

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

**BMW Motorcycle Club
Montana BMW Riders**



CLUB CHARTER

MEMBERSHIPS :

BMWMOA #155

AMA #6830

Next Meeting

Double Arrow Lodge

Seely Lake, Montana

Saturday January 18, 2020

1:00 PM

-HOME OF THE NEXT BEST RIDE-

NEW YEAR, NEW DECADE, NEW OFFICERS - Chris Keyes

With the holidays now behind us, and having turned the page on yet another decade, it's human nature to look to the future and wonder what the year ahead holds. For Montana BMW Riders, facing the future means addressing the club's leadership situation. As Chuck Reaves steps from the presidency and returns to civilian life with distinguished honor, he leaves us a club in strong shape:

- We boast 113 members, from around the state and beyond
- The member roster has grown in size for three consecutive years
- Many members are generously contributing their ideas and time
- The number, quality, and diversity of club activities is great
- Participation in club meetings and activities is robust
- Sub-regions are scheduling their own local breakfast gatherings and rides
- The newsletter is informative, colorful, and inspiring
- The website continues to rein in new members
- Dues remain inexpensive (\$15), keeping membership accessible
- The treasury remains stable, with slightly positive annual growth
- The spirit of fellowship and camaraderie is high

In short, the future appears bright. At this point, the only thing this club now clearly lacks is a set of officers to lead us into 2020 and beyond. Time to fix that. For the first time in quite awhile (perhaps 2014?), we'll hold officer elections for the club's three officer positions – President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. And we'll do it the right way – in alignment with the club's bylaws. Here's how:

- Nominations will occur during January
- Elections will occur during February
- Active club members will be eligible to vote
- Ballots will be accepted via email or regular mail
- Election Officer Larry Banister will receive, validate, and tally ballots
- Election results will be announced in the March newsletter

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

NEW YEAR, NEW DECADE, NEW OFFICERS (continued)



Perhaps you are wondering: Is there going to be anyone actually on the ballot? Yes there will be; a slate of 3 candidates have stepped forward to volunteer. But lest we forget, this is America – land of the open and free elections! So, if you are interested in running for any of the club's three elected positions – **President, Vice-President, or Secretary-Treasurer** – you can self-nominate by sending me a note before the nomination deadline of **January 24th**. After that date, the ballots will be prepared for inclusion in the February newsletter.

Best wishes for an adventurous, healthy year that is filled with dry roads and blue skies.

Chris Keyes

Chris Keyes
Secretary-Treasurer
crkeyes@icloud.com



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

BMWMOA CORNER

Tom Moe 33028 – BMW MOA Regional Coordinator



We are in our new snowbird home in Lincoln, CA (Sacramento) and I have, of course, gotten some nice rides in. The Sacramento area has some great foothill rides and the weather has been pretty darn good for riding, 50s and 60s. The River City Beemer (RCB.org) club is a very active club, unfortunately I am missing a good club ride today (Jan 4) due to a darn cold.

Registration for the National Rally, Great Falls, MT June 25th to 27th is Now Open

[Early Registration Special Jan 1 - Feb 15 \(\\$85.00\)](#)

It's time to Saddle Up & Ride! Register for the 2020 National Rally on the BMWMOA website. You will need a current BMW MOA member number to receive the member price. If you do not have your member number, visit your member profile online at BMWMOA.ORG or call the Membership Team at (864) 438-0962 (8:30 - 5 EST).

Register early for the best pricing! Enter your member number to active the \$55.00 price OR take advantage of the '**2 for \$99.00 special**'. The 2 for \$99.00 special pricing will activate when you add the second person. Early registration pricing ends February 15, 2020. Not a MOA Member? Add a membership option and activate member pricing today!

To register, enter the name of the person registering, the appropriate member number to apply the member discount. Select the registration options you wish to purchase, check the terms and conditions box and click "Save Registration." You will have an opportunity to add additional names before checkout.

Join the MOA and Save on Your Rally Fee!

BMW MOA Membership

Join now as a new member and save \$20 on your admission to the Rally. You will be enrolled in the MOA for one year and you will receive the member price on your Rally admission. (Canadian addresses require additional \$16 postage. Foreign addresses, additional \$24 postage for Primary memberships.)

This is somewhat confusing on the site as it appears the rally price is \$85.00 without membership and \$55.00 with membership saving \$30.00 yet the header is "...save \$20.00 with membership." It actually appears you can save \$30.00 by joining. Since primary membership is only \$49.00 and you get the membership benefits like the Owners News – a no brainer.

Order Your Rally Shirt Now and Save 25%!

Rally Tee Shirt

Order your rally shirt now and it will be waiting for you at the Gear Store in Great Falls. Oh, and you'll save 25%, too! Men's shirts are 100% cotton tees with a traditional fit. Women's shirts are 100% cotton tees in trim fit with V-neck. Both are black shirts with the Saddle Up & Ride rally logo on the left breast and the back of the shirt.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Tom Moe 33028 – BMW MOA Regional Coordinator - (continued)

RV Site

If you really want a RV site act very quickly as there just aren't that many on the fairgrounds. I thought about it but decided I would rather take the bike and save a site for someone who is coming from a long way away.

Reserve an RV Site

RV sites are \$50/night for full hookup, \$40/night for water/electric and \$30/night for electric only. Sites will be assigned on site to fit your camping unit needs. RV site fees do not include Rally registration. (Refer to Kevin Huddy's article on the following page).

Choose Your RV nights

- Monday, June 22
- Tuesday, June 23
- Wednesday, June 24
- Thursday, June 25
- Friday, June 26
- Saturday, June 27

Select Site Type

- Full Hookup (\$50.00) [19 remaining]
- Electric Only (\$40.00) [73 remaining]

Camping and club camping will be good, the site is spacious and grassy and should be comfortable. Kevin and Annie Huddy are in charge of club camping and the MONTANA BMW RIDERS should be able to get a good club camping area.

RALLY VOLUNTEERING:

I found out the rally co-chairs Corey and Becky Smith along with Bob Aldridge and Ted Moyer were in Great Falls so I drove over to meet with them and tour the facility on October 15th.

