reaves...

"Chuck, someone at the BMW Christmas party was inquiring about the Motorcycling Montana book. I forgot who asked me but I did find out where they can be purchased if you would pass this along to others. Since Cole passed away they are no longer printing these books. According to the person I know who used to work with Cole, the supplies are starting to run out. He produced two guides for Montana and one for Idaho. I have the first Montana book and really enjoy it.

<http://northernrockiesrider.com/>

John Webster"



Brave Mr. Penguin.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Well, dang it. Here I am again putting together the January Newsletter. Dick French, the new Editor for 2019 and beyond had a prior commitment in January that will keep him from kicking off his reign as editor until the February issue. So, I was drafted to get 'er going again.

However, technically it's his newsletter and if there are any mistakes, errors, wrong picture or captions, blame it on Dick. You'll notice he has a couple of submitted articles in this issue, but he submitted them before he left on his trek to the big C for some sort of reunion in Palo Alto.

Dave

Three Wheelin'

An Occasional Column by Dave McCormack



While I've got your attention... as mentioned in an earlier Editor's Corner column, from time to time, I'd like to submit a column on the three wheeled motorcycle community. I believe many of you, including me, will find three wheels a viable alternative to getting off two wheels altogether when age or frailty creep up on us. I also believe that many new riders may start with three wheels rather than the traditional "do or die" process of learning on two wheels, because there are now more alternatives to two wheeled travel than in years past.

Beyond the two in back conversions that Harley and others offered either manufactured or converted from two wheels or the side car conversions manufactured or otherwise, now there are at least three options with Two wheels Up Front (TUF's): the Can Am Spyder series from BRP; the Yamaha Niken that is due to be released soon; and the Piaggio M500 series 3 wheelers. The latter two options actually lean. On top of that there are now new TUF conversions for Harleys and Goldwings from the same folks who brought you two in back conversions earlier.

Later in the year, I'll be spending some time detailing the various options. I would welcome any interior knowledge about a particular version of the 3 wheeled motorcycle that you folks have. I didn't include the Polaris Slingshot, even though it in some states it is classified as a motorcycle. Most of us believe that a motorcycle, regardless of wheels, has to have **handlebars!**

Dave

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RATES WILL BE EFFECTIVE WITH THE RENEWAL DATE ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADVERTISER. THE RATES RUN ON AN ANNUAL BASIS FROM DATE OF ENTRY THROUGH 12 MONTHS.

Yearly Competition Corner

Recent Note from Gary Graham, just before publication deadline...

"The 2019 Montana BMW Riders contest, Place2Place, inspired by the ideas of our ambassadors, the Hud-dys, will still involve riding some awesome roads to some obscure places in Montana, but will be different because you have to help choose your destinations. Ponder that concept until the full particulars are released at the beginning of March. In the meantime, use whatever mojo you can muster to assure a perfect 2019 riding season!"