I was asked and agreed to serve as the post-rally cleanup chairperson. As such I am hoping to enlist the aid of local MONTANA BMW RIDERS and those willing to stay on just a little longer on Sunday. If we have a good crew of approximately 10 people we should be able to finish and leave by early afternoon. If you can assist and commit please let me know either by phone/text 406-599-5226 or TOM.MOE@SBCGLOBAL.NET

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Mobile Phone Safety

I frequently see ads on social media, like Facebook, for devices to mount a mobile phone to the handlebars or the dash of a motorcycle. My immediate reaction is that this is a very unsafe and bad idea. Imagine for a minute that a deer jumps out in front of you, there is a collision and you stop in the opposite ditch from where your bike is a 100' away. You have a broken back, may be paralyzed and are moments from passing out. Your phone is attached to your motorcycle and possibly damaged by the collision or has broken free and is unfindable. It is a seldom traveled road and you lay there until you pass out. If you are far enough off the road and so is your bike you may not be found for quite some time, maybe days. My advice, keep your mobile phone on your person, I keep mine in a breast pocket on my jacket for easy access.

An event similar to this actually happened to a friend of mine this summer, a compound fracture and separated from his ATV by about 100 feet. It would have been a very painful crawl back to the ATV further damaging his leg. He says the mobile phone in his pocket saved him a lot of pain and misery.

Ride safe, keep the rubber side down.

Tom Moe



Annie and I are serving as Co-chairs of the Chartered Club Camping Committee for the BMWMOA Rally in Great Falls, 26-28 June. This entails us working with chartered clubs to arrange for a group camping space for the club's members in attendance at the rally. Normally we will work with a point of contact from each club to get the information we need, but for our club we will serve as a point of contact. To do so we will need people who plan to camp at the rally to let us know that they plan on doing so. There is plenty of time to think about whether or not you plan to camp at the rally since we will not need a commitment until early May. So, give it some thought and we will be asking for people to commit one way or another in a few months.

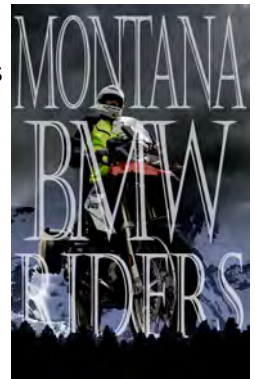
Kevin Huddy



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER



I have opted to give the January 2020 issue a 'year-in-review' theme to reflect on the events, meetings and rides for 2019, and in retrospect it was a good year for motorcycling, although truncated by some early snowfall. It has been a good year for the MONTANA BMW RIDERS Newsletter with the many articles and photos submitted by you, the club members. You may look like just another motorcycle rider on the surface, peel back the riding gear and some very interesting people appear. Whether it is the 'late-in-life-to-ride', or the flying riders, or once-upon-a-time racers, both collectively and individually, you are an interesting group. As such you



have made my task as editor easier and fun. As Forrest Gump would say, "Its like a box of chocolates, you never know what you are going to get" ..

In this month's issue, you have moved from the road to the shop, and is featuring some projects that while away your time waiting for spring to arrive. To paraphrase a well know saying, "What goes on in your helmet, stays in your helmet." I think you will both recognize, and enjoy Lance Lerum's "Helmet Musings", it was pretty close to home.

I was hoping to identify everyone's photo from the Christmas party, but it was too overwhelming. I got most of the award winners either in the Christmas party article or elsewhere in the Newsletter. Due to lack of space have included two of them below.

Thanks again for helping me make this Newsletter possible. Looking forward to another year.

Dick French



Norm and Heather Jarvis— Place2Place awards.



Bob and Carrie Carpenter—Place2Place awards

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Christmas Party

We closed out the 2019 season with the annual MONTANA BMW RIDERS Christmas party at Big Sky Motorsports. Members from around the state and the McInerneys from Colorado all made the trip for the occasion. I hope the photographs and notes describe the event. Forty-seven participants this year—an all time high.



All is ready and waiting



Liz Banister and Janet Webster



We couldn't get a BMW up to the second Deck.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Christmas Party



Did we mention the food?



Rapt attention for the annual awards.



Santa Clause could not make it, so he sent an elf, in the form of John Webster.



The "White Elephant" gift exchange was a fun event, and this year we did have a WHITE ELEPHANT. It made several stops before its 'exchange' value was exhausted.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Christmas Party



Larry Banister was the Toast Master recognizing outgoing President, **Chuck Reaves** for his ten years of leadership of the MONTANA BMW RIDERS club. As you might expect, Chuck was a bit skeptical as Larry introduced him, but relieved to learn that only two pieces of his favorite pie were missing. Chuck was recognized for his continuous work to organize riding and social events in an effort to bring members together whether for adventure rides or just casual day rides that did in-fact include pie and coffee. Chuck initiated an “executive committee” comprised of the club’s officers and regularly called meetings of the executive committee to solicit input and ideas on how to keep the club viable and moving forward. He also annually solicited the membership in planning the monthly rides/meeting places, encouraging members to submit their favorite ride and eat places to add the list. Chuck also actively participated in the organization and planning of the Christmas party, supplying not only hard goods but picking up the chicken, ice and other things that made the party go off. While Chuck’s humility and giving credit to our active membership was accurate what is probably not appreciated is the immense amount of time that Chuck spend writing his presidents column, encouraging members, getting the Saturday breakfast meetings organized, soliciting and picking up the monthly “give aways” and just in general keeping a great set of hands of the Montana BMW Riders steering wheel.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Ambassador's Corner - Annie and Kevin Huddy

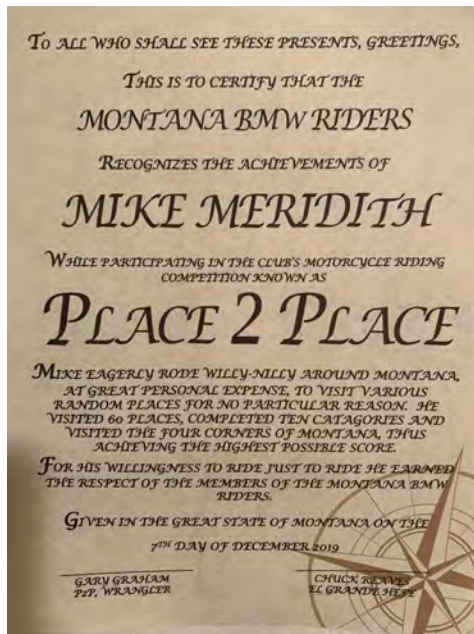


At the December Christmas party, I was asked to fill in for Gary Graham to announce the results of the **Place-2-Place** riding competition and to present certificates of achievement to the participants. Gary and Carol were on kinder care duty with their grandchildren in Oregon. Taking care of grandchildren is something Annie and I know a wee bit about and our hats are off to the Gramams. The Place-2-Place event was accomplished due to the enthusiasm and work of Gary and Carol. It gave several of us a reason to tour the great state of Montana and enjoy time on our motorcycles; a worthy accomplishment indeed.