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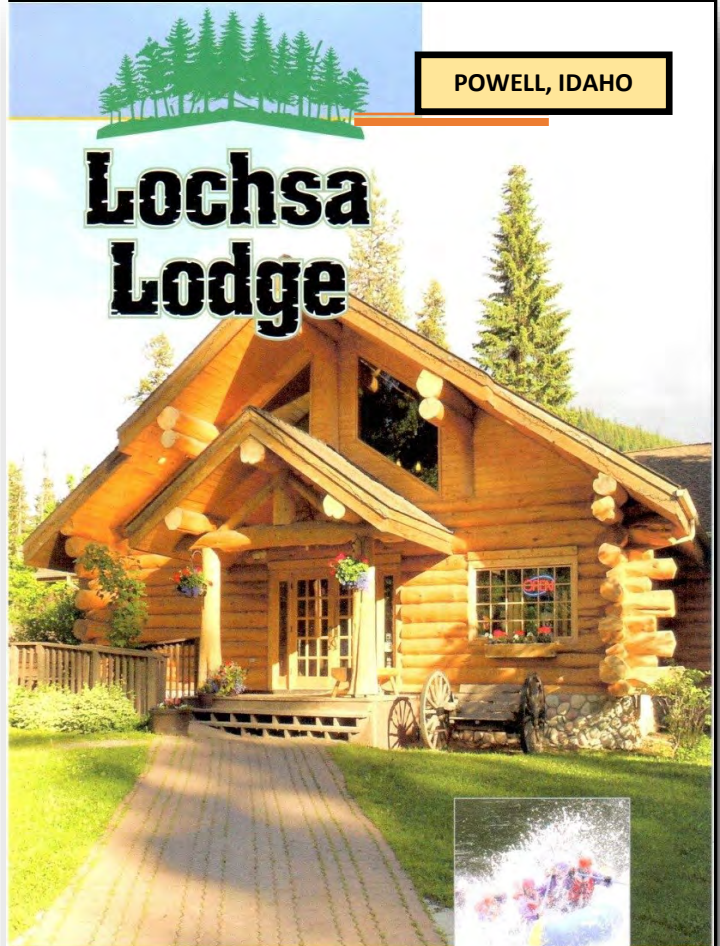
Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be sent to:
Editor, P.O. Box 1353, Victor, MT 59575.

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

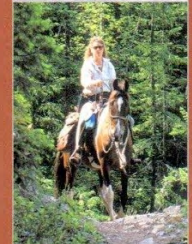
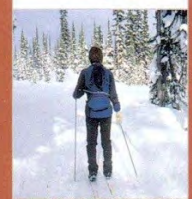
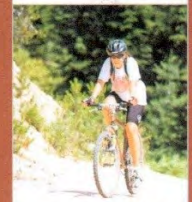
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Historian's Corner

By Kim Lemke & Dick French

Then and Now— Courtesy of Kim Lemke, currently Club Historian, then Club President, provided a copy of an article from the Montana BMW Riders newsletter from April, 1969. Todd and Carmine Mowbray published the newsletter and Carmine is still at the Polson address. Bill Larsen's memorabilia is in the lobby of the Brooks Street Motor Inn of Missoula, which is currently owned by his daughter. Jim Iverson (mentioned in the Buy/Sell/Trade section) mounts tires for many of the current club members at his Iverson Scandinavian Manufacturing shop in Missoula. Still an active rider (14 motorcycles in his garage) and is planning another extended European tour next season. Gill Mangles (mentioned in the same section) can still be found at the Miracle of America Museum in Polson. Lynn Springer, also mentioned is a current club member and rider. The MSF practice drills do not seem to have changed.

One Special High-Miler By Carmine Mowbray, Polson

APRIL 1996

I'll admit it. When I saw the April copy of BMW Owners News in today's mailbox, I tore into it, flipping to the Mileage Contest pages. This was my first time entering, and I'll be darned if my mere 5690 miles didn't place me among the top 12 Montanans who'd recorded their mileage and sent entries in.

But what I really enjoyed seeing was "William T. Larsen" again at the top of Montana's names with 32,813 miles on an R100RT.

Fellow Airheads will certainly appreciate the fact that Bill finished ahead of all the other Rad-riders. The only others piling up more miles than Bill were seven dedicated mile-mashers on K's, mostly LT's, rich in creature comforts, and mainly from states serving up longer riding seasons, too.

I had the pleasure of meeting Bill for the first time

on a brisk afternoon this past February. He'd cycled up to Polson to stop by and say hello to Todd. Having missed Todd, Bill left a note on my desk. It said simply, "Thought I'd come up. We're sure having a beautiful day, Bill Larsen, Brooks St. Motel"

I came in the back door of our newspaper office, saw his note, and caught sight of a red R100RT across Main Street, and a large individual deliberately zipping, tucking, fitting, strapping and adjusting his cold-weather riding outfit. I hurried over to make his acquaintance before he covered his full head of gray hair with an open face helmet and goggles. As we chatted in the chill air, I noticed a styro cup jammed into the clutch-side of the fairing, so he could enjoy coffee between shifts. His odometer, at that time, displayed over 55,000 miles.

"What year is your bike?" I asked.

"'94," was his simple reply.

He didn't linger. He wanted to get back over Evaro Hill before the shadows brought frost to the surface of Highway 93.

For those who know Bill, it's no surprise that he'd ride his RT 150 miles just to say hello to a couple of recent acquaintances in the middle of a Montana winter.

For me, having this charming 80-year old drop by was a most pleasant surprise.

Keep riding, Bill. You're an inspiration to the rest of us.

Bacon Saver #4

This month's MSF safety topic:
WEAVE EXERCISE

Courtesy of Bob Scott, MSF Instructor 656-8905.

Here's one of the 10 exercises Bob sent which we'll run as we have room.

Let's see if all the "hot shots" out there can handle a few of these. Some old tennis balls cut in half and spray painted a bright color make good cones to use in the exercises. These exercises are reprinted without permission from the MSF...but what the heck, I'm an instructor!

Directions

Practicing these drills will help you in making quick lane changes in traffic or changes in direction.

Drill 1 — 30-foot Weave — Begin at one end of the parking lot lines or markers. Go to the right of the first marker, left of the second, right of the third, and so on.



Drill 2 — 20-foot Weave — Proceed the same as you did in the 30-foot weave.



Coaching Tips

- Keep head and eyes up.
- Turn by pushing on the handlebars in the direction of the turn. (Push right to go right; push left to go left.)
- Lean with the motorcycle for this exercise.
- Maintain a steady speed.

Problems

1. Swinging too wide away from markers.
2. Hitting markers.

Corrections

1. Look past the last marker, decrease lean angle and push less on the handlebars.
2. Look past the last marker, increase lean angle slightly and push more on the handlebars.

Buy/Sell/Trade: This space is free to members who have items to buy, sell or trade. Just call or fax your listings to: 883-4680.

•1993 K75S, 3000 miles, \$7150. Jim Iverson 728-1424.

•Looking to Buy: Driveshaft, headlight cover and driving light for '85 R80. Lynn Springer, 251-5786.

•For Sale: 1988 R100GS PD. Alpine white, 25,000 miles, Corbin seat, KNN filter, BMW bags, and rear rack. \$4,950. 406-837-4514 ask for Jeff.

•For Sale: Leather jacket, Hein Gericke Dakar size 44 with liner. Brown color, very good condition \$195. New was \$439. Call Roy Bennett, 248-2038.

•To Trade: 1968 R50, Earles fork, touring tank, reasonable condition. Will trade up or down for older (pre 1960) bike, mint to project, for the Iron Steeds and Leather Britches display at the Miracle of America Museum. Call Gill Mangles, 406-883-6264

Send your news to: MT BMW Newsletter, c/o Todd Mowbray, 2518 Bay Point Rd., Polson, MT 59860
FAX/Message: 406- 883-4680; Voice: 883-4677

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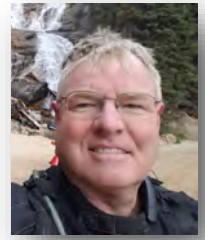
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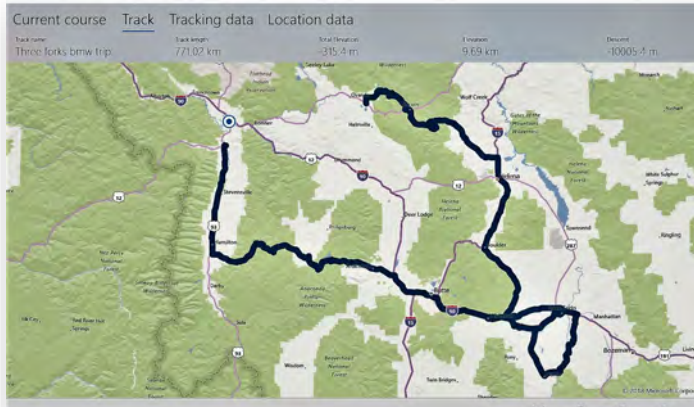
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MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Rider Profile— Chris Froines grew up in Ronan, Montana and shortly after high school went to Alaska and remained there as a commercial fisherman for the next 23 years. He returned to Missoula in 2000 culminating a 20 year college program with a law degree from the University of Montana. He now has an active law practice in Missoula, but still finds time to ride the back roads of Montana and Idaho.