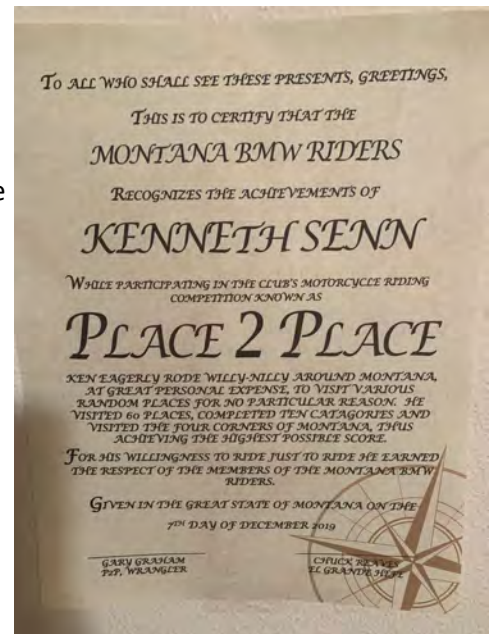
There were 12 riders who submitted results to Gary. Riders were asked to visit places around the state that were in ten categories and consisted of three mandatory and three optional places to visit in each



category. The categories were: National Historic Sites, Historic Mansions, Veteran's Memorials, Jails, Military Installations, Hydroelectric Dams, Museums, Courthouses, Unique Places, and Haunted Places. Akin to a scavenger hunt on wheels, the Place-2-Place ride required riders to travel the length and breadth of Montana, through blowing snow, driving rain, pelting hail, searing summer heat and the threat of lions, bison, elk, deer and bears (not to mention texting drivers). A dozen riders submitted results to Gary. Each was presented a highly prized certificate of achievement,



examples of which are shown nearby. Only two seasoned hardened riders received the ultimate certificate that proclaims their unbelievable accomplishment in achieving the highest possible score by visiting 60 places and the four corners of Montana. Yes, **Mike Meredith** and **Kenneth Senn** are ultimate overachievers for this year's Place-2-Place ride and richly deserving of our admiration. They also finished, unsurprisingly, first and second in the club mileage contest. Well done Mike and Kenneth. Other riders earning certificates were: **Robert Carpenter,**



Dave Dixon, Dick French, Kevin and Annie Huddy, Dave McCormack, Carol and Gary Graham and Norm Jarvis. I still have certificates for those who were not at the Christmas party. Contact me to arrange receiving yours (huddykl@gmail.com).

Kevin Huddy

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Mileage Contest Report



Mileage Contest Final

This year's mileage contest gave us three winners.....#1 for overall most mileage was **Mike Meredith** (who also was recognized for **400,000 BMW miles** as well as the

overall winner of the Place 2 Place contest this year). Probably how he garnered the most miles as well. Mike got a \$75 check from the club in recognition of



Mike



Dave

his achievement and his name engraved on the Montana BMW Riders

plaque which is on display at Big Sky BMW (see photo). Winner #2 in the new category of "average mileage" was **Dave McCormack** who received a club check in the amount of \$50. Finally, the names of the remaining official participants were put into a hat and **Chris Key's** name was drawn for a check for \$50. The contest mileage final spread sheet is shown below and you can see how the mileage participants stacked up this year as well as how the average mileage was derived.

Thanks to all who participated. As Mike, Chris and Dave can attest, it pays to play! Lord willing I'll be doing this again next and want to encourage "all you all" to participate. (We had a number of folks this year who



Chris

sent in their beginning mileage but never submitted their ending mileage....and that lost them a chance to participate in the various categories. **Ken Senn** says he'll not only follow Mike next year, but will get the extra 500 miles that would

have put him in first place....(ed. note...and on a Triumph no less!!!)

Hope your Christmas was blessed....

Larry Banister

Mileage Coordinator
Montana BMW Riders

2019 Montana BMW Riders Mileage Contest				
Beginning April 1, 2019-Ending October 31, 2019				
Name	Motorcycle	End Miles	Begin Miles	Total Miles
Armstrong, Gary	R1150RT	107998	106,800	1,198
	K75C	39877	39,329	548
Banister, Larry	Triumph 800	15122	13,747	1,375
DiBari, John	CFR1000	17225	13,061	4,164
French, Dick	F800GS	17802	15,611	2,191
	Kawi 300 Versy	2177	1,706	471
	Kawi KLX	4352	4,313	39
	BMW G310GS	1844	2	1,842
Graham, Carol	F650GS Twin	36536	33,549	2,987
	F650GS Single	52866	52,434	432
Graham, Gary	F650GS Twin	33850	30,864	2,986
	F650 Single	57255	56,802	453
Huddy, Annie	17 1200GS	27474	16,197	11,277
	14 F800GS	41935	41,637	298
Keyes, Chris	R1200GSA	26191	22,505	3,686
	R1100RT	122576	122,571	5
Lemke, Kim	R75/7	76330	76,054	276
	Enfield 535GT	6002	4,907	1,095
	K100RS	86751	86,366	385
McCormack, Dave	Spyder ST-LTD	31125	25,238	5,887
Meredith, Mike	F800ST	53491	52,010	1,481
	R1200R	30637	16,635	14,002
Moe, Thomas	R1200RT	11698	7,744	3,954
	R1200GS	15203	8,593	6,610
Reaves, Chuck	F650GS	21594	19,663	1,931
	TRI EXPLORER	47401	39,321	8,080
Senn, Ken	TRI TROPHY	18551	12,074	6,477
	KLR 650	21462	21,010	452
Webster, John	K1200LT	54117	54,117	0
	KLR650	15055	15,045	10
Wright, Mike	R1200GS	46866	44,752	2,114
Total Miles of riders participating				86675
Average mileage (16 participants/total mileage)				5417
Revised 11/25/2019				
Winner-most miles rider: Mike Meredith @ 15,483				
Winner-Average miles: Dave McCormack @ 5,887				

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review

Our riding season seemed to be quite short in 2019, but looking back we had many events and rides. Below are some of the highlights. The year started on a down note with the passing of Tom Wrobel, a life long motorcyclist.



Stelvo Pass, Italy

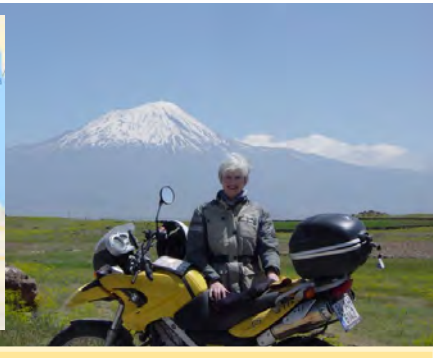
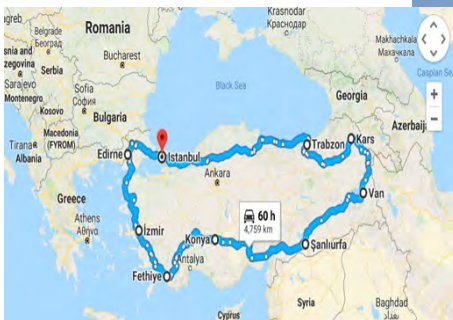
We had a chance to look at some of Jim Krausch's guided tours in Europe and sharing his experience on how to organize for these types of tours.

In the Rider Profile section, Andy Main, the chief BMW mechanic at Big Sky Motorsports gave us a glimpse of his riding background as well as how it shaped his life to become a certified BMW mechanic.



Tom Wrobel

In March, Carol and Gary Graham shared their 'late-in-life-start' motorcycling with stories and photos of their adventures in North Africa, Turkey and, the Balkans.

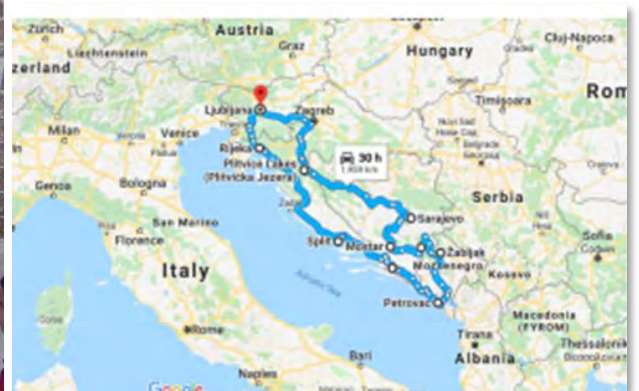
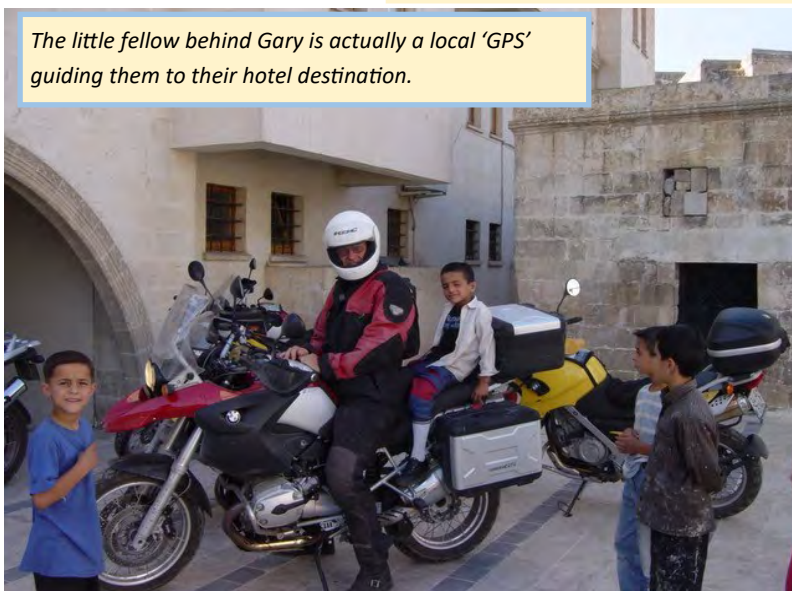


Carol with Mount Ararat in the background



The Main family—Chatelle, Ryley, Logan and Andy at a motorcycling family outing. ALL-THE-GEAR-ALL-THE-TIME. Good form Andy.

The little fellow behind Gary is actually a local 'GPS' guiding them to their hotel destination.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

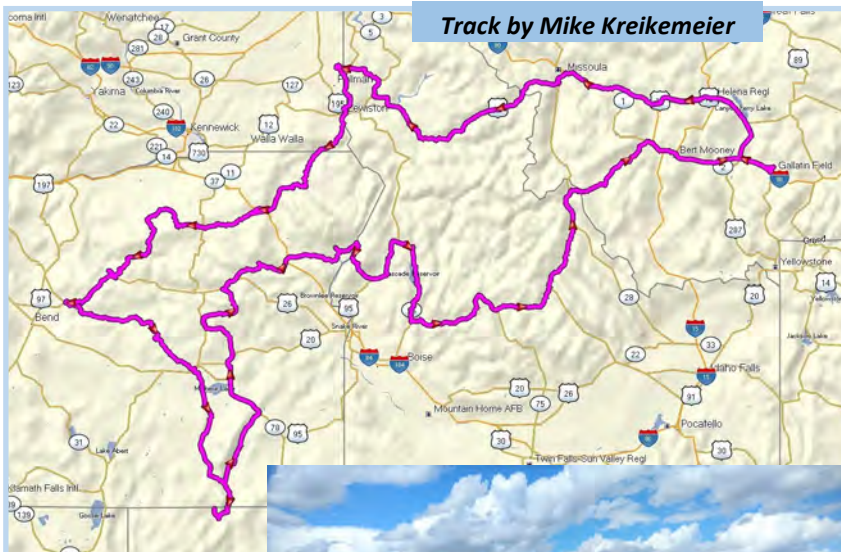
2019 Year in Review



In April we met **Tony and Cindy Braunreiter** currently living in Lolo, Montana. Tony started his motorcycling in the 60's in Minnesota on mopeds and worked his way up to racing a Triumph Thruxton (No. 351) on some of the western U. S. race tracks. He became a practicing dentist to pay the bills, but motorcycling runs deep. (See an article elsewhere in this Newsletter on how Tony passes his time on the off-season.)