He started his motorcycle riding adventures on several small bikes and eventually focused on off-road riding. That started with a Kawasaki KLR 650, shown on the right, then a BMW F800 GS and now on a Honda Africa Twin with the Dual



Clutch transmission. The automatic transmission was the best choice as the result of a back injury that affected his left foot. Chris attests to the Honda's reliability and functionality.

Other Club riders have confirmed that when Chris say he knows an 'alternative route', in this case to Three Forks for one of the Club's monthly meetings, you should top off your fuel tank and pressure up your tires. It is a case of 'the ride and not the destination'. Once in



Ovando, it was only a little over 480 miles to Three Forks and back to Missoula. Refer to the Track above.

Chris occasionally rides with a loosely organized group dedicated to off-road riding, called "The Missoula Maladjusted" which for the Montana contingent can be found on the WEB under "Missoula Maladjusted" or advrider.com. In addition to having run the Magruder Corridor twice, and parts of the Lolo Motorway, Chris took on the Best of Montana 1000 in 2016. A link to the 2016 ride can be found on the Web under the heading "Top Motorcycle Rides Montana".



With a preference for off-road riding, Chris has identified about 50 U. S. Forest Services Lookouts, both active and inactive in the northern Rocky Mountain region that are accessible by road. To date he has made it to eight of the lookouts. Two of the lookout rides are the Rocky Point lookout, top photo to the left which is about nine miles and 40 minutes north of Lochsa Lodge on Forest Service roads. The other is 25 miles and two hours west of Lochsa Lodge, again on Forest Service roads. Both are 'easy' day rides, and the views are extraordinary

Although he has traveled numerous back-roads, Chris lists the Gravelly Range Ridge ride as his most enjoyable to date, a 20 mile off the pavement from the Centennial Divide to a point just south of Ennis. Refer to the map on the following page. Under the "Never Again" category is the ride from Georgetown Lake eastward to Anaconda. This one resulted in a JB Weld repair to the stator casing on his BMW F800GS.

In 2017 Chris participated in the Happy Trails Rally, Challis, Idaho that took the riders to the Chinese Wall in southcentral Idaho.

To document some of the rides, he employs a Mavic quadcopter with a high resolution lens. Many of Chris's adventure ride recordings can be seen on YouTube, by simply searching for "Froines". Some great photography to get you through the long winter solace. (*continued next page*)



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

(Rider Profile Continued)



The Gravelly Range Ridge ride, photo to the left, is about 20 miles beginning at Forest Service Road 347 off of the Centennial Divide road proceeding north to a just south of Ennis, Montana.



Based on the luggage on his Africa Twin, it appears a Park2Park stop was combined with an off-road venture.



A little snowmobiling takes advantage of one of the Montana winter pass times.



The Niki Ann, from Chris' days as a commercial fisherman, taking on a large catch of Salmon in Port Valdez, Alaska.

In addition to maintaining a full time law practice, Chris is also an active member of the Missoula Search and Rescue Team, which has sharpened his navigation skills in addition to those he used as the Captain of his fishing boat.

When talking to the Club riders, I am curious about the GPS systems each use. Chris downloaded a *GaiaGPS* App for an iPad and has found it to be reliable and accurate. It provides him with back-country route navigation and records the 'tracks' followed, for later downloading, and re-running when his Africa Twin is put away for the winter. Chris has shown there is a lot of riding in Western Montana that does not include pavement.

By Dick French