Spring was a bit late in the western US, so members Chuck Reaves, Mike Kreikemeier, Lance Lerum and fellow rider, Kevin Wolfe made an 1,800 mile loop in Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and stuck their toes in Nevada.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review



May always brings the Huddy's Tech Session at the Outpost. Motorcycles, barely believable stories, food and mechanical parts strewn about.



Workers, watchers, kibitzers and eaters. A GREAT bunch!



Official watch dog

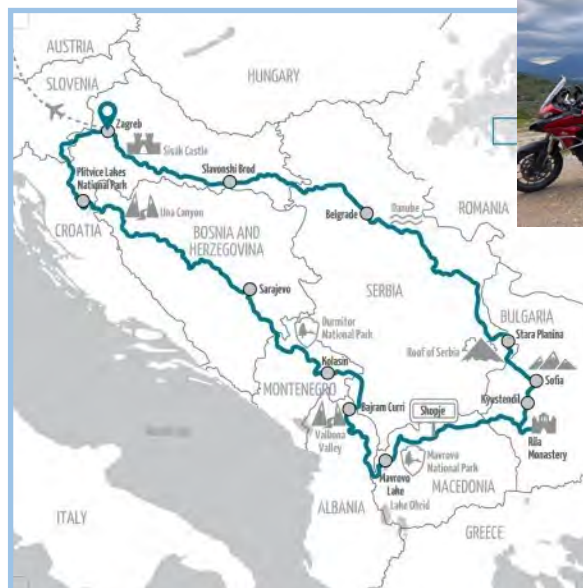


Lance Lerum's BMW R65 after a bit of cleaning shown in the photo above left.. Photo by Ed Field



From the left, Pat Ender, Gary and Rosemary Armstrong, Mike Hofferber, Jim Haar and, Johnny Walker—Vista Point

In June out members in the Billings area started a series of great day rides in south-central Montana and northern Wyoming. Jim Krausch provided a re-cap of his Edelweiss guided motorcycle tour through the Balkans.



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review

July found our members chasing roads and trails all over the northwest. Chuck Reaves, along with his son Mike and Bill Clausen did one of their 'bucket list' rides - a loop through British Columbia.

Phil Haglund showed off his Little Belt mountains with two days of off-road riding in magnificent scenery.

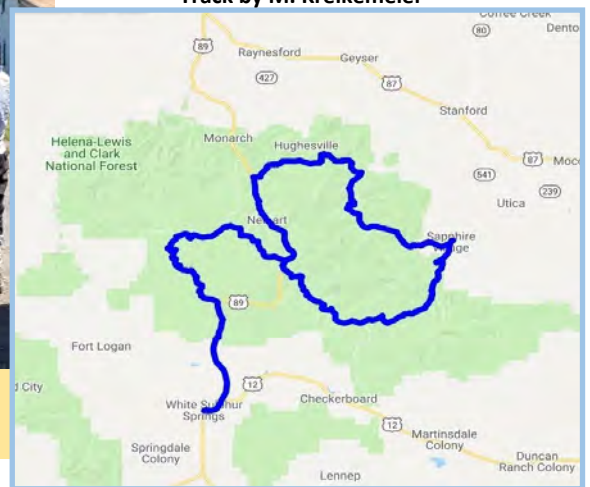


Phil Haglund, Chuck Reaves and Mike Kreikemeier.

Phil's Yamaha WR250 outfitted for the long haul.



Track by M. Kreikemeier



Left to right - Lance Lerum, Bill Clark and Mike Kreikemeier. Lances BMW G650GS in front, Mike's BMW R1200GS, Bill's Triumph 800RX, and Mike Hofferber's F800GS.

John DiBari and Chris Keyes made a four day ride following the Butler Maps Idaho Backcountry Routes in July to round out a busy riding month for club members.

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review

August was perhaps our busiest month of riding and events with the Beartooth Rendezvous. The MONTANA BMW RIDERS had a good representation at the Rendezvous and on the great ride over the Chief Joseph Memorial Highway and the Beartooth Scenic Byway that was organized by Mike Hofferber. I hope these photos, taken by our club members, depict the enthusiasm and the splendor of a great ride.

BEARTOOTH BEEMERS

BMW MOA Chartered Club #303

"The Best Little Rally in the West"

**THE 21ST ANNUAL BEARTOOTH
RENDEZVOUS WILL BE AUGUST 15 -
18, 2019.**



A photo taken by **Chris Froines**, the evening of August 16 from his quad-copter, hovering over the dining hall. The registration building is in the far background and a conference hall in the center—background.



Cross winds were a factor



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review



We left Red Lodge under the cover of a fog blanket and arrived at Dead Indian Hill in the sunshine. From the left, Chuck Reaves, Rick Kuschel, Tom Moe, Monty Boettger, Mike Hofferber, Pat Endres, Dick Smith, Dale Butterfield, Chris Froines, Dick French and Lynden Clark



Photo by Lynden Clark



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review

By the time the October Newsletter was ready to hit the digital mailboxes with the September events, the weatherman was forecasting early snows and the ominous end to the 2019 riding season. Club member Jim Krausch recorded his 3,400 mile ride through British Columbia into the Yukon and the two-day ferry boat ride along the inside passage south to Prince Rupert.



The 'destination' place, Ennis, Montana for the September meeting enticed many to make the final summer ride. The meeting coincided with two days of riding sponsored by the Christian Motorcycle Association in and around the White Hall—Three Forks—Boulder area. Consequently,

many of the dual membership members had a very circuitous route to Ennis.



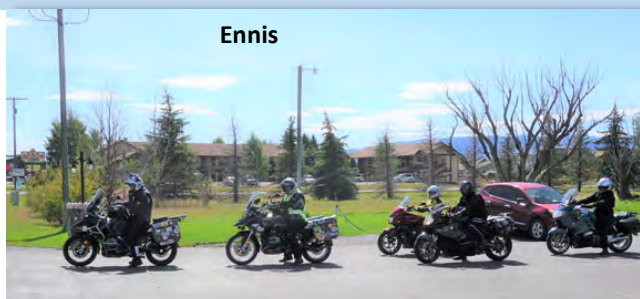
John DiBari and Chris Keyes arriving via way of the Gravelly Range Road and an overnight stay at the Forest Service Black Butte cabin.



Pony, Montana—Chuck Reaves, Ed. Tregidga, Bob Smith, and Larry Banister.



Ed Tregidga, Larry Banister (back to camera) and Chris Froines at the Boulder Hot Springs—Boulder, Montana. The hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is said to be haunted. Perhaps that is why everyone is keeping their distance.



Ennis

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2019 Year in Review

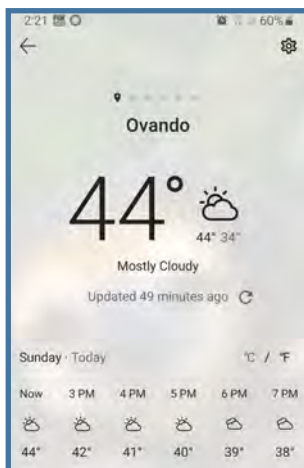
As November arrived, most of us were starting the winter storage work. It gave us a chance to review what other members had been doing this year. For example our 'fly-and-ride' members, **Paul Oliver** and **Mike Kreikemeier**. We often refer to each other as 'adventure' riders with that intrinsic understanding of the term. Paul and Mike definitely add a new dimension to the term. You may pause to ponder someone who would load a dual-sport motorcycle into a small airplane with the intent of landing this load at a remote dirt air strip in the mountains for some 'adventure' riding. Paul and Mike made it seem plausible.



Paul adds another dimension to the term, "working from home". He assured me that although it looks like he is parked in a jack rabbit pasture, there is an air strip close by. A 60 mile jeep road connects this location to a paved highway. These photos from October 2015 show his Cessna covered and tied down and his Yamaha 225 loaded for a few days of trail riding.



Mike's Kit Fox (yellow aircraft) and Paul's Cessna at the fly-in campground. Mike's Honda 450, front wheel removed and suspension pulled down, on it's shipping frame, ready for loading.



A riding year would not be complete without a late fall pilgrimage to Trixi's in Ovando, when the weather is less than ideal. It did give Steve Inabit a chance to show his Moto Guzzi V85TT.



We can always count on John Torma to ride when the weather is less than ideal. Newsletter files are full of photos of John, his K1200 and snow.



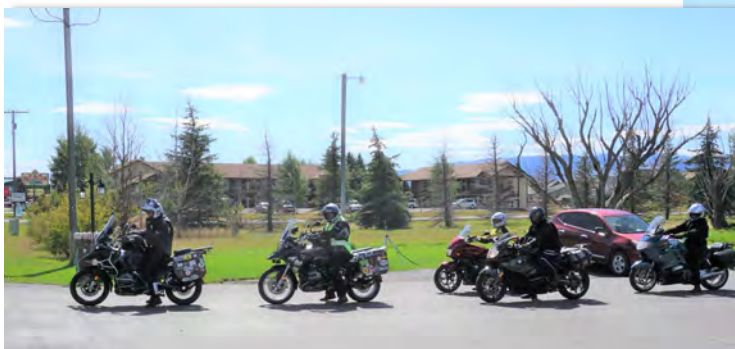
MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

MT BMW RIDERS MEETING - Avon, Montana



As the December Newsletter went to press, we closed out our monthly meetings at the Avon Café, a great turnout, all arriving via four-wheels. The weather won the day.

Some members were tempted to ride, but raining in Missoula and the promise of snow on McDonald Pass discouraged even the most adventuresome. In all, 15 members and guests made the trek to the Avon Café for the November meeting. Above, Don Deuel and Greg Hintz. In the upper right, starting on the far right, Karen and Lynn Springer, Ed Field, Annie Huddy and across the table, Lane Lerum, Kevin Huddy, Dean and Marylyn Hall. In the lower right, starting on the right, Mike Meredith, Bill Earnhardt and across the table, Nancy and Don Davis.



Ennis

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Reports from the Shop - Tony Braunreiter



I gave Tony Braunreiter a call recently, to find out about his summer activities. Tony was an active Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor during the 2019 season. The instructing is over for the season, but he has been busy, with motorcycles. I have paraphrased his emails, and though you might find them interesting.

The Editor

Did too much instructing. Got my fill of that. Am going to do the tournament archery circuit this summer, so I'm not going to teach any more. Sold my RS to a guy from Wisconsin, and bought a Suzuki DR 650, and plan on doing some dual purpose. Am restoring two Honda TL 250 trials bikes to keep from going nuts. They both are Honda TL250's from 1976. They only made them in '75 and '76 along with 125's. The two stroke European trials bike were lighter and Honda gave up competing with them after those two years, although Sammy Miller, there factory pro did manage one world championship with a highly modified TL. I bought one new in '76 for \$500 and always liked them. Bought both of these from a rancher and his wife from Plains when he had a heart at-



tack and decided to sell the ranch and move to St. George, Utah. They had always been kept in a garage and so had no sun damage to any of the rubber parts-very important for restoring as they're the hardest to find. I've sourced parts from the US, Canada, and England although they were complete and well maintained so it was just a matter of complete disassembly cleaning and repairing damage, paint, new gas-kets and seals, valve lapping and rings. They start on the first kick now. They are done except I'm wait-

ing for a set of side covers for one of them. Both bikes had cracked side covers and I found a guy who commissioned new blanks from Thailand. You still have to prep and paint them. Decals are still available. I got one set already for the first bike and they turned out well so I just ordered a second set. When I got the bikes, they were in complete but mediocre condition, but hadn't been run for five years, so the tanks, petcocks, and the carbs had the worst varnish I had ever seen. They are for sale now so if you want to see them come down after the New Year as I'll be gone for a few weeks. come down after the New Year as I'll be gone for a few weeks.



Tony Braunreiter

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

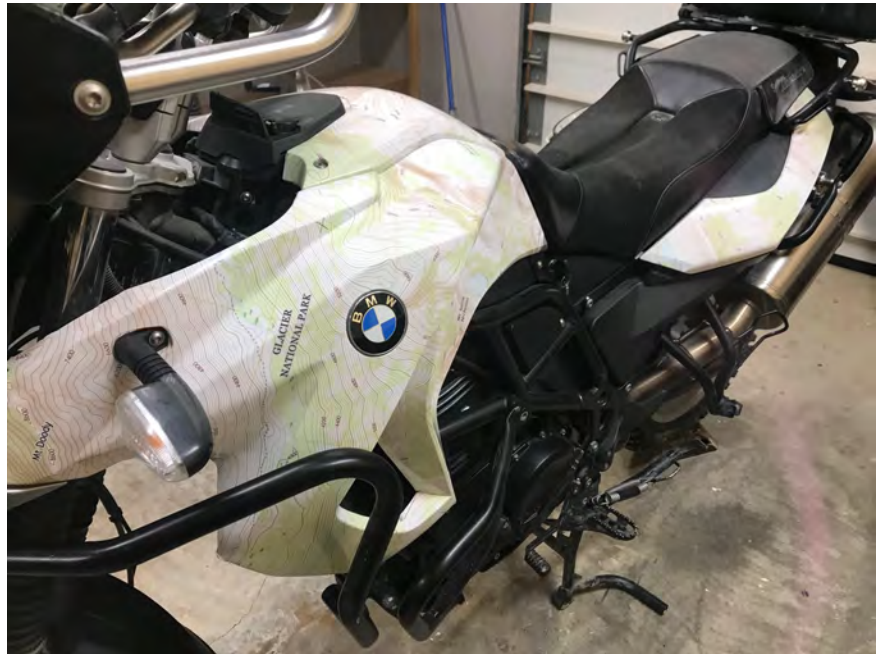
Reports from the Road (or shop) - Paul Stanford

I came up with a fun project over the holiday, and I think it turned out pretty good.

A custom vinyl wrap for the bike - I downloaded a super high resolution topo map file of Glacier National Park (> 150 MB), photo-shopped it to the required size (54" x 30" x 300 DPI), and got it printed (twice so I had enough) by VVivid Vinyl, for about \$150.

Not fun applying it, I can assure you, but 8 hours of work later, I got this: (Photo to the right)

I think it's a pretty good motif for an adventure bike...



Paul Stanford

My First Motorcycle/Most Unique Motorcycle/Memorable Motorcycle - Dave Dixon



Micro Rickman Metisse with a super rat hodaka 100cc engine, 1970. This was not my first motorcycle, but one of my favorites from my desert racing days when I was a kid. My best friend and I each bought one at the same time. The frames, sans the motor, arrived in large cartons, which we put together. We then purchased the super rat hodaka engines and

installed. This was a specialized race bike; lightweight and great handling. I raced it for awhile, but sold it in favor of a Penton. Wish I still had both of these bikes. The bike shown is only an example; not mine.



Dave Dixon

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Three Wheeler Corner



Annie and Kevin Huddy can now choose their mounts - matching GS's or matching Urals. Annie next to her recent purchase with Keven's Ural in the background. Good for you Annie - that is a great looking machine.

Dick French

Random Three-Wheelers



MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Montana BMW Riders Breakfast Get Togethers

Missoula



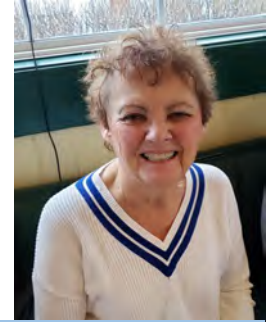
It was cold and snowy - The River City Grill in Bonner was an inviting place. Lynn and Carol (directly opposite) Springer, Bob and Judy (directly opposite) Colby from Big Fork at the nearest table. Rick Kuschel is in the right foreground. In the back, Chris Froines, Chuck Reaves, Mike Mosley, and Mike Hofferber, visiting from Billings.



Mike



Bob and Judy Colby, new members who expanded our Honda Gold Wing owner membership.



Helena

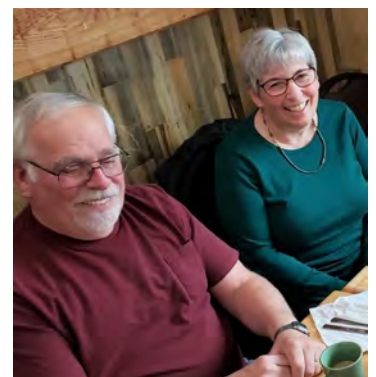
The hardy soles in Helena gathering at Perkins to talk about the next ride or latest acquisition were:



Annie and Kevin Huddy



Mike Meredith



Don and Nancy Davis

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

HELMET MUSINGS - Lance Lerum

I like riding drag. Just have to keep the dust trail ahead in sight and lie back in clean air. No worries about route finding or setting pace. Just me and my thoughts rattling around in my helmet with no interruptions. Nice.

This country looks a lot like parts of South Eastern Montana. Even more remote though. A long way between one place and the next.

Those birds have been up there all day. They look like condors. Just soaring in lazy circles. Never flapping. Looks to be even better than riding.

Oops. Fuel light popped on. 174. Like clock-work. Ms Garmin says 38 miles to gas. Sometimes she is mistaken. Sometimes I think she lies.

Ouch! Damn! Should have been up on my pegs for that hole. Gotta quit gawking and pay attention.



Playing tag with thunderstorms the last couple days. Our luck is gonna run out I'm sure. Last night was a wicked storm. We survived....maybe just. God I hate the wind. Always pushing. Pulling. Shoving. Roaring. Rather ride in the rain. Better watch what I wish for though. This is gumbo country.

Should check my air pressure next stop. She's starting to feel a little squirrely. Imagination? Maybe the road? Best give them a kick anyway. Don't want another flat fiasco like in Romania last year. Bike's been running good. That's good. Maybe I will bond with this thing yet. Maybe.

Arid scrub. Hills. Mountains. Sky forever. Wind. If we just keep going...I wonder how many days to Ushuaia? Storms are getting closer and no shelter out here. Gonna have to suck it up. No bugs though. Nice. Probably too dry here. Looks very dry here. 'Cept for under these storms.

Ah, fuel anxiety. The biker's nemesis. Even if I carry my Rotopax it is there. Just further down the road. Someday I'm going to run this thing dry. Just to see how far it can go on reserve. Always think that. Never do it. Hopefully not today.

Read that these birds have a really good sense of smell. Can smell carrion for miles. Likely getting a bit ripe myself. Wonder if they smell me?

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

Small herd of some critters way off. Can't quite make them out. This is likely the sort of habitat guanaco live in. Vicuna are up in the higher mountains. I think that's right. Gonna have to check.

Hey, a truck. Not much traffic out here. Like it that way. Don't see los tres amigos up ahead anymore either. Probably should pick it up a bit. Wonder if they are low on fuel also? Gotta be. They have more power and have to pay for it.

So, here we are: Fields Station, Oregon. Just in time and right where Ms Garmin said. Now to fuel the body and bikes. Mentioned to

Mike that I was imagining riding in Patagonia through that landscape. He said he was doing the same thing. And he's actually been there. Neat.

Read about the RTW riders on their blogs. Seems to be a plethora of them out there. I've likely missed the boat on that one. Did other things. I do follow a few though. 'Itchy Boots' is my latest favorite. Such a spirit. Maybe I could have done that at 32. Maybe not.

Seems that you can find beauty wherever you are in the world. All depends on your mood and circumstances in the moment. I'm thinking the Montana Front Range this summer. Highway 200 north to Glacier. Camp out and ride to every trailhead. Do a bit of hiking. Just run into town to replenish gas, grub, and grog. It's been 50 years and time to reacquaint myself with that country. World Class in my backyard.

Full tank, full belly. Back riding drag again. Rattling around in my helmet. Life is good. Where should I ride this afternoon? This side of the Steens looks a lot like the way into Bamiyan in the Hindu Kush. Maybe 10,000 feet lower elevation but still...Taliban blew up the Buddha's but I remember how they look. Think I'll go there for awhile.



Hey, the wind laid down. Great! And there's that vulture again. Wonder if it is the same one? Sure looks familiar. I bet he really can smell me.

Ride Safe

Lance Lerum

MONTANA BMW RIDERS NEWSLETTER

2020 Ride & Meeting Schedule (Revised 1 January 2020)

Month	Date	Location	Venue	Day	Time
January	18th	Seely Lake	Double Arrow Lodge	Saturday	1:00 PM
February	23rd	Drummond	Wagon Wheel	Sunday	1:00 PM
March	15th	Lincoln	Lamkins	Sunday	1:00 PM
April	19th	Townsend	The Mint	Sunday	1:00 PM
May	16th	Helena	Huddy's Outpost	Saturday	All Day
May	17th	Phillipsburg	Sunshine Station	Sunday	1:00 PM
June	27th	Great Falls	BMW Rally Beer Tent	Saturday	1:00 PM
July	TBD	White Sulphur Springs	TBD	TBD	TBD
August	16th	Wisdom	The Crossings at Fetty's	Sunday	1:00 PM
September	13th	Ennis	Sportsman's Lodge	Sunday	1:00 PM
October	18th	Ovando	Trixi's Antler Saloon	Sunday	1:00 PM
November	15th	Avon	Avon Café	Sunday	1:00 PM
December	5th	Missoula	Big Sky Motorsports	Saturday	5:00 PM

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- Upgraded to LED headlight--\$150
- Knight Design foot pegs--\$150
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- Seat Concepts seat--\$250
- Nomadic rear utility rack--\$100
- Mounted Pelican Case--\$45
- Thumper Talk Skid Plate--\$95
- Thumper Talk crankcase shield/cover--\$37
- Thumper Talk ignition side case shield/cover--\$20
- Pro Taper Contour bars--\$70
- Pro Taper bar clamps/mounts--\$36
- Pro Taper pillow top grips--\$15
- Custom MotoTube tool/storage canister with tools--\$20
- DRZ Maintenance Manual
- I will throw in a MSR bike lift/stand

Dean Hall

425-750-4636

deanlovestocamp@yahoo.com



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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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CLASSIFIED ADS FOR THE WEBSITE: MIKE WRIGHT

Email: mikewinmt@gmail.com

Items for the newsletter are welcome and may be emailed to either:

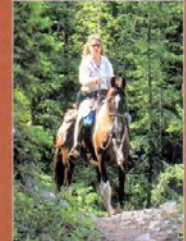
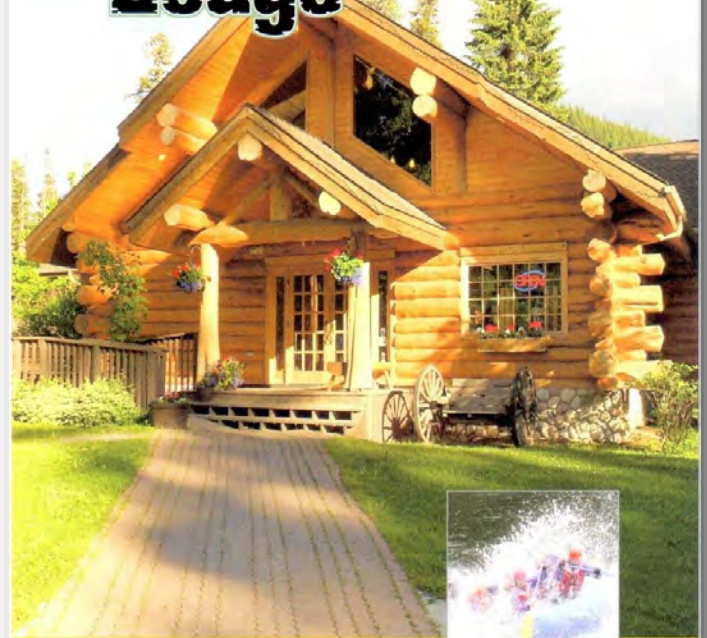
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